

To access services

If your child has been identified with a significant vision loss, please tell the school principal. The principal will refer your child to the Special Education Resource Teacher. They will contact the Area Special Education Leader. This team will work with you to place your child in a school setting that best meets their needs.

Partners in education

W. Ross Macdonald School

Education and Resource Centre for the Blind and Deaf Blind

Phone: 1-519-759-0730 Toll Free: 1-866-618-9092

wrms.pdsbnet.ca

Canadian National Institute for the Blind

Phone: 1-800-563-2642

www.cnib.ca

Vision Loss Rehabilitation Ontario

visionlossrehab.ca/en

1-844-887-8572

Optometrists & Ophthalmologists

Community Supports

Contact your school principal to find out about community agencies in your area.

Contact Us

Kenora - Head Office
4th Floor - 240 Veterans Drive
Kenora, Ontario P9N 3Y5
Phone: 807-468-5571
Toll Free: 877-275-7771

www.kpdsb.ca

Do you have
concerns about your
child's learning?



SCAN ME



Keewatin Patricia

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Special Education Services

Blind & Low Vision

This brochure is produced in consultation with the KPDSB and the KPDSB's Special Education Advisory Committee May 2024.

Ministry definition

The exceptionality of Blind and Low Vision is a condition of partial or total impairment of sight or vision that even with correction affects educational performance adversely.

Criteria for identification

An Identification, Placement and Review Committee **shall require** the following when considering a student with a physical exceptionality due to visual impairment:

- an ophthalmic report (visual assessment) submitted by a legally qualified ophthalmologist stating information regarding near and distant vision, field restrictions, if any, and recommendations for programming needs;
- history of academic or social/emotional difficulties directly related to the visual impairment;
- need for program modifications (Braille instruction or print material) related to visual impairment.

Please also supply this information if you can:

- health history from a legal qualified medical practitioner



KPDSB Supports

The Keewatin-Patricia District School Board employs a **Central Special Assignment Teacher for Students with Visual Impairments**. Most of this support comes through email, phone calls, and videoconferences.

In the first year of service, they will plan two team meetings to observe your child and with programming. After that, the team meetings will take place once a year.

The Central Special Assignment Teacher for Students with Visual Impairments:

- helps the Special Education Resource Teacher and the classroom teacher implement recommendations from W. Ross Macdonald School and Vision Loss Rehabilitation Ontario (VLRO)
- recommends resources and where to find them
- provides training and support on Braille and technology use
- raises accessibility awareness
- models interventions