



REPORT TO

GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

UPDATE FROM THE GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE TO POLICY ON GUIDE DOGS/SERVICE DOGS AND SERVICE ANIMALS FOR STUDENTS

“And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky” (Gn 1:20)

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
November 6, 2019	December 12, 2019	Click here to enter a date.

Linda Maselli-Jackman, Superintendent of Education, Special Services
 Peter Stachiw, Chief of Autism
 Rachelina Macchia, Chief of IPRC and Assessments

RECOMMENDATION REPORT

Vision:

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

Mission:

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.

We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.



Rory McGuckin
 Director of Education

D. Koenig
 Associate Director
 of Academic Affairs

L. Noronha
 Associate Director of Facilities,
 Business and Community
 Development, and
 Chief Financial Officer

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report recommends the adoption of a new policy on Guide Dogs/Service Dogs and Service Animals to conform with the legal mandate that all Ontario school boards have a policy in effect by January 2020. Furthermore, it recommends the adoption of the accompanying Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Operational Procedures – Guide Dogs/Service Dogs, and Service Animals for Students.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 50 hours.

B. PURPOSE

This Recommendation Report is on the Order Paper of the Regular Board as it recommends the adoption of a new policy and Operational Procedures.

C. BACKGROUND

1. The Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Policy on Guide Dogs/Service Dogs and Service Animals for Students has been created in response to the legal mandate that all school boards institute a policy by January 2020.
2. This policy aligns with PPM 163: School Board Policies on Service Animals, 2019, the Ontario Human Rights Code, RSO 1990, the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, and the Miller-Thompson Lawyers policy template.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

This policy has been created in consultation with Field Superintendents, Legal Services, Special Services, the Equity and Indigenous Education Department, and other TCDSB stakeholders among the various staff work groups, students, and parent delegations. This policy was first presented to the Governance and Policy Committee in November 2019 and returned to the Governance and Policy Committee in December 2019 responding to various requests for consideration made by the Committee in November.

E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. Recommendations in this report will be monitored by the Director of Education and Superintendent of Special Services
2. Policy updates will be brought to Board in accordance with the policy review schedule.

F. IMPLEMENTATION

The policy as approved will be posted on the TCDSB policy register.

G. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the newly created Policy on Guide Dogs/Service Dogs and Service Animals, provided in Report Appendix A, and the accompanying TCDSB Operational Procedures, provided in Report Appendix B, be adopted.