



**The Greater Essex County District School Board (GECDSB) is committed to**

**the improvement of access to school premises, facilities and services to our students, parents/guardians, the public and our staff that are free of barriers and biases;**

**ensure that key principles of independence, dignity, integration and equality of opportunity are reflected and valued in our learning and working environment;**

**ensuring the design of any new facility will be constructed with accessibility as one of the key criteria**

**Beginning September 1, 2003, all Greater Essex County District School Board policies, programs, procedures and services have been subject to the principles of inclusionary practice, free from barriers, to provide an accessible environment for all individuals. Through the annual accessibility plan status report process, the Greater Essex County District School Boards programming policies and practices will be assessed to ensure continuous improvement in accessibility.**

**The purpose of our \_\_\_\_\_ is to highlight the progress made each year in providing an environment in all its facilities that builds independence, dignity, integration and equality of opportunity for all students, parents/guardians, staff and the public.**

**This annual report reflects all the objectives of the GECDSB's multi-year Accessibility Plan. Specifically, the report**

**The five year multi-accessibility plan demonstrates the GECDSB's commitment to accessibility and the goals for the next two years. The five year multi-accessibility plan is available on the GECDSB website [here](#)**

**We know that training about accessibility and inclusion is necessary to instill needed change and understanding. All Board staff are required to complete a Learning module of the \_\_\_\_\_ and complete a declaration on a five year cyclical basis as part of our commitment to better providing services. This eLearning module is also completed by all new staff as part of their orientation.**

**Administrators and Special Education staff are trained on Behaviour Management Systems (BMS) training on a cycle of three years. A review of BMS training is available to school teams or individuals throughout the school year with Principal and Behaviour Transition Specialist consent.**

**The GECDSB is committed to addressing equity of access for students who may have limited opportunities to obtain professional recommendations for Specialized Equipment Amount (SEA). Our Special Education Coordinators work in conjunction with school staff to determine students that would benefit from the use of specialized equipment to support their learning. In the 2019-20 school year, our Board had over 949 SEA claims, which is an approximate increase of over 249 claims from the 2018-19 school year. SEA claims included:**

**749 laptops - \$674,556.89 (includes the mouse and warranty)**

**Memory keys and sleeves - \$16,762.62**

**Headsets - \$30,461.83**

**200 iPads - \$86,558.00 (includes warranty)**

**Headsets - \$2,960.00**

**Keyboard/case and sleeves - \$13,878.00**

**Training for both laptops and iPads cost approximately \$249,377.58 (which works out to approximately 3118 hours). We spent less this year in training probably due to parents deferring training as a result of school closures and COVID concerns even though we offered virtual training in May and June.**





**During the 2019 2020 school year:**

**GECDSB provided wheelchair accessible transportation to 28 students  
GECDSB provided student transportation to 265 students requiring AODA form submissions.**

**To assist in meeting our goals of accessibility, the following projects were undertaken and completed in the 2019 20 school year:**

<b>Sandwich SS</b>	<b>Hold open device installed on Cafeteria Doors to improve accessibility</b>
<b>Frank W Begley PS</b>	<b>Modifications to stairwell and washrooms to improve accessibility</b>
<b>King Edward PS</b>	<b>Lift system installed in CR164 to improve functionality</b>
<b>Parkview PS</b>	<b>Lift system installed in W7 to improve functionality</b>
<b>Roseville PS</b>	<b>Installed auto operator on main entrance to improve accessibility</b>
<b>Forest Glade (Primary Learning Centre) PS</b>	<b>Installed auto operator on main entrance to improve accessibility</b>
<b>Riverside SS</b>	<b>Ramp</b>

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**The Board will continue to monitor the effectiveness of implementation of the Accessible Customer Service Standards through a process for receiving and responding to feedback**

**Located on our GECDSB website, under the heading of \_\_\_\_\_, under \_\_\_\_\_ the public can access the identified contact number 519 255 3200 (Ext. 10219) and/or email [peggy.russette@pubboard.ca](mailto:peggy.russette@pubboard.ca) to share concerns and feedback to the Special**