



REPORT TO

REGULAR BOARD

## AGE-APPROPRIATE PLACEMENT: CURRICULUM/PROGRAM SUPPORTS

*“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
January 27, 2020	February 11, 2020	
Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Education, Special Services V. Cocco, A. Coke, M. Gendron, R. Macchia, J. Mirabella, D. Reid, and P. Stachiw, Special Services Chiefs M. Endler, J. Morgan, and M. Vanayan, Research Department C. Fernandes, Superintendent of Education, Area 4 and Policy Development		

### 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.*



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## **Executive Summary**

This report recommends the adoption of a new policy on age-appropriate placement: curriculum/program supports.

This new policy has been created in response to a motion by the Board of Trustees to address parental requests for grade-level acceleration or retention. While the Toronto Catholic District School Board routinely engages the ministry-mandated practice of the age-appropriate placement of students, it finds itself, from time to time, needing to address parental requests for grade-level acceleration or retention.

This new policy's accompanying operational procedures are intended to provide curriculum and program support suggestions that will enable students to engage with age-appropriate and meaningful enrichment or support activities and/or program settings that are within-grade.

This report also recommends the adoption of the accompanying Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Operational Procedures – Age-Appropriate Placement: Curriculum/Program Supports.

*The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 80 hours.*

### **A. PURPOSE**

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

### **B. BACKGROUND**

1. The Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Policy on Age-Appropriate Placement: Curriculum/Program Supports has been created in response to a motion carried by Trustees at the April 4, 2019 Student Achievement and Wellbeing Committee meeting.
2. This policy and the appended operational procedures have been developed in accordance with the following:
  - a) key regulations such as: the Education Act and PPM 156: Supporting

- Transitions for Students with Special Education Needs, 2013;
- b) key policy documents such as: the Policy on Accessible Education for Students with Disabilities, 2018; and
  - c) other Ontario Ministry of Education resource documents that inform the principles of:
    - i) Differentiated Instruction (DI),
    - ii) Universal Design for Learning (UDL), and
    - iii) Assessment, evaluation, and reporting for student success.
3. On February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020, this policy appeared at the Governance and Policy Committee Meeting. The report was recommended to go out for consultation in the community.
  4. On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021, the policy appeared on the order paper of the Governance and Policy Meeting.

### **C. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS**

This policy has been created in consultation with Field Superintendents, as well as Senior Staff in Special Services, Research, Legal Services, Curriculum and Innovation, Communications, and Equity and Indigenous Education. Other TCDSB stakeholders consulted are those from among the various staff work groups, students, and parent representatives on the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and Catholic School Parent Councils.

### **D. 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.

### **E. IMPLEMENTATION**

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

## **F. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

The Governance and Policy Committee recommends that the newly created Policy on Age-Appropriate Placement: Curriculum/Program Supports, provided in Report Appendix A, and the accompanying TCDSB Operational Procedures, provided in Report Appendix B, be adopted.