



POLICY – 215

Student Trustees

Area: Governance
Source: Superintendent of Education – Policy Development

Approved: March 26, 2007
Revised: February 10, 2020; March 7, 2022; March 6, 2023 (Interim)

1. Introduction

Student representation on the Board provides opportunities for student interests to be heard and considered at the Board table. Student trustees provide a direct voice by students for students.

2. Definitions

Nil

3. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for the representation of students on the Board of Trustees.

4. Application / Scope

This policy applies to the election, roles and responsibilities of Student Trustees on the Durham Catholic District School Board (“the Board”).

5. Principles

- 5.1 The Board of Trustees believes that:
 - 5.1.1 students are the future of Catholic education;
 - 5.1.2 student interests are best represented by students;
 - 5.1.3 Trustees have a responsibility to mentor and guide Student Trustees;
 - 5.1.4 having Student Trustee views shared at Board meetings informs decisions made by members of the Board.

6. Requirements

- 6.1 The Director of Education, or designate, shall issue administrative procedures to support this policy and amend them thereafter as the need may arise.
- 6.2 The Board shall have two Student Trustees representing the interest of students.
- 6.3 A Student Trustee shall meet the qualification criteria outlined in section 3.1.2 of the Board's Student Trustees Procedure.
- 6.4 A Student Trustee shall be elected by the ranks of the Board's Catholic Student Senate, no later than the last day of April in each year. The Board will provide the Ministry of Education with the names of the students elected, no later than 30 days after the date of the election or by-election.
- 6.5 Following a transition period from May until July 31, in the first year of election, the Student Trustees will serve two successive one-year terms beginning on August 1 of the year in which they are elected and end on July 31 of the following year of election.
- 6.6 Student Trustees shall be non-voting representatives to the Board representing the interest of students by fulfilling the roles and responsibilities of Student Trustees as per the administrative procedures attendant to this policy.
- 6.7 Student Trustees are expected to attend all regularly scheduled Board meetings and be present and participate in meetings of the Board. A student is not entitled to be present at a meeting that is closed to the public under clause 207(2)(b) of the Education Act or where issues under consideration would put them in conflict of interest.
- 6.8 Student Trustees shall receive honoraria as established by the legislation and out-of-pocket expenses and travel expenses reasonably incurred in connection with carrying out the responsibilities of Student Trustees. Reimbursement shall be in accordance with legislation, board policies and administrative procedures.
- 6.9 Student Trustees who cease to meet the qualification criteria in section 3.1.2 of the Board's Student Trustees Procedure shall resign their position.

7. Sources

- 7.1 Education Act, Section 55
- 7.2 Ontario Regulation 7/07: Student Trustees

8. Related Policies and Administrative Procedures

- 8.1 Student Trustees Administrative Procedure (AP215-1)
- 8.2 Trustee Expenses and Entitlements Policy (PO217)