

MOTION:

The members of SEAC recommend that the DSB develop a policy for students who receive assistive technology equipment through SEA funding, regarding the use of such equipment outside of school premises.

The policy should make provisions for students who are not eligible to access equipment for home use through the Assistive Devices Program of the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

These provisions should allow students to take home equipment they need to work on school assignments, as long as arrangements are made for insurance coverage for loss or damage.

RATIONALE:

Students who receive equipment such as laptop computers funded through SEA, but have no access to the same equipment at home, are not able to do homework or projects outside school premises. This significantly disadvantages students who do not have the financial resources to purchase duplicate equipment and resources, and students (including those with learning disabilities) who cannot access equipment for home use through the Assistive Devices Program. School boards have a duty under Human Rights legislation to eliminate such barriers to accessible education.