



REPORT TO

GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

UPDATE TO OPENING AND CLOSING EXERCISES POLICY (S.S.02)

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with
thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
Philippians 4:6*

| Created, Draft | First Tabling | Review |
|---|------------------|--------|
| November 14, 2016 | December 5, 2016 | |
| Caitlin Kavanagh, Sr. Manager Employee Relations & 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 Superintendent of Business
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Director of Education

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report recommends updating the Opening and Closing Exercises policy (S.S.02) to include daily recognition in school opening and closing exercises that we live, work, play and learn on indigenous lands.

B. PURPOSE

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

C. BACKGROUND

1. The Opening and Closing Exercises policy S.S.02 was approved on September 6, 2001 and last amended August 27, 2015.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

1. On June 9, 2016, Bill 207, *An Act to proclaim Treaties Recognition Week*, received Royal Assent.
2. The Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) announced that Ontario has designated November 6 to 12, 2016 as Treaties Recognition Week in order to promote public education and awareness about treaties and treaty relationships.
3. All TCDSB students, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, are enriched by learning about the histories, cultures, contributions and perspectives of First Nation, Métis and Inuit peoples in Canada. Treaties Recognition Week is designed to provide an ongoing opportunity for our school communities to link this learning to our everyday lives through our programs and activities.
4. The TCDSB stands in solidarity with Indigenous peoples in Canada and asks all principals to incorporate a daily acknowledgement in their school's Opening Exercises that we live, work, play, and learn on Indigenous lands.

E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. Recommendations in this report will be monitored by policy development staff.
2. Further reports to Board will be brought as necessary

F. IMPLEMENTATION, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Updates to the policy will be communicated to all principals to enact in their schools.

G. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend that the Opening and Closing Exercises policy (s.S.02) provided in APPENDIX A be adopted.