



Niagara Catholic District School Board

ATTENDANCE AREA POLICY

STATEMENT OF POLICY

300 – Schools/Students

Policy No 301.3

Adopted Date: June 23, 1998

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: October 23, 2012

In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Board recognizes its responsibility to operate its schools economically and efficiently, while taking into account the best education of students, within the limits of the Board's available resources.

The Board will establish Attendance Areas for each of its schools within its jurisdiction to ensure that facilities are used effectively and that Catholic programs and services are provided to students.

The Board acknowledges that there may be changes to School Attendance Areas from time to time, to accommodate the changing demographics of the Region and as schools open or close. Changes to School Attendance Areas will follow a public consultation process.

The Director of Education shall make recommendations to the Board as required to establish an Ad-Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee with specific terms of reference.

The Director of Education will issue Administrative Procedures for the implementation of this policy.

References

- [*Education Act R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2, s. 171 \(1\), par. 7*](#)
- [*Niagara Catholic District School Board Policies/Procedures*](#)
 - [*Admission of Students Policy \(301.1\)*](#)
 - [*Pupil Accommodation Review Policy \(701.2\)*](#)



ATTENDANCE AREA POLICY

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

1. DEFINITION

For the purpose of this document, an “Attendance Area” is an area surrounding a school, defined by a specific boundary line, in which residing students would normally attend the school located within the attendance area.

2. ACCOMMODATION PLANNING

The Controller of Facilities Services shall maintain information on school capacities, enrolments, attendance area boundaries and out-of attendance-area students.

The Controller of Facilities Services shall report annually to the Director of Education outlining accommodation utilization and identification of potential attendance area boundary reviews and new schools, school additions, school consolidations or school closures.”

The Director of Education will provide recommendations to the Board where an Ad-hoc Attendance Area Review Committee may be required due to changing demographics and the need for new schools, school additions or school closures.

3. SCHOOLS IDENTIFIED FOR ATTENDANCE AREA REVIEWS

Specific schools may be identified for attendance area reviews:

- Where the long-term enrolment projections indicate significant under-utilization or over-crowding or under or over utilization,
- When new schools, school additions or school consolidations or school closures are being considered.

4. AD-HOC ATTENDANCE AREA REVIEW COMMITTEE

An Ad-Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee shall be comprised of:

- Three (3) Trustees, as appointed by the Chairperson of the Board,
- One of the three (3) Area Attendance Review Committee Trustees must be a local Trustee of the Attendance Area under consideration,
- The three (3) Trustees shall be the voting members of the Committee,
- The Ad-Hoc Committee shall elect a Chair of the Committee,
- A Superintendent of Education who shall serve as secretary of the Committee,
- The Principal(s) will act as a resource to the Superintendent of Education and will be in attendance as required,
- The Controller of Facilities Services and/or designate who shall serve as a resource person.
- Catholic School Council Chairs of each of the identified schools within the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee will be invited to participate as a resource to the Committee

The Committee shall consider such factors as the following in the Attendance Area Review:

- Current and projected enrolment,
- Out-of attendance-area students,
- Location and proximity of adjacent schools,
- The current and future capacity of the school and the school site,
- Other appropriate statistics,
- Effects on transportation, the facility and such other factors as appropriate,
- Recommendations arising from a Pupil Accommodation Review, conducted by the local Accommodation Review Committee,
- Notification to parents and guardians of proposed changes to attendance areas, providing the opportunity to respond at public consultation meetings as well as in writing, or by delegation to the Board prior to consideration of changes by the Board.

5. AD-HOC ATTENDANCE AREA REVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The final report of the Ad-hoc Committee shall be submitted by a date established by the Board and will include the meeting minutes of the Committee.

The Committee of the Whole shall receive the report of the Ad-hoc Committee's report in public session.

The Board shall make a decision regarding the report as recommended by the Committee of the Whole.

The Director of Education and Senior Administrative Council will develop a plan to implement the Board direction.