



## **CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCILS**

**POLICY #: F-33**

**AUTHORITY: 01-160 / 02-107/12-178**

### **POLICY STATEMENT**

It is the belief of the Northeastern Catholic District School Board that the total education experience is enhanced through increased involvement among home, school and parish. Our Catholic schools must deliver Catholic education in partnership with the family, the parish and the community as a means of developing learners who can contribute positively to the Church and society.

The purpose of the Catholic School Council is, through the active participation of parents/guardians, to improve pupil achievement and to enhance the accountability of the education system to parents/guardians.

### **POLICY REGULATIONS**

It is the goal of the Board to:

1. ensure that the distinct Catholic character of the system is fostered by positive, working links with the Church through the Diocese, its parishes and other organizational bodies;
2. develop and sustain communication among school, home, parish, and Board;
3. provide feedback on input from key issues:
  - 3.1 inform all key stakeholders within the Catholic education system;
  - 3.2 assist parental involvement in their children's learning;
  - 3.3 solicit stakeholder input on key issues;
  - 3.4 develop partnerships with other sectors of the community;
  - 3.5 raise the profile on the Catholic school system in the community;
  - 3.6 develop an organizational structure that is functionally efficient and fosters participation throughout the organization.
4. recommend the following practices to Catholic school councils:
  - 4.1 encourage those committed to ideals of Catholic leadership to seek membership on Catholic School Councils;
  - 4.2 ensure that the role and activities of Catholic School Councils stress ways in which they contribute to the Catholicity of schools; and
  - 4.3 require the development of a written statement requiring Catholic School Council members to respect and promote the philosophy and traditions of the Catholic faith and the Board's mission statement.

Therefore, the Board directs that in accordance with the Ontario Ministry of Education legislation, each school will establish a Catholic School Council that will assist in realizing the goals of their individual school and will provide a direct line of communication between home, school parish and the community

Each Catholic School Council shall, in all of its deliberations, decisions, recommendations, policies and by-laws, recognize, respect and support our constitutional right to Catholic education. The right to Catholic education and its importance is a fundamental and underlying principle and belief for all actions of our Catholic School Councils.