## THE PROTESTANT SEPARATE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE TOWN OF PENETANGUISHENE

#### POLICY MANUAL

POLICY TITLE:			SECTION/CODE:
Electronic Meetings			Board By-Laws 1 – VII
APPROVAL DATE:	SUPERSEDES:	NUMBER OF PAGES:	REVIEW DATE:
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# **BY-LAW VII**

# **ELECTRONIC MEETINGS**

- 1. The requirements for physical attendance at Board meetings shall be in accordance with the *Education Act (Section 208.1) and Ontario Regulation 463/97.*
- 2. At the request of trustee(s) or as determined by the Board, the provision of electronic (audio and/or visual) shall be afforded to trustee(s) for their participation in all Board meetings including all meetings of committees of the Board as defined in its Policies.
- 3. The Board shall follow the process for electronic meetings as outlined in Board policy and in particular for votes by secret ballot and maintenance of privacy.
- 4. All regular procedural rules such as notice of meeting, quorum and the requirements to maintain a record and minutes of the meeting shall be adhered to. A lack of notice of the meeting to all members and a lack of quorum shall render action taken at the meeting invalid.
- 5. The electronic meeting shall permit all members to hear and be heard by all other participants in the meeting simultaneously.
- 6. Members attending a teleconference meeting shall be deemed to be present at the meeting.
- 7. Since voice recognition cannot always be ascertained during a telephone meeting the following minor variations in meeting rules are required.
  - 7.1 Attendance and quorum is established through a roll call.
  - 7.2 Members shall always be identified before speaking.
  - 7.3 At the Chairperson's discretion discussion takes place on a rotating basis.
  - 7.4 Votes are taken by roll call or by general consent.
  - 7.5 Members who are to leave the meeting prior to adjournment shall announce their leaving.

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- 8. Meetings where a group of members meet in one room and use a speaker-phone and other individual members of the group call in from other locations are permitted.
- 9. Trustees participating electronically in closed sessions must ensure confidentiality is not compromised by the proximity of others to the phone/video conversations.
- 10. An attendee at a teleconference meeting may not electronically record a meeting without the permission of the meeting granted by majority vote.