

NORTHEASTERN CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Policy
C-5

Authority
01-161/07-153

STUDENT TRUSTEE

POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of the appointment is to encourage leadership development for students and to present student perspectives for Board discussion and debate.

POLICY REGULATIONS

1. Selection Process:

The secondary school students council will receive applications for a Pupil Representative.

In consultation with the staff advisor, the President of the Students' Council and the Principal will conduct the election process for selection of its nominee no later than April 30 in each school year and submit its selection to the office of the Director of Education.

The Board shall provide the Ministry with the name of the student trustee elected, not later than 30 days after the date of the election or by-election.

2. Qualifications:

A pupil representative is qualified to be appointed if he/she is:

2.1 a Canadian citizen;

2.2 a Roman Catholic resident within the area of jurisdiction of the Board, and;

2.3 a full-time student in the senior division of a Catholic secondary school of the Board.

3. Term:

The normal term of office will be one school year, with the selection to take place no later than June and the term to commence on August 1 of the year in which the student is elected and end on July 31 of the following year.

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4. Guidelines:

The pupil representative shall be known as a "Student Trustee".

The pupil representative shall attend public sessions of regular meetings of the Board and its committees.

The pupil representative is not entitled to be present at a meeting that is closed to the public under clause 207 (2) (b) of the Education Act.

The pupil representative shall be a non-voting member and act in concert with other elected Trustees to examine and discuss issues leading to a vote at regular Public Meetings of the Board.

A student trustee is entitled to require that a matter before the board or one of its committees on which the student trustee sits be put to a recorded vote, and in that case there shall be,

- i. a recorded non-binding vote that includes the student trustee's vote; and
- ii. a recorded binding vote that does not include the student trustee's vote.

The pupil representative shall follow the normal process of dealing with complaints, questions or suggestions regarding a school or service by advising the Director of Education.

The pupil representative shall be reimbursed for out of pocket expenses as if they were members of the Board.

5. Responsibilities:

The pupil representative shall act in accordance with the By-laws and Rules of Order of the Board.

The pupil representative shall act on behalf of the Board only where authority has been specifically delegated by the Board.

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The pupil representative shall endeavour to obtain a broad view for students' input to be presented to the Board.

6. Attendance:

The student trustee must resign from their position if they are absent from three consecutive regular meetings of the board without being authorized by a resolution of the board. Authorization by resolution must be provided to student trustees in the same manner as they are to board members and must be recorded in the minutes.

Student trustees are considered present at a meeting in which they participate through teleconferencing, videoconferencing or other electronic means.

7. Filling of Vacancies:

If the Board determines that a vacancy shall be filled, the process to fill a vacancy will be by a by-election conducted as per selection process for a student trustee.

8. Conflict of Interest

A conflict of interest arises when a student trustee (or a student trustee's parent, spouse or child) has a direct or indirect financial interest in a matter being discussed at a board or committee meeting.

An indirect financial interest arises when a student trustee (or a student trustee's parent, spouse or child):

- i) owns shares or is a senior officer in a privately-held company;
- ii) has a controlling interest or is a senior officer of a publicly-held corporation; or
- iii) is the member of body that has a financial interest in the matter being discussed at a board or committee meeting.

For there to be conflict, the financial interest must be of such a nature that it could reasonably be regarded as likely to exert influence over the student trustee.

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9. Honorarium

The student trustee shall receive an honorarium at the end of his/her term in the following amounts:

- i) \$2,500 if the student trustee holds office for a complete term of office (one year);
- ii) \$2,500 prorated according to the proportion of the term for which the student trustee holds office, if the student trustee holds office for less than a complete term of office.

10. Resources and Training

A student trustee has the same status as a board member with respect to access to Board resources and opportunities for training.