



Turtle River School Division

Accessibility Plan

CONTENTS

PART 1 – Baseline Report

- A. Overview of Programs and Services**
- B. Accessibility Achievement**
- C. Accessibility Barrier**

PART 2 – Accessibility Plan

- A. Statement of Commitment**
- B. Policies**
- C. Actions**

Part 1 - Baseline Report:

A.	Overview of Programs and Services
<p>Turtle River School Division is located in the Parkland region of Manitoba. In total, the division includes seven schools that vary in grade and programming. There is a Kindergarten through Grade 12 school in Alonsa, Glenella, McCreary, and Ste. Rose du Lac and a Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 8 French Immersion school in Laurier. As well as, two schools that are located on the Hutterian Colonies of Grass River Colony and Parkview Colony. There are approximately 725 students throughout the Division.</p> <p>Mission: <i>“The board will focus on the overall needs of its students. Notwithstanding this, the board will pay due regard to its responsibilities to the community and encourage a high quality of education. The degree to which the board attains its goals will be measured through the use of standard evaluation tools, internal and external testing and the performance of students in their chosen endeavors. The board, in implementing its programs will draw upon the unique skills of staff and its use of progressive and varied methods of instruction. In doing so, the board will maximize the use of specialized facilities to provide the greatest opportunity for student learning and social growth.”</i></p> <p>As part of the school environment , the public access the schools and other school buildings for many different events such as Christmas Concerts, Awards Ceremonies, Parent/Teacher Conferences, Public Consultation meeting, and various extra-curricular events. Schools are an integral part of our small community and with our <i>Use of School Facilities Policy</i>; public groups access our facilities outside the regular school day.</p>	
B.	Accessibility Achievements
<p>Turtle River School Division Accessibility Committee conducts annual school tours of each work site. During these tours, the committee will identify barriers, plan follow up meetings to address the barriers, and prepare a plan to address and remove or modify the barrier.</p>	
C.	Accessibility Barriers
<p>After conducting the assessment of our buildings and communication practices, the cost of implementing accessibility standards to make Turtle River School Division’s facilities barrier-free will be the greatest problem. A list has been created of identified barriers and ranked in order of greatest importance; this will be used to work towards removing barriers. Short term strategies may be implemented until permanent solutions can be funded. This list will be ongoing as new barrier are identified.</p>	

Part 2 – Accessibility Plan:

A. Statement of Commitment		
<p>Turtle River School Division is committed to ensuring equal access and participation for all people, regardless of their abilities. We are committed to identify, remove, and prevent barriers to people with disabilities who work, learn, and participate in the school board community and environment. This includes, but is not limited to, students, staff, parents, guardians, volunteers, and visitors to the Board and its schools, in accordance with the requirement of <i>The Accessibility for Manitoba Act</i>.</p> <p>We are committed to meet and adhere to the five standards addressed in the Accessibility for Manitoba Act.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Customer Service Standard 2. Information and Communication 3. Transportation 4. Employment 5. Built Environment 		
B. Policies		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turtle River School Division will review all programs, services, and new initiatives to ensure accessibility. • Turtle River School Division will make information available in an accessible format or provide communication support to people with disabilities in a way that considers their disability. 		
C. Actions		
Actions	Strategies/Initiatives	Expected Outcomes
1. Establish an Accessibility Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint an accessibility coordinator and committee members • Meet regularly to review initiatives and discuss accessibility goals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members participate in developing, implementing, and updating the plan.
2. Provide staff/student with awareness training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuously train administration and staff to increase awareness of accessibility barriers. • Organize training and information sessions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and students will have greater knowledge of accessibility barriers, making them easier to identify so the barrier can be properly addressed.
3. Provide information in an accessible format, proactively and upon request.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the needs of the visually impaired on all communications including Division and School websites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written and electronic communication from schools or the division is accessible to all.
4. Identify, modify, and/or remove any architectural barriers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform an initial site visit to all division locations to identify barriers as well as yearly visits to identify any new barriers. • Create a list of identified barriers and establish a plan to address the barrier as feasible with budget limits and time restraints. • New and renovation construction projects will have accessibility barriers considered. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical barriers will be overcome. Modified, short-term solutions may be the best outcome until funding for a long term solutions is in place.

Actions	Strategies/Initiatives	Expected Outcomes
5. Provide accessibility options for public meeting and events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create accessibility taglines on all public information documents to give people with disabilities relevant information on who to contact for accommodations. • Plan public events and meetings to occur in locations that are already accessible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public meetings and events at the Division or any of its locations will include all public members regardless of any disability or impairment.
6. Offer transportation to those with disabilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Accessibility Committee and Transportation Supervisor will work together to identify and address any accessibility needs on the School Buses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students will participate in field trips and daily transportation will be available if needed.
7. Be conscious of accessibility during the employment process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Division will notify its current and future employees along with the public about the availability of accommodations for new-applicants with disabilities during the hiring and recruitment process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All work places within the division will be positive and diverse.

Contact Person: Shannon Desjardins, Secretary Treasurer
 Phone: (204) 835-2067 x 203
 Email: shannon@trsd32.mb.ca

Signature: _____ Date _____