



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

## **POLICY – 215**

### **Student Trustees**

Area: Governance  
Source: Superintendent of Education – Policy Development

Approved: March 26, 2007  
Revised: February 10, 2020; March 7, 2022

#### **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 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 ~~be~~; **meet the qualification criteria outlined in section 3.1.2 of the Board's Student Trustees Procedure.**

~~6.3.1 — a practicing Catholic;~~

~~6.3.2 — a resident student of DCDSB;~~

~~6.3.3 — in grade 11 or 12 during the term of office;~~

~~6.3.4 — a full time student enrolled in at least 3 credits per semester.~~

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 — Only one Trustee will be elected each year. Each Student Trustee will be elected in April of their second year of secondary school (grade 10), thus commencing their two-year term to begin August 1.~~

~~6.7 — Every effort will be made to ensure that the elected Student Trustees are not from the same school at any given time.~~

6.8 Student Trustees shall be non-voting ~~members of~~ **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.

6.9 Student Trustees ~~shall~~ **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.

6.10 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.

~~6.11 The Chair of the Board shall appoint a Trustee to act as a mentor for each Student Trustee.~~

~~6.12 The Superintendent who is resource to the Board's Catholic Student Senate shall be the staff contact for the Student Trustees.~~

~~6.13 Student Trustees shall receive Board communications and other relevant materials through processes established for members of the Board.~~

6.14 6.1.4 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. ~~may be disqualified from office for any of the following reasons:~~

~~6.14.1 criteria outlined in the Education Act and Regulations;~~

~~6.14.2 cessation of enrolment as a full time student in one of the Board's Catholic secondary schools;~~

~~6.14.3 a serious breach of the school Code of Conduct; and~~

~~6.14.4 behaviour deemed to be incompatible with the roles and responsibilities of the position.~~

6.15 ~~Where a vacancy occurs, the position shall be filled by way of by election among eligible members of the Board's Catholic Student Senate committee .~~

~~6.16 Upon completion of the Student Trustee's term of office, the Student Trustee will be suitably recognized by the Board including, but not limited to, the principal making a notation in the student's Ontario Student Record and inserting a letter of service, signed by the Chair of the Board.~~

## 7. Sources

7.1 Education Act, Section 55

7.2 Ontario Regulation 7/07: Student Trustees

~~7.3 Ontario Regulation 354/18: Student Trustees~~

## 8. Related Policies and Administrative Procedures

8.1 Student Trustees Administrative Procedure (AP215-1)

8.2 Trustee Expenses and Entitlements Policy (PO217)