



# Policy No. II-54

<b>(mPLAR)</b>	
<b>Adopted:</b> September 19, 2023	<b>Last Reviewed/Revised:</b> November 21, 2023
<b>Next Scheduled Review:</b> 2026-2027	
<b>Associated Policies &amp; Procedures:</b> <a href="#">I-27 Admission to Schools Elementary and Secondary</a> <a href="#">VI-100</a> <a href="#">II-50 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) and mPLAR</a> <a href="#">VI-55 Assessment and Evaluation-</a> <a href="#">VI-56 Assessment and Evaluation-</a> <a href="#">VI-</a>	

## Purpose

that can and does occur beyond the regular school. Recognizing that students are exposed to a variety of learning experiences outside of school, the Board provides Recognition for Mature Students (mPLAR) equivalency and challenge processes as ways to

## Application and Scope

This policy applies to mature students enrolled in all secondary day schools of the HCDSB, including the Thomas Merton Centre, who are 18 years of age or older as of January 1 of the year in which they are enrolled. mPLAR provides a process by which the prior experiences of mature students,

The mPLAR process involves two components: equivalency and challenge. Mature students have their knowledge and skills evaluated against the expectations outlined in the provincial curriculum to earn credits towards the OSSD.

## References

[Education Act](#)

[Ontario Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter E.16, s. 27\(1\)](#)

## [Policy/Program Memorandum \(PPM 132\)](#)

[The Ontario College of Teachers](#)

[Ontario \(OSF\) Manual \(2013\) The Ontario Student Trans](#)

## Definitions

**Challenge:** through the challenge process, a student's prior learning is evaluated using assessments for the purpose of granting credit for Grade 11 or 12 courses developed from the most recent Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) program. Assessment is used to determine if credits

**Equivalency:** through the equivalency process, a student participates in an evaluation of their prior learning for the purpose of granting credit for a course developed from the most recent Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) program.

**Mature Student:** a student who is at least 18 years of age on or after January 1 of the current school year and who is enrolled in a program for the purpose of obtaining an OSSD.

**Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition for Mature Students (mPLAR):** the formal evaluation and credit-

## Principles

HCDSB is committed to ensuring that all mature students achieve their potential and are supported in choosing and moving to appropriate post-secondary pathways that meet their aspirations.

HCDSB is committed to ensuring that mature learners are supported to expeditiously achieve their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) and efficiently pursue post-secondary employment and/or education, apprenticeship, college, university.

## Requirements

**Goals and Objectives including the**

- Ensure that all mature students are supported in achieving their potential and are supported in choosing and moving to appropriate post-secondary pathways that meet their aspirations;
- Carry out the responsibilities as required in PPM132 and Ontario Schools Kindergarten to Grade 12, 2016, section 7.2.5;
- Provide an mPLAR indication to a mature student interested in mPLAR equivalency or challenge credits;
- Begin the process of assessing prior learning to determine what credits may be granted if



Only teachers certified by the Ontario College of Teachers and/or challenge process.

### responsibilities

#### Board of Trustees:

Review the mPLAR policy in accordance with the priorities in the HCDSB Multi-Year Plan and the approved review cycle; and

Understand and communicate with members of the community about the mPLAR policy as required.

#### D

Understand and communicate with members of the community about the mPLAR policy as required. Report

Report on the mPLAR process to the Board of Trustees.

#### Superintendents:

Ensure that mPLAR, equivalency and challenge processes are available to all eligible mature students; and

Support the application of

#### Secondary School

Ensure that the mPLAR process is implemented in accordance with the policy.

Facilitate the application of the mPLAR policy;

Ensure that students who engage in the mPLAR process meet eligibility requirements as per PPM132; and

Ensure that mature students who do not have documentation of prior learning owing to

and/or referral to an appropriate service provider concerning the gathering and giving of evidence.

#### Mature Students:

Understand and communicate with members of the community about the mPLAR process requirements and expectations; and

Communicate with members of the community about the mPLAR process requirements and expectations.

APPROVED: Regular Meeting of the Board

AUTHORIZED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Chair of the Board*