



REPORT TO

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL BEING, CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

### EXTERNAL RESEARCH CONDUCTED IN THE TCDSB – POLICY S.19

*Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance. (Proverbs 1:5)*

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<b>INFORMATION REPORT</b>		

**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 rooted in the love of Christ. We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity*



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## **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

According to TCDSB Policy S.19 Research Conducted in the TCDSB, a list of approved external research is to be reported to the Board. For the 2014-2015 school year, a total of 20 new external research applications were approved.

## **B. PURPOSE**

Consistent with Policy S.19, an annual report on approved external research projects is presented for the information of the Board.

## **C. BACKGROUND**

TCDSB Policy S.19 Research Conducted in the TCDSB (1988) was revised and approved by Board. This revised policy was renamed “External Research Conducted in the TCDSB”. The Policy outlines the conditions under which external research may be conducted in the TCDSB. (May 30, 2013)

Annual reporting of approved external research projects took place in March 2014 and February 2015.

## **D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS**

Any external institution, organization or individual who wants to conduct research activities in the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) must submit an application to the Board for approval. This includes people or agencies that plan to recruit research participants from schools and conduct the research off TCDSB premises.

Applications are submitted to the Director of Education and are reviewed by the Research Review Committee; there are four deadlines each year. Proposals are evaluated based on scholarship, educational merit, alignment with the TCDSB Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP), research design, demands on schools and dissemination plans. All research shall be conducted in a manner which ensures confidentiality and anonymity of individuals and schools. Any participation in an approved external research initiative is voluntary and must include informed consent.

Each year, the Research Review Committee will submit a report to Board outlining the external research that was approved to be conducted at the TCDSB during the previous school year.

During the 2014-2015 school year, 20 applications were approved (see Appendix A). These included studies in the areas of: health (mental health, physical health) leadership, mathematics, nutrition education, special education, etc. representing hospitals, public and mental health agencies, Ministry initiatives, and universities.

## **E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

An annual report on approved external research is presented to the Board.

## **F. CONCLUDING STATEMENT**

This report is for the consideration of the Board.