Topic: Risk Management

Effective: June 2021

Cross-Reference: Related Statutes and Regulations: Education Act, Ontario Regulation

361/10: Audit Committees, ISO 31000, Risk Management, HDSB Risk Management Policy, Audit Committee Policy, Code of Ethics Policy; HDSB Administrative Procedures: Code of Ethics, Trustee Code of

Conduct, Audit Committee Governance Procedure

Revision Date: June 2021 Review Date: June 2025

Responsibility: Superintendent of Business Services and Treasurer

INTENDED PURPOSE:

The Halton District School Board recognizes the importance of risk management as decision making support to help ensure a sustainable and resilient school system. To that end, this Administrative Procedure constitutes the Board's risk management framework.

DEFINITIONS:

Risk – The effect of uncertainty on objectives. Risk can represent both a threat or an opportunity.

Risk Assessment – Overall process of risk identification, risk analysis, and risk evaluation.

Risk Appetite – The level of uncertainty that the organization is willing to accept in pursuit of its objectives.

PROCEDURES:

Roles and Responsibilities

- The Director of Education establishes the Board's approach for design and implementation of risk
 management across the organization, ensures a risk-aware culture and continuous improvement and
 fosters policy compliance by ensuring the Board has the policy, tools, and training to support
 implementation and monitoring of significant risks.
- The Director of Education establishes a risk management framework that identifies and regularly
 monitors and addresses significant risks as part of monitoring organizational performance against the
 Multi Year Plan priorities. The Director of Education will report annually to the Audit Committee on the
 status of framework implementation and outcomes.
- Audit Committee oversees the risk management approach and policy as delegated by the Board of Trustees including monitoring of significant risks, adequacy of insurance and/or other compensating controls, and Board reporting as directed.
- Supervisory and Executive Officers support the implementation of the Board's risk management framework. Supervisory and Executive Officers, in collaboration with staff, identify emerging risks or potential changes in ranking of existing risks and communicate these to the Director of Education and Superintendent of Business Services. The Superintendent of Business Services will maintain the risk register and coordinate updates with assigned risk owners.
- The Director of Education and Supervisory and Executive Officers review the corporate risk profile on a bi-annual basis, or more often when required. Top risks (threats and opportunities) are assigned risk owners and are monitored and reported to Executive Council. Risk treatment strategies are identified by risk owners and discussed with Executive Council, in order to reduce the risk exposure to acceptable levels, and align with the risk appetite outlined in the Risk Management Policy.
- HDSB management uses risk management training, resources and tools to help anticipate and respond to threats and opportunities.

Risk explicitly informs strategic, operational, budget and staffing decisions regarding resource allocation. Guidance, tools and training will be used across all academic and operational areas of the Board to help realize the purpose of the risk management policy and procedure.