



# KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

**Regulation Name:** Political Activity in Schools  
**Section:** Educational Services

**Regulation Code:** ES-3.2.1  
**Policy Code Reference:** ES-3.2

Established: May 27, 1999

Revised or

Reviewed: December 20, 2012; April 26, 2018; May 23, 2023

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### 1. OBJECTIVE

Administration and teaching staff shall support opportunities for students to become knowledgeable about and to gain experience in political affairs.

### 2. DEFINITIONS

Board

The corporate Board which maintains the daily operation of the system; Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board; a reference specifically pertaining to Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board as a legal entity; also referred to as KPR or KPRDSB.

### 3. APPLICATION

This policy applies to all Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board staff and students.

### 4. RESPONSIBILITY

All political activities for which the school has responsibility must be approved by the principal and, if deemed appropriate, in consultation with the superintendent.

### 5. PROCEDURE

Opportunities to learn about and gain experience in political affairs may be provided through curriculum planning and through activities such as:

#### 5.1 Student Senate

Administration shall support the development and implementation of the Student Senate, as outlined in Board Policy B-1.5, Student Trustees.

#### 5.2 Student Trustees

All procedures regarding the appointment and responsibilities of the pupil/student trustees shall be carried out in accordance with Ontario Regulation 7/07 and Board Policy B-1.5, Student Trustees.

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**5.3 Student Council**

- 5.3.1 Administration and teaching staff shall be supportive of a student council, or similar student government, in each school.
- 5.3.2 The individual school may organize this body in a manner that best suits its requirements.
- 5.3.3 The purpose of the student organization will be to provide services to, and be representative of, all students in the school.
- 5.3.4 Each school will provide a staff advisor for its student organization.
- 5.3.5 Each student government will operate within the policies and procedures of its school and the Board.
- 5.3.6 In secondary schools, the student council may have an affiliation with the Student Senate.

**5.4 Political Clubs**

- 5.4.1 School administration and staff may support student involvement in non-partisan political clubs.
- 5.4.2 The organization of these non-partisan political clubs shall be limited to secondary schools.
- 5.4.3 Clubs must be approved by the principal of the school in accordance with this administrative regulation and Board Policy ES-3.2, Political Activity in Schools.
- 5.4.4 Under the authority of the principal, one or more staff advisors shall work with each club and shall attend all meetings.
- 5.4.5 Political club(s) may have joint meetings within the school or with political clubs from other secondary schools.
- 5.4.6 The distribution of literature, posting of information, wearing of badges, announcements to the student body, etc., shall conform to school policy and procedures.
- 5.4.7 Only political parties registered provincially or federally may advertise in the schools for students interested in joining partisan political clubs. Schools shall have no affiliation with such clubs.

- 5.4.8 Political activity must not, at any time, interfere with the normal operation of the school unless supported by the Board.

**5.5 Political Study, Discussion and Debate**

- 5.5.1 Staff will encourage a broad range of informed points of view in all political activities.
- 5.5.2 Opportunities for political study within the curriculum should be encouraged and enhanced and be consistent with curriculum expectations.
- 5.5.3 Staff will not take advantage of their positions of influence, during any school or classroom activities, to promote partisan activity or viewpoints.
- 5.5.4 Staff will act in a highly professional manner in any discussion of political matters during school and classroom activities, and refrain from denigrating, promoting or proselytizing any political views.
- 5.5.5 It is recognized that beyond the school, political activities are a personal matter. It is expected that staff will demonstrate sincerity, judgement and respect for human rights and the opinions of others, in such activities.
- 5.5.6 Staff and students are encouraged to use opportunities such as attending all-candidates' assemblies, inviting guest speakers and visiting council meetings and legislative sessions to increase their understanding of the political process.

**6. RELATED POLICIES, ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS OR PROCEDURAL DOCUMENTS**

Board Policies:

[B-1.5, Student Trustees](#)

[ES-3.2, Political Activity in Schools](#)

**7. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

Legislation:

[Education Act](#)

[Ontario Regulation 7/07: Student Trustees](#)