

	EDUCATION	III-C-3
<p style="text-align: center;">STRAIT REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD <i>Excellence in Lifelong Learning</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>POLICIES AND GUIDELINES</i></p>	Special Education	
	STUDENT SERVICES AND SUPPORTS	
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SPECIAL EDUCATION
Student Services and Supports

The following is an excerpt from the *Special Education Policy* published by the Department of Education, 2008:

The Student Services division of the Department of Education is responsible for setting the direction and establishing the vision, goals, policy and action plans for special education programming and services for the Province of Nova Scotia.

School boards provide the programs and services necessary to meet the needs of all students within their jurisdictions. Boards are responsible for regional management, policy development and operational issues. Support services may be required by any student at any point during his or her school life and should be designed to be flexible enough to accommodate a wide range of needs at any given time. This necessitates a service delivery model that emphasizes team work, collaboration and co-operation in the provision of a continuum of programming options to meet student needs. A proactive approach in working with students with special needs encourages consistency and comprehensiveness across settings.

1. Establishment of Provincial Policies and Guidelines

The Department of Education is responsible for establishing policies and guidelines regarding programming and services for students with special needs.

2. School Building Access

The Department of Education and the Strait Regional School Board are responsible for ensuring that all new school buildings or major renovations of existing buildings provide equal access for all.

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3. Special Education Grant

In addition to a program formula funding grant, the Department of Education provides a special education formula funding grant to the Strait Regional School Board to assist with the costs of programming and services for students with special needs.

4. Provincial Review and Monitoring

The Department of Education monitors and reviews matters affecting the educational progress, health and comfort of students.

5. Appropriate Education

The Strait Regional School Board provides an appropriate education for all students who reside within its jurisdiction who are of school age and who are enrolled in a public school.

6. Administrative Responsibility

School boards are responsible for designating administrative responsibility for special education programming and services at the superintendency or programs and student services director level.

7. Establishment of School Board Policy and Procedures

The Strait Regional School Board shall develop and maintain a written policy and procedures to ensure that programming and services are designed, implemented, evaluated and reviewed for students with special needs as outlined in the provincial Special Education Policy (2008).

8. Establishment of School Board Appeal Process

The Strait Regional School Board is responsible for making provisions for appeals in special education as per the provincial School Board and Ministerial Appeal Guide (2009) and pursuant to the *Education Act and Ministerial Education Act Regulations*.