



Section Four: Students

480 – RAISING THE BAR: THE THREE-YEAR RULE

The Board of Education provides a wide range of educational opportunities for students as part of their secondary school experience. The diversity of course and program offerings ensures each student can select a course of study to meet graduation requirements. The Board believes students entering grade 10 should strive to complete graduation requirements within three years, however, in certain extenuating circumstances this may not always be possible.

The Board believes the three-year rule will:

- Increase the number of students graduating on time, within three years (grades 10 to 12), and in their neighbourhood school.
- Encourage students to have a ‘seriousness of purpose’ regarding their studies.

Students who do not complete graduation requirements within the three years will be:

- Notified in the spring of their third year.
- Provided with an information package which includes:
 - Programs and opportunities for completing graduation outside the neighbourhood school.
 - An application for exemption of the three-year rule for extenuating circumstances. (See 480A Appendix A – Application for Exemption of the Three-Year Rule).

If a student’s application for exemption from the three-year rule is denied, an appeal may be made to the Superintendent of Schools. (See 480A Appendix B - Appeal of Decision to Deny Three-Year Rule Exemption Application). In the event this appeal is denied, the School Act and School Board policy give parents/students the right to appeal any decision of a school district employee directly to the Board.