

Rolling River School Division Accessibility Plan



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Part 1: Baseline Report

Provide an analysis of the types of barriers Manitobans may face in accessing your programs, facilities, and services. Highlight those that are most significant to your organizational mandate and to the public.

Overview of Programs and Services

Rolling River School Division includes four high schools, eight elementary schools, three colony schools, and an Adult Learning Centre. The 15 schools provide service to the communities of Douglas, Forrest, Rivers, Rapid City, Minnedosa, Oak River, Rolling River First Nation, Erickson, Sandy Lake, and Onanole. The Division Office is located in Minnedosa, Manitoba.

The public accesses our schools for concerts, open houses, teacher/parent conferences, workshops, and extra-curricular activities. The Board works toward ongoing improvements in accessibility for students, staff, volunteers, parents, and members of the public who may use our facilities. The Board is committed to accessibility for persons with disabilities and meeting the obligations under the Accessibility for Manitobans Act.

Accessibility Achievements

Accessibility Achievements

- Ensuring that all students have equitable access to assistive technology within the school curriculum (Augmented Alternative Communication programs and devices, Snap+Core, Read Write, Microsoft Word – Screen Reader, Immersive Reader, Dictate) and providing support to staff in the integration of that technology into their instructional plans to support our diverse population.
- All classrooms have a computer projective device installed, staff trained.
- Providing professional development to classroom teachers, Resource teachers and Educational Assistants in the implementation of specific assistive technology (Snap + Core, Read and Write) to help make technology work better for our students.
- Constructing a grooming room at Forrest Elementary to support the needs of students with significant additional needs.
- Requesting Public School Finance Branch for the construction of a grooming room at another elementary school.
- Creating an in-house grooming space for use until the new grooming room is built.
- Collaborating with Occupational and Physio Therapies to purchase equipment needed to support full access to classrooms and playgrounds for all students.
- All staff completed Respect in Schools training.
- Specialized seating and desks provided as needed.
- All emergency exit signage converted to the “running man” pictogram.
- All schools have designated accessibility parking spots available for staff and visitors.
- Upgraded aging Sound field amplification systems across the division.

RRSD Policies to Support Accessibility:

- Student Transportation for Program Not Offered - [EEAAB/P](#)
- Harassment Prevention - [GBCB/P](#)
- Leave of Absence - [GCBD/P](#) (for staff)
- Student Services – Appropriate Education - [IGB/P](#)

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- Student Services – Clinical Services - [IGBA/P](#)
- Student Services – Dispute Resolution - [IGBC/P](#)
- Students with Anaphylaxis - [JHCA/P](#)
- Administering Medication to Students - [JHCD/P](#)
- Reporting a Child in Need of Protection - [JHF/P](#)
- Student Grade Level Placement: Kindergarten to Grade 8 - [IKE/P](#)
- Student Assessment and Communication of Student Achievement - [IKAA/P](#)
- Code of Conduct – [JFA/P](#)
- Safe and Caring Schools – [JG/P](#)
- Safe and Respectful Schools: Use of Seclusion in Schools – [JHB/P](#)

Barriers to Accessibility

Barriers to Accessibility	
Barrier Type	Reason for Barriers
Architectural and Physical	Aging buildings
Information and Communication	Internet connectivity in homes in some rural areas
Awareness/Attitudinal	Underestimating the abilities of persons with disabilities. Some staff have limited understanding of UDL principles
Financial /Resource	Financial challenges of upgrading aging infrastructure to meet current accessibility standard

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Part 2. Accessibility Plan

Statement of Commitment

The Rolling River School Division Board is committed to meeting the requirements of the Accessibility for Manitobans Act and improving environment and program access in all its schools/facilities to promote independence, dignity and respect for students, parents/guardians, staff and public. Rolling River School Division planning and programming is guided by the Manitoba Philosophy of Inclusion:

Manitoba Education is committed to fostering inclusion for all people. Inclusion is a way of thinking and acting that allows every individual to feel accepted, valued, and safe. An inclusive community consciously evolves to meet the changing needs of its members. Through recognition and support, an inclusive community provides meaningful involvement and equal access to the benefits of citizenship. In Manitoba, we embrace inclusion as a means of enhancing the well-being of every member of the community. By working together, we strengthen our capacity to provide the foundation for a richer future for all of us.

Policies:

- Community Engagement in Education Decision Making ABA/P
- Respect for Human Diversity AC/P
- Code of Conduct JFA

Actions

Action 1	
Initiatives/Actions	Expected Outcomes
Policies and Procedures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engage with ACS for assistance in policy development.• As soon as possible – Develop policy and procedures – Accessible Employment and Customer Service.• November 1, 2023 – Develop policy and procedure – Use of Service Animals.
Action 2	
Initiatives/Actions	Expected Outcomes
Architectural and Physical Environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Newly designed and constructed playgrounds will include accessible play areas.• Accessibility will be considered in all playground upgrades.• PACs/Fundraising groups will be informed of this expectation.

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Action 3	
Initiatives/Actions	Expected Outcomes
Awareness/Attitudinal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accessibility legislation and updates will be a standing item on Admin Council, WSH, and school staff meetings.
Action 4	
Initiatives/Actions	Expected Outcomes
Information and Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Website Accessibility Review undertaken by with SchoolMessenger to ensure WCAG 2.1 Level AA compliance (Winter/Spring 2023)</i> May 2023 – website training for network/website administrators June - July 2023 – updated website template to go live. September 2023 – training for all school-based website admin (school secretaries) Monsido compliance reports sent to school and divisional website administrators regularly for review. May 2024 – training for all school-based staff in provision of accessible, educational resources May 2024 – Accessible Information and Communication Standard Regulation

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