



REPORT TO

REGULAR BOARD

REPORT OF THE GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE ON CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL POLICY S. 10 FOLLOW UP

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

Romans 12:4-5

Created, Draft

March 10, 2015

First Tabling

March 26, 2015

Review

[Click here to enter a date.](#)

Ann Andrachuk, Chair, Governance and Policy Committee
Loretta Notten, Superintendent Governance and Policy

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



Members of the Committee:

Ann Andrachuk, Chair
Angela Kennedy, Vice Chair
Maria Rizzo, Trustee Ward 5
Mike Del Grande, Trustee Ward 7
Gary Tanuan, Trustee Ward 8
Jo-Ann Davis, Trustee Ward 9
Nancy Crawford, Ex-Officio

A. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

At the March 10th meeting of the Governance and Policy Committee the revised TCDSB Catholic School Parent Council Policy and Operational Procedures were approved with the following editorial changes:

1. Operational Procedures Protocol, #6b) to read “The Chair or at least one of the co-chairs of the Catholic School Parent Council must be Roman Catholic
2. Under Policy Cross Reference: add the Policies regarding Respectful Workplace, Conflict Resolution and any others that may apply.
3. Under Evidence/Research/Analysis, #4, amend the words “The minimum number of council members is 7 and parents must form the majority.
4. Page 52 Under Evidence/Research/Analysis, 5b) add the words “of the Board”
5. Page 54, Under Evidence/Research/Analysis #10, recommend that staff communicate to schools that “*After delegations from CPIC and OAPCE, trustees passed an amendment to the Catholic School Parent council policy. Schools and CSAC’s will now maintain separate bank accounts, at the same banking institution, and the merging of bank accounts is no longer required.*”

And that staff:

Add a new fourth bullet under Operational Procedures 7 vi – “A by-law that establishes a process for the governance of the CSPC and its affairs” and further provide a template to all CSACs to assist with their governance and that the template be added to the Parent Council Handbook

B. ORIGIN

The Catholic School Advisory Policy S.10 and the corresponding Operational Procedures were presented to Board for approval on February 19th, 2015. At that time twenty-three different amendments were approved. The amendments approved were not linked or identified specifically to a particular document. That is, there is a CSAC Policy, Operational Procedures and CSACs also have a CSAC handbook and By-Laws. For clarity and to ensure the amendments are both implemented as intended and also that they are not contradictory, this report presents staff's suggested action in terms of the amendment. Further, the amendments approved requested that the process for removing a member of a Catholic School Parent Council be brought back to Governance for review. This report presented to Governance offered staff's follow up on that request.

C. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Catholic School Parent Councils have a presence in all of our TCDSB schools and have an important role to play in parent engagement. The councils have their foundation in Ontario Regulation 612/00, which provides significant guidance and parameters for related policy. In an effort to support schools, the TCDSB has, over time, also provided school councils with a number of support tools/resources to assist them in their governance and operation. In addition to the policy and operational procedures, there is a CSAC handbook (to be renamed and re-distributed) and by—laws. The 23 amendments suggested at the February 19th, 2015 meeting of the Board need to be situated in one of the 4 referenced documents and for clarity and precision, this report offered commentary on how amendments were incorporated and where further clarity was requested.

At the Governance Committee there was discussion regarding the request for criteria to remove a parent council member. Staff indicated that criteria and assessment of the criteria can be subjective and potentially difficult to arbitrate. Further there was the caution that it could lead to legal challenges and staff noted that no other GTA board has such a stipulation. Trustees requested a provision that all councils write a by-law in regards to governance and that the revised Catholic School Parent Council handbook include a template that could guide councils in such a by-law. Finally, trustees reiterated that all schools should unmerge their bank accounts per the amendment they authored to the CSPC policy.

D. APPENDICES

1. Appendix A: Catholic School Parent Council Side by Side Feb 2015 to March 2015 (with all amendments from February 19th Board highlighted)
2. Appendix B: Catholic School Parent Council Operational Procedures (with all amendments from February 19th Board highlighted)
3. Appendix C: Report to Governance on CSPC Policy Update.

E. MOTIONS

That the Board adopt the revised Policy S. 10 Catholic School Advisory Council (Appendix A) and the revised TCDSB Catholic School Council Operational Procedures Protocol (Appendix B) with the amendments identified in the Action Plan above.

Motion as amended was declared carried.