

Section B - Standard 11

Provincial and Demonstration Schools in Ontario

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This standard provides the public with information about the Provincial and Demonstration Schools that operate for students who are deaf, blind, or deaf-blind, or who have profound learning disabilities.

Over the school year 2024-2025, the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPR) supported 19 students in (13 at Sagonaska School and 6 at Sir James Whitney School for the Deaf) attending these programs.

Provincial Schools and Provincial Demonstration Schools

- are operated by the Ministry of Education (MOE),
- provide education for students who are deaf or blind, or who have profound learning disabilities,
- provide an alternative education option,
- serve as regional resource centres for students who are deaf, blind, or deaf-blind,
- provide preschool home visiting services for students who are deaf or deaf-blind,
- develop and provide learning materials and media for students who are deaf, blind, or deaf-blind,
- provide school board teachers with resource services and
- play a valuable role in teacher training.

Applications for admission to a provincial Demonstration School are made on behalf of students by the school board, with parent/guardian consent. Admittance to a Provincial School is determined by the Provincial Schools Admission Committee in accordance with the requirements set out in R. R. O. 1990, Regulation 296: Ontario Schools for the Blind and the Deaf.

Transportation to Provincial Schools for students is arranged for and provided by school boards.

An in-service teacher education program is provided at each Demonstration School. This program is designed to share methodologies and materials with teachers of Ontario school boards. Information about the programs offered should be obtained from the schools themselves.

Each provincial Demonstration School has an enrolment of forty students. The language of instruction at the Amethyst, Sagonaska, and Trillium schools is English; at Centre Jules-Léger, instruction is in French.

Provincial Schools for the Deaf

The following Provincial Schools offer services for deaf or hard-of-hearing students:

- **Sir James Whitney School for the Deaf** in Belleville (serving Eastern Ontario)
- **Ernest C. Drury School for the Deaf** in Milton (serving Central and Northern Ontario)
- **Robarts School for the Deaf** in London (serving Western Ontario)
- **Centre Jules-Léger** in Ottawa (serving francophone students and families throughout Ontario)

These schools provide elementary and secondary school programs for deaf students from preschool level to high school graduation. The curriculum follows the Ontario curriculum and parallels courses and programs provided in school boards. Each student has their special education needs met as set out in their individual education plan (IEP). Schools for the deaf or hard of hearing:

- provide rich and supportive bilingual/bicultural educational environments which facilitate students' language acquisition, learning, and social development through American Sign Language (ASL) and English,
- operate primarily as day schools, and
- provide residential facilities five days per week for those students who do not live within reasonable commuting distance from the school.

Each school has a Resource Services Department which provides:

- consultation and educational advice to parents/guardians of deaf and hard-of-hearing children and school board personnel,
- information brochures,
- a wide variety of workshops for parents/guardians, school boards, and other agencies, and
- an extensive home-visiting program delivered to parents/guardians of deaf and hard-of-hearing preschool children by teachers trained in preschool and deaf education

Provincial Schools for Students with Who Have Severe Learning Disabilities

These Demonstration Schools were established to:

- provide special residential education programs for students between the Grades 4 and Grade 12,
- enhance the development of each student's academic and social skills, and
- develop the abilities of the students enrolled to a level that will enable them to return to programs operated by a local school board within two years.

The MOE provides services for children with severe learning disabilities at four Demonstration Schools:

- Amethyst School, London
- Centre Jules-Leger, Ottawa
- Sagonaska School, Belleville
- Trillium School, Milton

Each Demonstration School has an enrolment of not more than forty students. The language of instruction at the Amethyst, Sagonaska, and Trillium Schools is English; at the Centre Jules-Leger, instruction is in French.

In addition to providing residential schooling for students with profound learning disabilities, the provincial Demonstration Schools have special programs for students with profound learning disabilities in association with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADD/ADHD). These are highly intensive, one-year programs.

The Trillium School also operates Learning for Emotional and Academic Development (Leadership, Empowerment, Achievement and Determination (L.E.A.D.)), a special program for students with profound learning disabilities who require an additional level of social/emotional support.

Provincial Schools for Students Who are Blind or Have Low Vision or Are Deaf-Blind

The W. Ross Macdonald School is located in Brantford and the Centre Jules-Leger in Ottawa, provides education for students who are blind, or who have low vision, or are deaf-blind. The language of instruction at the W. Ross Macdonald School is English; at the Centre Jules-leger, instruction is in French.

The schools, which are also provincial resource centres for visually impaired and deafblind children and youth, provides:

- a provincial resource centre for the visually impaired and deaf-blind,
- support to local school boards through consultation and the provision of special learning materials, such as Braille materials, audiotapes, and large-print textbooks, and
- professional services and guidance to ministries of education on an interprovincial cooperative basis.

Programs are tailored to the needs of the individual student and:

- are designed to help these students learn to live independently,
- are delivered by specially trained teachers,
- follow the Ontario curriculum developed for all students in the province,
- offer a full range of courses at the secondary level,
- offer courses in special subject areas such as music, broad-based technology, family studies, physical education, and mobility training,
- are individualized to offer a comprehensive “life skills” program, and
- provide home visiting for parents/guardians and families of preschool children who are deaf/blind to assist in preparing these children for future education.

Transportation for students to and from the Provincial or Demonstration Schools

Transportation for students enrolled in Provincial Schools is arranged by school boards or Provincial Schools. Transportation for students enrolled in Demonstration Schools is arranged by Provincial schools.

Provincial School Contacts

Ministry of Education Provincial and Demonstration Schools Branch

255 Ontario Street South
Milton, Ontario
L9T 2M5
Telephone: (905) 878-2851
Fax: (905) 878-5405

Provincial Schools for Students Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing:

The Ernest C. Drury School for the Deaf

255 Ontario Street South
Milton, Ontario
L9T 2M5
Tel.: (905) 878-2851
Fax: (905) 878-1354

Robarts School for the Deaf

1515 Cheapside Street
London, Ontario
N5V 3N9
Tel.: (519) 453-4400
Fax: (519) 453-7943

The Sir James Whitney School for the Deaf

350 Dundas Street West
Belleville, Ontario
K8P 1B2
Tel.: (613) 967-2823
Fax: (613) 967-2857

School for the Blind and Deaf-Blind:

School for the Deaf, Blind, and Deaf-Blind (French Language):

W. Ross Macdonald School

350 Brant Avenue
Brantford, Ontario
N3T 3J9
Tel.: (519) 759-0730
Fax: (519) 759-4741

Centre Jules-Léger

281 rue Lanark
Ottawa, Ontario
Tel.: (613) 761-9300
Fax: (613) 761-9301

Schools for Students with Severe Learning Disabilities:

Amethyst School

1515 Cheapside Street
London, Ontario
N5V 3N9
Tel.: (519) 453-4408
Fax: (519) 453-2160

Sagonaska School

350 Dundas Street West
Belleville, Ontario
K8P 1B2
Tel.: (613) 967-2830
Fax: (613) 967-2482

Centre Jules-Léger (French Language)

281 rue Lanark
Ottawa, Ontario
K1Z 6R8
Tel.: (613) 761-9300
Fax: (613) 761-9301
TTY: (613) 761-9302 and 761-9304

Trillium School

347 Ontario Street South
Milton, Ontario
L9T 3X9
Tel.: (905) 878-8428
Fax: (905) 878-7540