



BOARD POLICY	
<i>Policy Section</i> CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCILS	<i>Policy Number</i> 601
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POLICY TITLE

Catholic School Councils

1.0 PURPOSE

The Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington 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 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, to improve pupil achievement and to enhance the accountability of the education system to parents. A school council’s primary means of achieving its purpose is by making recommendations in accordance with this Regulation to the principal of the school and the board that established a council.” O. Reg. 612/00 s. 2.

2.0 POLICY

It is the policy of the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board that Catholic School Councils are required in all Catholic elementary and secondary schools.

3.0 GUIDELINES

- 3.1 The Board and administration shall develop, in conjunction with the school communities, Administrative Procedures which shall provide direction regarding membership, record keeping, filling vacancies, election procedures, dispute resolution, conflict of interest, responsibility, liability, and any other topic that can be of assistance to the community.
- 3.2 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 District Catholic School Council members.

- 3.3 The Director shall invite Catholic School Council chairpersons to participate in a system umbrella group to be known as the District Catholic School Council.
- 3.4 The Director, or designate, shall serve as resource person to the District Catholic School Council and be responsible for maintaining communication with all Catholic School Councils.

4.0 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

4.1 CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL (C.S.C.)

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

4.2 DISTRICT CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL (D.C.S.C.)

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

4.3 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 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.

5.0 REFERENCES/RELATED DOCUMENTS

Regulation 612

Regulation 613

Education Act

School Councils: A Guide for Members, Revised 2002, Ministry of Education

6.0 RELATED POLICIES

Policy 602, District Catholic School Council

7.0 RELATED FORMS

8.0 APPROVED BY BOARD

June 12, 2001

9.0 EFFECTIVE DATE

June 24, 2008

10.0 POLICY REVIEW DATE

June 2013

11.0 REVIEW BY

Office of the Director