



*Policy Section:* **Community Relations**

**500**

*Policy Name:* **Early Years Advisory Committee**

**504**

## **Policy Statement**

It is the policy of the Keewatin-Patricia District School Board (KPDSB) to establish an Early Years Advisory Committee (EYAC) to provide the Board with advice on programs, services, and matters to support children and families in the Early Years, to ensure that students come first in all matters discussed.

## **Rationale**

The Keewatin-Patricia District School Board recognizes the importance of having a committee comprised of community partners to provide advice and recommendations to the Board on all aspects of the implementation of the Ministry of Education's Early Years vision. By working together, we can ensure that children from birth to age six will have programs and supports in place so children and families have the best possible start in life.

## **Guidelines**

An Early Years Advisory Committee will be established and maintained to provide advice to the Keewatin-Patricia District School Board on all matters concerning the Early Years.

The Early Years Advisory Committee may:

1. Identify community and/or Board matters or issues concerning the Early Years;
2. Identify community and/or Board common interests concerning the Early Years;
3. Suggest enhancements for existing programs or considerations for new programs; and
4. Provide feedback on KPDSB processes that impact community partners.

## **Membership**

The Keewatin-Patricia District School board recognizes the importance of having members represent the interests of children and families from all regions of the board.

1. The Early Years Advisory Committee will be comprised of representatives of recognized organizations and community partners that provide services to young children and families; parent members; Indigenous community partners, designated KPDSB staff and Trustees appointed by the Board.

Cross Reference:  
MOE Ontario Early Years Policy Framework  
MOE Achieving Excellence  
MOE How Does Learning Happen?

Date Approved: April 11, 2017  
Date Reviewed: October 9, 2018  
Review by: 2022

2. The Keewatin-Patricia District School Board will appoint two Trustees to the Early Years Advisory Committee.
3. The Early Years Advisory Committee members will determine the Chair/Co-Chair(s) to facilitate the meetings.

### **Meetings**

1. Meetings will be held a minimum of three times per year and at times convenient to the majority of committee members.
2. Committee members will establish the format of each meeting (Videoconference, Teleconference or Face-to-Face).
3. The schedule of meetings will be established in advance and communicated to all members.
4. It is the responsibility of the Chair/Co-Chairs, in consultations with the Superintendent or Designate, to determine the order and items on the agenda.
5. The Superintendent or Designate will assist the Chair/Co-Chairs with activities such as; developing the agenda, providing information, and informing the committee on matters related to the Early Years.
6. The Board will provide administrative assistance to support the development, maintenance and circulation of agendas, minutes and committee reports.
7. The agenda will be circulated one week prior to the meeting date to allow members sufficient time to review and suggest any additional items.
8. Draft minutes of meetings will be circulated to all members within one week of the meeting.

The Early Years Advisory Committee is committed to providing a stronger outcome for children and families so that they can have the best possible start to these, their most important, formative years.