



ALGONQUIN AND LAKESHORE CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

POLICY STATEMENT

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCILS

Rationale

The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board recognizes the importance of parental engagement in the education of their children. In keeping with Catholic teaching, we affirm that parents/guardians are the primary educators of their children and we welcome their participation as active members of Catholic School Councils.

The “purpose of school councils is, through the active participation of parents/guardians, to improve pupil achievement and to enhance the accountability of the education system to parents/guardians. A school council’s primary means of achieving its purpose is by making recommendations in accordance with the Regulation to the principal of the school and the board that establishes a council”. O.Reg 612/00 s.2

Catholic School councils are required in all Catholic elementary and secondary schools.

Guiding Principles

- The Board and administration shall develop, Administrative Procedures which shall provide direction regarding membership, record keeping, filling vacancies, election procedures, dispute resolution, conflict of interest, responsibility, liability and other topics that can be of assistance to the community.
- The Office of the Director, or designate, shall maintain a current list of Catholic School Council Chairs, Co-Chairs, O.A.P.C.E. representatives and Catholic School Council Association members.
- The Director shall invite Catholic School Council chairpersons to participate in a system umbrella group to be know as the Catholic School Council.
- The Director, or designate, shall serve as resource person to the Catholic School Council Association and be responsible for maintaining communication with all Catholic School Councils.

Terms and Definitions

Catholic School Council (C.S.C.)

A Catholic School Council is a legally constituted advisory group of elected parents/guardians, staff, students, parish representatives, and appointed community members dedicated to fostering effective Catholic schools, promoting Catholic education, and enhancing student achievement.

Catholic School Council Association (C.S.C.A.)

The Catholic School Council Association is a system umbrella group of elected parents/guardians established to further enhance Board communication with Catholic School Councils.

Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (O.A.P.C.E.)

The Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education is an association of parents/guardians established to provide an awareness of the role of the student, parent, teacher and clergy in providing the best possible Catholic education. O.A.P.C.E wishes to work in co-operation with Catholic School Councils to provide support at the local level and as an additional voice at the provincial level.

References

Regulation 612

Regulation 613

Education Act

School Councils: A Guide for Members, Revised 2002

Ministry of Education

Administrative Procedures

Catholic School Councils

Approved: June 22, 1999

Revised: March 30, 2010

Revised: April 25, 2017