



**DURHAM CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
*Learning and Living in Faith*

## **POLICY – PO203**

### **Naming of Catholic Schools and Buildings**

Area: Governance

Source: Superintendent of Education – Policy Development

Approved: January 5, 1998

Revised: November 11, 2013; February 6, 2017; May 11, 2020; March 23, 2026

#### **1. Introduction**

The Durham Catholic District School Board (the “Board”) recognizes and values the importance of the distinct Catholic identity that is associated with the name of a school or Board building.

#### **2. Definitions**

Nil

#### **3. Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to articulate the guiding principles for naming (and re-naming) Catholic schools and school board buildings within the Durham Catholic District School Board (the “Board”). It affirms the importance of selecting names that reflect the Catholic faith, honour individuals who embody Gospel values, and nurture a strong sense of Catholic identity and mission within the school community.

#### **4. Application / Scope**

This policy shall apply to all schools and buildings within the Board.

#### **5. Principles**

- 5.1 The Board acknowledges the symbolic importance of naming a school or school Board building, as it not only honours the individual(s) or theological concept recognized but also conveys meaningful significance to the identity and spirit of the school community.

- 5.2 The Board will consider the commitment of a person(s) (deceased) to Catholic education and/or to the general good of the school community and/or to the wellbeing of society at large.

## **6. Requirements**

- 6.1 The Director of Education shall issue administrative procedures to support this policy and to amend them thereafter as the need may arise.
- 6.2 The naming of the school or school board building will be a collaborative process that engages the Durham Catholic community and its partners.
- 6.3 The Chair/Trustee Designate shall act as the Chair of the Naming Committee.
- 6.4 If a school's patron is declared a Saint after the school or board building has been named, the school or Board building name will be amended to reflect the patron's sainthood, rather than renamed entirely.

## **7. Sources**

Nil

## **8. Related Policies and Administrative Procedures**

- 8.1 [Naming of Catholic Schools and Buildings Administrative Procedure \(AP203-1\)](#)