



1. Purpose

To ensure that CDSBEO employees are provided with the very best protection from occupational-induced hearing loss. This program is designed to detect hearing loss, monitor the employee's hearing throughout the course of employment, and ensure compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA).

2. The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario (CDSBEO) Hearing Conservation Program includes:

- a) Monitoring
- b) Employee Notification
- c) Audiometric Testing
- d) Hearing Protection Requirements
- e) Training
- f) Record keeping

3. Acronyms

OHSA - Occupational Health and Safety Act

CSA - Canadian Standards Association

TWA - Time Weighted Average STS - Standard Threshold Shifts

4. Procedures

a) **Monitoring**

- i. According to OHSA Reg. 851 S.139 ss (1) to (10) all areas of the board that have noise exposure at or above a Time Weighted Average (TWA) of 85dbA (decibels) will be surveyed whenever equipment changes are made (installation of new or modification of existing) by a representative of the Joint Health and Safety Committee, and a qualified person retained and supervised by the Occupational Health and Safety Coordinator.
- ii. Where there is a change in Board operations that could result in a noise exposure at or above TWA 85dbA, a noise level survey will be performed within 60 days of the change.

b) **Employee Notification**

Employee representatives are allowed to observe all measurements and receive an explanation of the procedures. All noise level surveys will be maintained as permanent records.

c) **Audiometric Testing**

- i. Every three years the CDSBEO will conduct audiometric testing on employees under the Hearing Conservation Program, who are regularly exposed to high-risk noise levels.