

NORTHEASTERN CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Policy  
F-30

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99-324

ANIMAL CARE IN THE CLASSROOMS

POLICY STATEMENT

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northeastern Catholic District School Board approve a policy of animal care in classrooms in its jurisdiction to conform with "The Animals For Research Act" (Revised Statutes in Ontario, 1990, Chapter A.22 and Care of Experimental Animals, A Guide for Canada).

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Director of Education administer the policy subject to the Regulations.

POLICY REGULATIONS

There shall be a Development Committee called the Animal Care Committee, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2000, to encourage the use of live animals in classrooms for their educational value in achieving educational objectives and in developing respect for all living things as well as to ensure that all animals are treated kindly and humanly and are properly cared for at all times. This Committee will be comprised of 1 Trustee, 1 Superintendent, 1 Principal (appointed). The Committee will be required to meet at least biannually.

1. The Committee will administer these Regulations and the provisions of the "Animals for Research Act (Ontario)" and Regulations made thereunder in the schools under the jurisdiction of the Board.
2. The Committee shall be responsible for co-ordinating and reviewing:
  - 2.1 the activities and procedures relating to the care of animals;
  - 2.2 the standards of care and facilities for animals;
  - 2.3 the training and qualifications of personnel that are engaged in the care of animals;  
and
  - 2.4 the procedures for the prevention and unnecessary pain including the use of anaesthetics and analgesics, in the schools under the jurisdiction of the Board.

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3. The Committee will prepare and distribute guidelines for assuring the humane use of live animals in the schools and will, from time to time, review and revise these guidelines as needed.

Responsibilities for Administering Policy on Animal Care:

The classroom teacher shall:

1. assure that use of animals in the classroom conforms to the guidelines;
2. review student project proposals to assure that they conform to the guidelines;
3. supervise student projects to assure that they conform to the guidelines;
4. refer projects proposals of educational merit but outside the guidelines of the Animal Care Committee. The representative of the Committee is the Superintendent of Education who may be reached at 1 (705) 268-7443, at the Catholic Education Centre, in Timmins.

The principal shall:

1. assist teachers to decide on classroom use of animals and on student projects, in light of the guidelines;
2. request investigation, by the Animal Care Committee, of situations in his/her school where he/she is doubtful as to the effect of the guidelines or the Act.

The Superintendent of Education shall:

1. make interim decisions on questions referred to the Animal Care Committee;
2. present such decisions to the committee for final decision.

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<p>The <u>Animal Care Committee shall</u> in addition to its responsibilities as defined in the Act and Regulations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="228 604 1468 636">1. answer questions submitted by teachers;</li><li data-bbox="228 678 1468 709">2. maintain a reference library for the use of teachers, on the humane use of animals;</li><li data-bbox="228 751 1468 783">3. assist teachers in interpreting the guidelines and the Act;</li><li data-bbox="228 825 1468 930">4. when requested by a teacher, principal, or supervisory officer, investigate conditions of animal use or care, and report with recommendations to the person requesting the investigation and others concerned;</li><li data-bbox="228 972 1468 1003">5. employ the services of a veterinarian when required for inspection or in-service training;</li><li data-bbox="228 1045 1468 1108">6. review the guidelines and policy in the light of experience and recommend any revisions needed.</li></ol>