

Supervision Standards for Ontario's Schools

1	Only trained staff shall be given supervisory responsibilities in a school.
2	<p>A supervision ratio of staff:student must fall within the following ranges:</p> <p>Junior Kindergarten/Senior Kindergarten: 1 supervisor for 8 - 20 students</p> <p>Elementary: 1 supervisor for 50 - 100 students</p> <p>Secondary: 1 supervisor for 100 - 150 students</p>
3	In elementary schools, at no time shall there be fewer than 2 supervisors (within direct line of sight of each other) during recess, lunch and before and after school.
4	Elementary supervisors must have continuous and direct sightlines of the students they are supervising.
5	Supervision duties cannot erode instructional time. For example, Educational Assistants must not be assigned to supervision duties if it will conflict with the instructional time of special needs students.
6	Students shall not be used to supervise other students in the absence of a teacher.
7	Junior and Senior Kindergarten students in separate designated play areas require separate/additional supervision.
8	Younger students should be separated from older students while playing in the playground, due to the increased possibility of injury.
9	Play structures require separate supervision.
10	While students are eating, each enclosed room must be supervised separately.

11	In order to be available to handle emergencies and ensure the overall safety of the school, principals and vice-principals are not to be on the school's formal supervision schedule.
12	All supervisors on the schoolyard and in/around the school must have access to a communication device.

These standards were developed in 2007 in response to a bargained limitation on supervision by teachers that led to concerns on the part of principals and vice-principals for student safety. They have not been endorsed by the provincial government or school boards, nor are they possible to fulfill in the current circumstances. However, school administrators continue to believe that these standards would improve student safety, and that government and school board resources ought to be directed to achieving them.