

Policy Manual – SCHOOLS

R.03 Alternative Arrangements for Accommodation of Students

Policy Statement:

Certain regulatory provisions encourage school boards to consider alternate arrangements for the accommodation of elementary and secondary school students to the usual arrangement under which a school site is acquired and a stand-alone school is built.

Background:

1. Ontario Regulation 20/98 provides that an Education Development Charge (EDC) Background Study contain a statement of the board's policy concerning possible arrangements with municipalities, school boards or other persons or bodies in the public or private sector, including arrangements of a long-term or co-operative nature, which would provide accommodation for the new elementary school pupils and new secondary school pupils, without imposing education development charges, or with a reduction in such charges.
2. Section 257.53 of the Education Act permits an EDC school board to enter into a Localized Education Development Agreement with a land owner. The land owner provides a lease, real property or other prescribed benefit to be used by the board to provide pupil accommodation; and the board agrees not to impose education development charges against the land that would otherwise be subject to the charges. The board must provide the Minister with the proposed agreement and any other information requested by the Minister that relates to the agreement; and the Minister, after considering any prescribed criteria, approves of the board entering into the agreement.
3. Section 257.53 of the Education Act permits a school board to consider an alternative project with the Minister's permission. An "alternative project" means a project, lease or other prescribed measure, approved by the Minister under section 257.53.1, that would address the needs of the board for pupil accommodation and would reduce the cost of acquiring land.
4. Ontario Regulation 446/98 (Reserve Funds) permits a school board to utilize proceeds in the Pupil Accommodation Allocation Reserve Fund for the acquisition of "school sites that are acquired as part of transactions under which the board also acquires school buildings on the school sites".
5. The board recognizes that alternative arrangements can provide an opportunity to improve service delivery and circumstances of enrolment pressure, maximize the effective use of available dollars, and reduce site size requirements. They include a variety of acquisition strategies such as forward buying, options, purchases, lease buy-back, site exchanges and joint venture partnerships.

Purpose:

The board will consider possible arrangements with municipalities, school boards or other persons or bodies in the public or private sector, including arrangements of a long-term or co-operative nature, which would provide accommodation for the new elementary school pupils and new secondary school pupils who are resident pupils of the board-

Responsibility:

Director of Education
Associate Director of Corporate Services
Superintendent(s) of schools under accommodation review.

Regulations:

Ontario Regulation 20/98
Ontario Regulation 446/98
Education Act Section 257.53

Related Board Policy(ies):

Pupil Accommodation Review S.09

Related Board Committee: Committee of the Whole

Policy Review Date:

26 AUG 99, 01 JUNE 04, 02 JUNE 09, 06 MAY 14, 29 JUNE 22, 7 November 2023
To be reviewed every five (5) years