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Subject	APPLIANCES AND HOME FURNISHINGS
References	APM A5210 – Carpet Installation and Replacement
Links	
Contact	Manager of Custodial Services and Community Use

1. Rationale

It has been a practice in some schools to accept the donation of home furnishings and appliances, or to have these items brought in by staff for their use in schools. This practice poses several concerns related to the health and safety of students and staff.

Some home furnishings (such as couches, desks, chairs, bookshelves, etc.) add to the combustible load in the rooms. The additional furnishings may obstruct the proper cleaning of the rooms and the egress for fire exiting. Furnishings may also be the home for airborne allergens (mould), insects, and rodents.

There is an increased health and safety risk with the use of small appliances in classrooms. The small electrical appliances would include (but is not limited to) the following: electric kettles, coffee makers, electric hot plates, microwave ovens, space heaters, crock pots, mini fridges, etc. These devices are not recommended by OSBIE for classroom use as they pose a burn/scalding or electrical malfunction hazard. Appliances and home furnishings are not maintained by Facility Services. In addition, there is a direct environmental impact with the increased amount of energy consumption.

2. Appliances

2.1 Small appliances must be removed from classrooms and kept only in areas where there is constant adult supervision and where they are inaccessible to students (i.e. staff rooms). Departmental offices in secondary schools may contain only one set of appliances, as approved by the principal.

2.2 Only appliances related to the programming needs of the students will be allowed in classrooms. Proper safety precautions need to be in place.

2.3 Appliances that are approved for use in staff rooms, departmental offices in secondary schools, or for programming needs of students should be in good working condition (e.g. cords, plugs, etc.), and must have either CSA, UL, or ULC labels.

2.4 Appliances should not be on moveable carts (such as A/V carts) and should not be taken from room to room.



2.5 All refrigerators and freezers shall be emptied out before the end of June.

3. Home Furnishings

3.1 The acceptable standard for furniture in schools can be found in the documents contained in the Purchasing Department Tender Catalogue.

3.2 The acceptable standard for area carpets is defined in APM A5210, Carpet Installation and Replacement.

3.3 All furnishings (including area carpets, couches, desks, bookshelves, etc.) that do not comply with the board standards shall not be accepted for use in the school.

3.4 Existing furnishings that do not comply with board standards will be removed from the school at school cost.

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Revised

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