

Policy Title	Partnerships In Education		
Date of Issue	April 20, 1999	Related Procedure	
Revision Dates	February 18, 2003; February 21, 2012 (rev. Rationale-Strategic Plan); February 20, 2018	Related Forms	
Review Date	February 1, 2023	Originator	Board of Trustees
References			
AP 2860-D “Advertising and Distribution of Materials in Schools for External Groups/Organizations”			

1.0 RATIONALE

- 1.1 Bluewater District School Board policies will support and provide direction necessary to achieve the board’s Vision, Mission and Strategic Plan priorities.
- 1.2 Bluewater District School Board recognizes the need for the continued development of community and school partnerships.

2.0 DEFINITION

Partnerships in education are mutually beneficial relationships developed between the board and/or schools and individuals, agencies, community groups, business, industry and government. The resources shared may be financial, human or material in nature.

3.0 POLICY

Bluewater District School Board is committed to supporting, facilitating, and encouraging the development of mutually beneficial relationships between schools and the larger community, including business and non-business sectors that support the board’s mission, vision, and strategic plan priorities, and also provide opportunities to enhance student achievement and well-being.

4.0 SYSTEM EXPECTATIONS

- 4.1 Bluewater District School Board employees, their immediate families, School Council members, and trustees shall not benefit materially, financially, or personally from partnerships in education.
- 4.2 Teaching resources and materials provided by the partnership are evaluated for bias before they are used, and teachers retain discretion in the use of the materials. These materials are held to the same standard used for the selection and purchase of all classroom learning materials. In any case where the principal of the school has questions or concerns about teaching materials, these questions should be brought to the appropriate superintendent of education.
- 4.3 Purchasing procedures shall not be influenced by partnerships in education.
- 4.4 Each partnership arrangement is to be consistent with the board’s mission, vision and strategic plan priorities.
- 4.5 Acknowledgement of each partner’s contribution is appropriate and consistent with administrative procedure AP 2860-D “Advertising and Distribution of Materials in Schools for External Groups/Organizations”, and may include corporate logos if agreed to by the school and its school council. Any identification will be kept to a minimum. Partnership arrangements will not require students to listen to

or read promotional messages. Partnership arrangements shall not permit direct endorsement of product or services by students or staff members.

- 4.6 The partnership treats students fairly and equitably, and any system-wide partnership strives for equity of access among all schools whenever possible.
- 4.7 The partnership must not exploit the school, board staff or the student through the promotion of products, ideas or philosophies. The partnership will enhance student achievement and well-being.
- 4.8 The partnership allocates resources to complement, not replace, public funding for education.
- 4.9 The partnership is developed and structured in consultation with all partners and respects the policies, procedures, and traditions operating in the school.
- 4.10 The partnership clearly defines roles and responsibilities for all partners, and involves staff members and students only on a voluntary basis.
- 4.11 The partnership arrangement does not conflict with teachers' obligations under their professional and ethical standards, applicable to members of the Ontario College of Teachers.
- 4.12 Partnership performance is evaluated by all parties involved to confirm and report on the mutual benefits, and to make informed decisions about the renewal of the partnership.
- 4.13 Communication of the success of the partnership with the school community is part of all partnership agreements.