



Policy: Catholic Parent School Councils

Table of Contents

[Policy: Catholic Parent School Councils](#)

[1.0 Policy Statement](#)

[2.0 Catholic School Councils](#)

[References](#)

[Approval and Review Dates](#)

1.0 Policy Statement

- 1.1 The Superior North Catholic District School Board values:
 - 1.1.1 the presence of God in each person;
 - 1.1.2 an inclusive Catholic culture that instills compassion;
 - 1.1.3 hope, integrity, faithfulness, respect and self-worth;
 - 1.1.4 Catholic-based spiritual development; and student success.
- 1.2 The Superior North Catholic District School Board recognizes that Catholic Education is a responsibility shared by the schools, the students, their families, the Church, and the community. Good schools are even better when parents and/or guardians are involved and engaged. It is the policy of the Superior North Catholic District School Board that each school within its jurisdiction maintains a Catholic school council in accordance with the terms set out by the Ontario Ministry of Education and the procedures and guidelines set out by the Board in the Administrative Regulations.
- 1.3 The Superior North Catholic District School Board believes that student success is the main focus of effective schools and that there is a clear connection between authentic parental and/or guardian involvement in schools and student achievement.

- 1.4 The Board believes that the main goal of School Councils is improving learning for all students. The actions of these advisory councils are to focus on activities which help young people succeed in school and on supporting communication between school and home.
- 1.5 School Councils need to draw on the diversity and resources that each school community has to offer. Councils are an opportunity for all parts of the community to work together with their local schools and provide a forum for groups and individuals to come together and make their voices heard on behalf of students. Successful education requires cooperative partnerships among the staff and students of the school, the home and the community. Effective relationships between the education system and communities are promoted and sustained through consultation, collaboration and communication.

2.0 Catholic School Councils

- 2.1 Parents and/or guardians play a vital role in the development and education of their children and in the success of schools. Research clearly shows that good schools become better schools when there is a strong connection with parents and/or guardians as part of the learning community. The positive results of a genuine partnership between parents and/or guardians and schools include improved student achievement, reduced absenteeism, and increased positive behaviour.
- 2.2 Catholic School Councils have a unique role to play in bringing parents and/or guardians, the school, and the parish together in partnership. As parents and/or guardians and community members themselves, Catholic School Councils provide an important bridge between school staff, parents and/or guardians, Home and School Associations, and other parent groups that may be active within the school community.
- 2.3 The Catholic School Council will support and sustain communication by:
 - 2.3.1 informing all key stakeholders.
 - 2.3.2 soliciting stakeholder input on key issues.
 - 2.3.3 developing partnerships with each sector.
 - 2.3.4 raising the profile of the Catholic school system in the community.
 - 2.3.5 developing councils that are representative of each unique school

community.

References

- School Councils Guide
<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/council/council02.pdf>
- Education Act <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/000612>
- People for Education <http://www.peopleforeducation.ca/faq/what-is-a-school-council/>
- [P-CP 214 School Fundraising](#)

Approval and Review Dates

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