

## **SCHOOL COUNCILS**

Section 55 of the Alberta Education Act (Act) outlines provisions for the operation of School Councils.

1. Unless explicitly authorized by The Christ The Redeemer Catholic Separate School Division Board of Trustees (Board), as permitted under Section 55(3) of the Act, the Board requires the Chair to be of the Catholic faith.
2. The process for securing Board approval of a non-Catholic parent chair shall be as follows:
  - If the School Council cannot secure the services of a Catholic Chair, the Principal may advise the Council that they may select a non-Catholic Chair, with Board approval.
  - Once the Principal, in consultation with the Council, is certain the non-Catholic Chair is interested in serving, the Principal will determine if he/she wants to recommend the appointment to the Superintendent. This recommendation shall be contingent upon the extent to which the proposed non-Catholic candidate is fully supportive of Christ The Redeemer (CTR) Catholic School Division's schools adhering to the Catholic worldview in all operational matters. Council should consider identifying a Catholic member of Council to lead discussions and activities related to Catholic faith.
  - The Principal shall communicate his/her recommendation to the Superintendent.
  - The Superintendent shall discuss the recommendation with the local trustee(s).
  - If the Principal, Superintendent, and local trustee(s) are in agreement that the name should go forward for approval to the Board, the Board shall vote on a motion to approve the non-Catholic Chair at its next regular meeting.
3. The Board does not require other members of the Council to be of the Catholic faith.
4. The Board believes that School Councils are an important link between the Board and the school communities throughout the jurisdiction. The Board believes that School Councils can bring critical perspectives about education, the needs of the school, and concerns of the community to the Board. Therefore, the Board encourages and promotes School Councils, and the Board expects each School Council to support the Board mission and beliefs statements in promoting Catholic education. In addition to the purposes stated in regulation and statute, School Councils shall:
  - Be advisory to the principal, and not serve in a line relationship to the Board.
  - Offer advice and consultation to the principal and the Board (through the local Ward committee) about any matter relevant to school operations.
  - Encourage greater parent participation in the education of their children.
  - Promote parent understanding of the education system and teaching and learning processes.
  - Provide parents an organization for expressing their support for education.
  - Foster a total Catholic school community.
  - Work together to ensure the best possible Catholic education for students in the school and the broader school community.

- Enhance communication between the home and the school.
- Provide input from parents in the development of the mission of the school and in the attainment of that mission.
- Receive reports from the principal on the school’s education plan, operations , and the school’s annual results.
- Receive reports and suggestions from parents and community groups on school-related matters.
- Fundraise, if so desired. This shall be performed in accordance with the fundraising guidelines of the Diocese of Calgary, adhering to any Administrative Procedures related to fundraising responsibilities.
- Develop a year-end report that summarizes major activities throughout the year and includes a year-end financial statement as set out in the Alberta School Councils’ Association’s “[School Council Resource Guide](#)” (see Reporting).

**Approved:** February 29, 2020

**Amended:** February 29, 2024