



The Limestone District School Board will welcome all members of the school and the broader community to our facilities by committing our staff and volunteers to providing services that respect the independence and dignity of people with disabilities. Such services incorporate measures that include but are not limited to the use of assistive devices.

Terminology

Assistive Devices: An assistive device is any device used by people with disabilities to help with daily living. Assistive devices include a range of products such as wheelchairs, walkers, white canes, oxygen tanks, and electronic communication devices.

1. Responsibility

- 1.1. Supervisory Officers, Principals and Department Managers will ensure that staff are trained to support parents/caregivers and the general public who may use assistive devices while accessing board services.
- 1.2. Training is focused on how to interact with people using assistive devices, rather than on the technical use of the assistive devices.
- 1.3. Students and staff have separate, and specific procedures related to their personal use of assistive devices.

2. Communication re: Use of Assistive Devices

2.1. Assistive Devices Carried by Persons with Disabilities

- 2.1.1. The board website and each school website will indicate that all board facilities provide services that respect the independence and dignity of people with disabilities and offer services that include the use of assistive devices.

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe & Haudenosaunee.



2.1.2. Each board facility that is open to the public will post information in the front office/reception area that welcomes the use of assistive devices and encourages users to seek support from staff and volunteers as they require it.

2.2. Assistive Devices/Services made available by the Board

2.2.1. The board website and school websites, as applicable, will indicate the availability of assistive devices provided by the board or school to assist in the provision of services to people with disabilities. These could include assistive devices (telephones with larger numbers, amplifiers, lifts), assistive services (sign language interpretation, oral interpretation, real-time captioning) and/or alternative service methods (assistance of a staff person to complete a transaction, such as a school registration).

2.2.2. Each board facility that is open to the public, as applicable, post information in the front office/reception area that indicates the availability of assistive devices and encourages potential users to seek support from staff and volunteers as they require it.

Legal References

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)
Integrated Accessibility Standards, Ontario Regulation 191/11
Integrated Accessibility Standards, Ontario Regulation 165/16 amending O. Reg. 191/11
Ontario Human Rights Code



Appendix A

TIPS FOR PRINCIPALS/MANAGERS

The following pages contain useful information on:

- Interacting with people using Assistive Devices

Tips for Helping Someone with an Assistive Device

Many users of board services and facilities who have disabilities will have their own personal assistive devices.

Examples of personal assistive devices include:

- Wheelchairs, scooters and walkers
- Amplification devices that boost sound for listeners who are hard-of-hearing without reducing background noise
- Hearing aids
- Oxygen tanks
- Electronic notebooks, laptop computers, smart phones
- Personal data managers
- Communication boards used to communicate using symbols, words or pictures
- Speech-generating devices that “speak” when a symbol, word or picture is pressed

One should not touch or handle an assistive device without permission.



Moving Personal Devices

If you have permission to move a person in a wheelchair remember to:

- Wait for and follow the person's instructions;
- Confirm that the person is ready to move;
- Describe what you are going to do before you do it;
- Avoid uneven ground and objects that create bumpy and unsafe ride; and
- Practice consideration and safety – do not leave the person in an awkward, dangerous or undignified position such as facing a wall or in the path of opening doors.

Do not move items or equipment, such as canes and walkers, out of the user's reach.

Respect personal space. Do not lean over a person with a disability or lean on their assistive devices.

Let the person know about accessible features in the immediate environment (automatic doors, accessible washroom, etc.).