



REPORT TO

## GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

### UPDATE TO ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE PHYSICAL HEALTH AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS (S.P 07)

*Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body. Corinthians 6 19:20*

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
October 30, 2017	November 7, 2017	
Peter Aguiar, Superintendent of Education and Student Well-Being, Area 4 Caitlin Kavanagh, Coordinator, 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.*

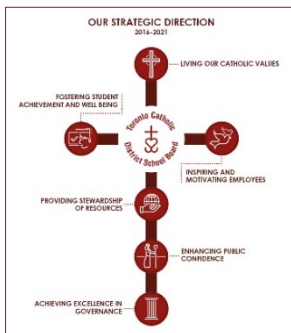
*We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.*

Rory McGuckin  
Director of Education

D. Koenig  
Associate Director  
of Academic Affairs

A. Sangiorgio  
Associate Director  
of Planning and Facilities

T.B.D.  
Executive Superintendent  
of Business Services and  
Chief Financial Officer



## **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report recommends updating the current Athletic Activities Within the Physical and Health Education Programs Policy (S.P. 07) to reflect changes in Board staffing, revisions to the Ontario Physical Education Safety Guidelines as managed by the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association (OPHEA) and to reformat in meta policy format.

The report also recommends replacing the word “Athletic” with “Physical” in the title of the policy. This will ensure that the policy apply to all physical activities within the Physical and Health Education Programs and not just organized team sports or extracurricular activity.

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

## **B. PURPOSE**

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

## **C. BACKGROUND**

1. The Athletic Activities Within the Physical and Health Education Programs Policy (S.P. 07) was approved at the February 2, 2007 Board and has not been revised since.
2. The Ontario Physical Education Safety Guidelines as managed by the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association (OPHEA) are now revised yearly and published every September on the OHEA website.
3. The OPHEA guidelines now make reference to “the minimum standards for risk management practice” in Ontario school boards.
4. The position of Health, Physical and Outdoor Education Program Coordinator referenced in the policy was eliminated in 2016

## **D. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

1. Recommendations in this report will be monitored by local school principals and area superintendents.

2. Further reports will be brought to Board if significant changes are made to OPHEA Guidelines and in accordance with the policy review schedule.

**E. IMPLEMENTATION, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

1. The updated policy will be communicated to all TCDSB stakeholders in the wider TCDSB community.
2. The Communications Department will ensure the message is sent to all relevant stakeholders

**F. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommend that the Physical Activities Within the Physical and Health Education Programs Policy (S.P. 07) provided in APPENDIX A be adopted.



**POLICY SECTION:** STUDENTS  
**SUB-SECTION:** PROGRAMS  
**POLICY NAME:** ~~ATHLETIC~~ **PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES  
WITHIN THE PHYSICAL AND HEALTH  
EDUCATION PROGRAMS**  
**POLICY NO:** S.P.07

<b>Date Approved:</b> February 21, 2007	<b>Date of Next Review:</b> November 2022	<b>Dates of Amendments:</b> November 16, 2017
<b>Cross References:</b> The Ontario Physical Education Safety Guidelines as managed by the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association ( <a href="http://safety.ophea.net/">http://safety.ophea.net/</a> )		
<b>Appendix</b>		

**Purpose:**

The Toronto Catholic District School Board recognizes the importance of all physical activities and the role that they play in maintaining each child's growth and well-being. Board personnel endeavor to serve the diverse needs of all members of the Catholic school community in this regard with a heightened sensitivity to safety. Staff follow the lead of OPHEA that manages the Ontario Physical Education Safety Guidelines which represent the minimum standards for risk management practice in Ontario school boards.

**Scope and Responsibility:**

Teachers and board staff design athletic activities within the physical and health education programs with a sensitivity to engagement and safety. They follow all relevant safety recommendations as outlined by OPHEA guidelines which are communicated to them via the principal.

The Director of Education is responsible for the implementation of this program in alignment with the Multi Year Strategic Plan.



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**Alignment with MYSP:**

**Living Our Catholic Values**

**Strengthening Public Confidence**

**Fostering Student Achievement and Well-Being**

**Providing Stewardship of Resources**

**Policy:**

An important aspect in establishing programs that are safe for both students and staff is recognizing that there is **All athletic activities (those incorporated into Health Education Programs and those used for Daily Physical Activity (DPA))** involve an element of risk. ~~in all physical activity and to take action accordingly.~~ **An important aspect in designing and implementing these programs is the task of ensuring that activities are safe for both students and staff. While participation in certain higher risk activities will entail a voluntary assumption of risk on the part of the student, it is understood that the teacher and other staff supervisors will follow the Ontario Safety Guidelines and use professional judgment and discretion in selecting the appropriate athletic activities designed to meet curriculum objectives.** By implementing safe instructional practices as well as inclusion of age appropriate activities in program preparations, planning and daily teaching the teacher will guard against foreseeable risks. **At times, it may be necessary to adapt activities to accommodate different ability levels and the unique learning styles of participants.**

It is the policy of the Board that physical activities in the Physical and Health Education program of our schools will be in accordance with current Ontario Safety Guidelines for Physical Education ~~published by the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association~~ **published by OPHEA. These guidelines are updated on an annual basis every September and are available on the OPHEA website.**



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### **Regulations:**

1. Only recommended or approved activities **listed** in the appropriate **current OPHEA safety** guidelines may be considered subject to the minimum guidelines listed.
2. Activities not **listed** recommended in **the current OPHEA safety guidelines** shall not be used without express written permission from the Program Coordinator and local School **Central Program** Superintendents.
3. Activities ~~Not Allowed within~~ **in the current OPHEA safety** guidelines should not be part of the program.
4. ~~Participation in any activity not listed in the guidelines would require written permission of the Program Coordinator and local Superintendent.~~
5. ~~Exemptions from this policy would require written permission of the Program Coordinator and local Superintendent.~~

### **Definitions:**

**OPHEA - Ontario Physical and Health Education Association**

### **Evaluation and Metrics:**

**The effectiveness of this policy will be determined by gauging feedback from principals through scheduled principal meetings and tracking incident reports at the board level.**