



REPORT TO

GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

UPDATE TO DELEGATIONS AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION POLICY T.14

*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good work, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. **Ephesians 2:10***

Created, Draft

March 2, 2021

First Tabling

April 6, 2021

Review

Paul Matthews, General Legal Counsel

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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Director of Education

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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the March 2, 2021 of the Governance and Policy Committee, the Committee reviewed changes to the Delegations Policy T.14. The Committee asked staff to make additional revisions to the Policy and to advise the Committee with respect to various issues raised at the meeting.

The draft policy reflects issues raised at the committee and by a trustee who is not a member of the committee. The policy also reflects consideration of the delegation policies of Dufferin-Peel Catholic District Board, Halton Catholic District School Board, Toronto District School Board and Halton District School Board (“Four Comparator Boards”). (See proposed draft policy at Appendix A)

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 8 hours

B. PURPOSE

This Recommendation Report is on the Order Paper of the Governance Policy Committee as it recommends policy revision.

C. BACKGROUND

1. This policy was originally drafted in November of 2010. The policy was last revised in August of 2016.
2. At the March 2, 2021 Governance and Policy Committee, the Committee reviewed a version of the policy (See Appendix B) and asked that there be several revisions and raised issues on various topics within the policy. The revised proposed draft policy is included at Appendix A

D. EVIDENCE

This proposed policy is a complete revision of the existing policy and is submitted in consultation with the Director of Education and General Legal Counsel.

E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. Recommendations in this report will be monitored by the Director, with the support of Legal Services.
2. Recommended changes to the draft policy include:
 - (i) Requiring all prospective delegates to submit their request to delegate two (2) business days before the meeting. Four Comparator Boards all require that requests to delegate be submitted in advance ranging from two (2) days to seven (7) days before the meeting.
 - (ii) This draft policy, consistent with all Four Comparator Boards, gives the Chair of the Board and/or Committee and the Director of Education the right to refuse a request to delegate to ensure compliance with Federal and Ontario law and Board policy. Three of the Four Comparator Boards have a similar rule.
 - (iii) The Board's current policy permits up to ten (10) delegates per meeting. Three of the Four Comparator Boards restrict the number to 5 or 6 delegations per meeting. The draft policy proposes to limit the number of delegates to seven, which can be increased by a 2/3 vote of all Trustees eligible to vote.
 - (iv) The draft policy proposes that the Chair of the Board or Committee and the Director of Education be given broad discretion to refuse a staff members' request to delegate for reasons including, that the subject matter is relevant to the staff member's employment or professional interest. All Four Comparator Boards have a similar rule.
 - (v) To protect the legal and reputational interest of the Board, this policy proposes that all delegates must submit a written copy of their deputation at the time of registering to delegate. Assistance will be provided by the Recording Secretary's Office, for perspective delegates who require assistance in submitting the deputation in writing. One of Four Comparator Boards has a similar rule.

F. IMPLEMENTATION

When finalized by the Committee, this policy will be presented to the Board of Trustees for its consideration and approval.

G. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Committee adopt the draft policy attached at Appendix A.