



SECTION 1000: STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS

POLICY 1080: FIELD TRIPS AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION

- *Date Adopted: September 26, 2018*
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POLICY STATEMENT

The Board recognizes the educational value of curricular and extra-curricular based field trips and outdoor education experiences that are integrated with learning outcomes.

RATIONALE

Student field trips and outdoor education experiences are encouraged provided they:

- Impart significant educational experiences related to the education program of the school or are necessary to fulfill the obligations of the interscholastic activity program.
- Do not seriously interfere with the education program of students who must remain at school.
- Meet all procedural protocols regarding:
 - Preparation and documentation;
 - Minimizing risk and taking all necessary safety precautions;
 - Providing all relevant information so parents can give informed consent;
 - Receiving appropriate approval from designated authority.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- YouthSafe Outdoors

POLICY

The Board encourages student field trips and outdoor education experiences. The Board expects that students participating in field trips and outdoor education experiences will behave in accordance with school rules, the school code of conduct, the district code of conduct, and any special directions required to maintain proper structure and safety pertaining to the activity as determined by the principal, supervising teacher/leader, or accompanying instructor or leader.



POLICY *(continued)*

Student field trips and outdoor education experiences are classified by level of risk, as follows:

1) Level One

- a. Standard Educational Activities:
 - i. Museums
 - ii. Historic sites
 - iii. Musical events
 - iv. Drama events
 - v. Outdoor sites (controlled e.g., - farms, petting zoos, etc.)
- b. Standard Recreation Activities:
 - i. Swimming Pool
 - ii. Ice Rink (indoor)
 - iii. Curling Rink
 - iv. Bowling
 - v. Fitness activities
- c. Extra-curricular Activities (BC School Sports):
 - i. Team and individual sports (school sponsored)

2) Level Two - Same as Level One, but with an overnight component added.

3) Level Three – Moderate Risk

- a. Includes both day and overnight activities:
 - i. Ice Skating – Outdoors
 - ii. Mountain Biking
 - iii. Snowshoeing
 - iv. Cross Country Skiing – Structured Program
 - v. Downhill Skiing – Structured Program
 - vi. Canoeing and Kayaking (controlled area – flat water)
 - vii. Swimming (controlled area – lifeguard present)
 - viii. Outdoor Education (support available via phone and road)
 - 1. Camping
 - 2. Hiking
 - 3. Orienteering



4) Level Four – High Risk

- a. Includes both day and overnight activities:
 - i. Wilderness area activities (immediate support not available)
 - 1. Canoeing excluding moving white water
 - 2. Kayaking excluding moving white water
 - 3. Backpacking
 - 4. Camping
 - 5. Cross Country Skiing
 - 6. Mountain Biking

5) Level Five – Out of Province/Out of Country

- a. All trips regardless of duration that travel outside of provincial and national jurisdiction.

PROCEDURES

1. Detailed procedures for Field Trips and Outdoor Education are located within the *CMSD82 School Administration Procedures Manual* available online in the District Forms Folder within the school district's internal email Public Folders.
2. Board approval in principle is required prior to initiating, planning or fundraising and prior to promoting with students or the community for all Level Five Field Trips.
3. All teachers/leaders of field trips will read the *Field Trips and Outdoor Education Procedures* in the Administrators' Handbook and sign a form acknowledging that the Procedures have been read and understood.
4. The principal shall ensure that, for each level of Field Trip, all requirements are completed in accordance with the School Administration Procedures Manual.
5. The superintendent of schools or designate shall approve Level Four and Level Five Field Trips.
6. Final Board approval is required for all Level Five Field Trips. All information (Field Trip Application, Parent Information Letter, Checklist of Requirements) must be forwarded to the Board for final approval by the following timelines:
 1. Within Canada – 60 days
 2. International – 120 days