

# Toronto District School Board

Policy P019

Title: **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Adopted: June 23, 1999

Revised: **March 5, 2008**

Reviewed: March 2012, February 2013

## 1.0 OBJECTIVE

To affirm the Board's commitment to provide Continuing Education programs

## 2.0 RESPONSIBILITY

Deputy Director

## 3.0 DEFINITIONS

*Lifelong learning* Learning opportunities that begin in the early years and extend throughout life

*Ministry-mandated programs* Programs required under the *Education Act*, other statutes, or regulations

*Ministry-funded programs* Programs funded through a Ministry grant system

## 4.0 POLICY

- 4.1. The Board recognizes the importance of Continuing Education programs in supporting the mission statement and priorities of the Board.
- 4.2. The Board values Continuing Education programs as an integral part of program within the Board and gives priority to Continuing Education programs over external organizations in facilities planning and allocation of space and in access to Board resources.
- 4.3. The Board recognizes the importance of lifelong learning and is committed to delivering high-quality educational programs in safe, supportive learning environments that are equitably distributed across the city.
- 4.4. Programs

Consistent with the policy set out above, the Board will provide the following Continuing Education programs:

- (a) Ministry-mandated and Ministry-funded Program

International Languages mandated programs for elementary students to support literacy development and to foster intercultural understanding and respect through language-focused learning.

(b) Ministry-funded Programs

- (i) Secondary Credit academic and International Languages programs offered in the evening and summer to provide a flexible model where classes are scheduled outside regular day school hours;
- (ii) Secondary Credit academic programs in adult day schools to help learners earn a secondary school diploma, upgrade skills, and gain job-related training;
- (iii) Literacy and Numeracy programs for elementary and secondary students to assist them in gaining the skills, concepts, and confidence they need to be successful;
- (iv) English as a Second Language programs for adults to ensure their successful transition to full participation in Ontario society and economy.

(c) Board-funded or Unfunded Programs

- (i) Black Culture programs for elementary students to give them a more thorough understanding and appreciation of black history and culture.
- (ii) Community programs for adults 18 years of age and older to provide them with opportunities to develop knowledge and skills and to maintain a healthy, active lifestyle.
  - The Board supports the continuing development and adaptation of courses to meet changing interests and preferences of adult learners.
  - The Board encourages the provision of community courses in coordination with other organizations that provide similar courses to ensure that the needs of learners are met.
  - Community programs should be fully funded by user fees and other revenues. The Continuing Education department is committed to achieving this outcome in its long-term strategy.

4.5. Program Enhancement and Expansion

- (a) The Continuing Education department will explore revenue-generating activities for programs.

- (b) The Continuing Education department will enter into partnerships in order to enhance learning opportunities, where these partnerships are consistent with other Board policies and agreements, and are consistent with sustainability of programs.

## **5.0 SPECIFIC DIRECTIVES**

The Director is authorized to issue operational procedures to implement this policy.