

BOARD POLICY



POLICY: GP 4

SUBJECT: ROLE OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEES

POLICY STATEMENT

The role of the Student Trustee is as per all other trustees with the following exceptions.

Election of Student Trustees (Education Act):

1. Student Trustees shall be elected consistently with the requirement of the Education Act.
 - a. The Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board shall have two student trustees, appointed in accordance with the Education Act, one of whom shall be an Indigenous student trustee, appointed in accordance with provision 2.
 - b. A person is qualified to act as a student trustee in our Catholic schools if they are in the senior division as a full-time pupil of the Board or as an exceptional pupil in a special education program for whom the board has reduced the length of the instructional program on each school day under subsection 3 (3) of Regulation 298 of the Revised Regulations of Ontario, 1990 (Operation of Schools – General) made under the Act, so long as the pupil would be a full-time pupil if the program had not been reduced.
 - c. By April 30th of each year, the appropriate Superintendent shall, in cooperation with the secondary school principal, supervise the election of one student trustee using the following process:
 - i) The electoral process will be followed during March/April of each year.
 - ii) The school administration will extend an invitation to all current grade 10 and 11 students who are interested in holding the office of student trustee to attend an information session.
 - iii) Interested students will provide two letters from staff endorsing their candidacy for the office of student trustee as well as a short written explanation of why they are interested in the position.
 - iv) The school administration will confirm with students their eligibility to run for the position of student trustee.
 - v) An electoral campaign will be held.
 - vi) Students will have the opportunity to vote for their preferred candidate.
 - vii) At the end of the voting, the ballots will be counted by the school administration and the name of the newly elected student trustee forwarded to the appropriate Superintendent of Education by April 30th of each year.
 - d. Where a vacancy in the office of student trustee occurs, the board shall decide whether to fill the vacancy or not, for the remainder of the term. Where the Board decides to fill the vacancy, the vacancy shall be filled by a by-election.

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- e. The term of the office for a student trustee shall be for two years starting on August 1st of the year in which they are elected. The terms of the student trustees shall be staggered.
 - f. The Board shall notify the Ministry with the names of the student trustees elected, not later than thirty (30) days after the date of the election or by-election.

Indigenous Student Trustee

- 2. The Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board shall have one Indigenous student trustee.
 - a. The Indigenous student trustee will be appointed by the Indigenous student advisory group at St. Joseph-Scollard Hall by April 30th of each year, from among those students who self-identify as Indigenous. No student shall be appointed for more than two consecutive terms.

Responsibility

- 3. Student trustees will be fully supportive of the mission, vision and responsibilities of Catholic schools in Ontario. Student trustees will provide representation of student interests and bring student perspectives and voice on any matter before the Board of Trustees.
 - a. Student trustees shall attend all regularly scheduled Board meetings and committees on which student trustees serve and be present and participate in meetings of the Board that are closed to the public except where a meeting is closed under clause 207(2)(b) of the Education Act or where the subject matter under consideration puts them in a conflict of interest.
 - b. Student trustees shall not move or second any resolution but are entitled to suggest a motion on any matter at a meeting of the Board or of one of its committees on which the student sits. If no member of the Board or committee, as the case may be, moves the suggested motion, the record shall show the suggested motion.
 - c. Student trustees are not entitled to exercise a binding vote on any matter before the Board or any of its committees. Student trustees may, however, require that a matter before the Board or one of its committees on which the student sits be put to a recorded vote, and in which case there shall be two votes:
 - i) a recorded non-binding vote that includes the student trustee' vote; and
 - ii) a recorded binding vote that does not include the student trustee's vote.

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Support

4. The Board shall provide reasonable support for student trustees.
 - a. A student trustee shall be paid an annual honorarium of \$2500. The honorarium will be pro-rated for the number of months served for a student trustee who does not serve a full term.
 - b. Student trustees shall be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses and travel expenses in connection with carrying out the responsibilities of student trustee. Reimbursement shall be in accordance with the Board policy for trustees.
 - c. The Board of Trustees shall provide an orientation session and on-going support prior to the first Board meeting in September.
 - d. Student trustees shall have the same access to professional development opportunities as provided other trustees.
 - e. The Board of Trustees shall provide all agendas and supporting materials pertaining to the public session portion of Board meetings and its committees including a list of committees on which student trustees are eligible to sit.
 - f. Upon completion of a student trustee's term of office, the student trustee will be suitably recognized by the Board including, but not limited to, a notation in the student's Ontario Student Record and a letter of service signed by the Chair of the Board.

Monitoring: February	Method: Internal	Frequency: Biennial
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Handwritten signature of the Chair of the Board.

Chair of the Board

Handwritten signature of the Secretary of the Board.

Secretary of the Board

Distribution: