



REPORT TO

REGULAR BOARD

REVIEW OF POLICY S.P.12 – RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR SECONDARY PUPILS

Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God." ~ Matthew 11:22

Drafted

February 14, 2022

Meeting Date

March 1, 2022

Michael Caccamo, Superintendent of Nurturing our Catholic Community

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.



Brendan Browne
Director of Education

Adrian Della Mora
Associate Director of Academic
Affairs & Chief Operating Officer

Derek Boyce
Associate Director of Facilities,
Business & Community Development

Ryan Putnam
Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report recommends updating the current Policy on Policy S.P.12 – Religious Education Course Requirements for Secondary Pupils to conform to current practice and policies.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 5 hours.

B. PURPOSE

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

C. BACKGROUND

1. The Policy on Religious Education Course Requirements for Secondary Pupils (S.P.12) was first approved in August 1986 and was last amended March 2017.
2. This policy reflects current practice and alignment with related policies:

Religious Accommodation – S.22

Religious Education – Board of Education Schools – H.T.06

Ontario Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memorandum 119,

Developing and Implementing Equity and Inclusive Education Policies in Ontario Schools

Constitution Act, 1867, Section 93

Ontario Human Rights Code

3. Recommended changes to this policy include implementation of this program in alignment with the Board's Pastoral Plans, and emphasis on the program's contributing role in nurturing a faith community through prayer and the celebration of liturgical seasons, engaging in retreats, and supporting ongoing efforts of community organizations.
4. The policy appeared at the Governance and Policy Committee meeting on March 1, 2022, and was referred back to staff to update language.

5. This draft policy was reviewed again on April 19, 2022 at the Governance and Policy meeting.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

This policy has been amended in consultation with staff from the following departments:

Nurturing our Catholic Community
Student Success
Curriculum, Leadership and Innovation
Equity, Diversity, Indigenous Education and Community Relations
Special Services
Communications
Field Superintendents
Human Rights and Equity Advisor
Legal Services

This policy was also reviewed by the Board's Nurturing our Catholic Community Steering Committee on February 15, 2022.

E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. Recommendations in this report will be monitored by policy development staff.
2. Further reports will be brought to Board in accordance with the policy review schedule.

F. IMPLEMENTATION

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

G. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Governance and Policy committee recommends that the revised Policy Religious Education Course Requirements for Secondary Pupils S.P.12 provided in Report Appendix A be adopted.