



Niagara Catholic District School Board

STUDENT SENATE – ELEMENTARY POLICY

STATEMENT OF POLICY

100 - Board

Policy No 100.6.2

Adopted Date: April 23, 2013

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: February 26, 2019

In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Niagara Catholic District School Board values the leadership, perspectives and participation of students.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board recognizes the benefits accrued when students have an opportunity to share and represent the perspectives and insights from their school communities.

To assist the Student Trustees on the Board and the Student Representatives to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee and the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), the Niagara Catholic Elementary Student Senate has been established with elementary representatives from each Family of Schools within the Board.

The Elementary Student Senate provides a forum for student servant leadership, the exchange of ideas, discussion, consultation, peer mentorship and communication through its Co-Chairs to the Secondary Student Senate, the Student Trustees on the Niagara Catholic District School Board and the Director of Education.

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

References

- [***Education Statutes and Regulations of Ontario***](#)
- [***Ontario Municipal Conflict of Interest Act***](#)
- [***Niagara Catholic District School Board Policies/Procedures***](#)
 - [***Student Senate – Secondary Policy \(100.6.1\)***](#)



STUDENT SENATE – ELEMENTARY POLICY

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Adopted Date: April 23, 2013

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: February 26, 2019

1. The Elementary Student Senate will consist of:
 - a. two (2) intermediate elementary student members from each of the Board's eight Family of Schools' Elementary Student Councils for a total of sixteen (16) members, and,
 - b. up to four (4) student representatives consisting of a student who attends one (1) of the Board's Catholic elementary schools. The community representative will be selected at large by the Student Senate through an application process prior to the commencement of the new school year.

The term of office for all positions on the Elementary Student Senate and Family of Schools' Elementary Student Council are for one (1) school year.

2. The Elementary Student Senate will meet a minimum of two (2) times during each secondary semester at the Catholic Education Centre.
3. Annually, and prior to the Niagara Catholic Student Leadership Symposium, all Elementary Principals will select one (1) intermediate student and coordinate the school's intermediate students to elect one (1) intermediate student to represent the school on its Family of Schools' Elementary Student Council for the following school year. To be considered for a Family of Schools' Elementary Student Council, intermediate students who are selected or elected must meet the eligibility requirements to serve as an Elementary Student Senator.
4. To be eligible to serve as an Elementary Student Senator, the following qualifications are required:
 - The pupil must be a Roman Catholic who is a witness to our faith.
 - The pupil must be enrolled as a resident, full-time, intermediate division student at the time of their term in one of the Board's Catholic Elementary Schools and have signed parental permission to be an Elementary Student Senator.
 - The pupil must provide a written letter of endorsement from their Catholic elementary school Principal.
 - As an Elementary Student Senator and a representative of Niagara Catholic, the pupil is expected to conduct themselves with proper demeanor at all times in accordance with the Mission, Vision, Values and Policies of the Niagara Catholic District School Board.
5. To be eligible to serve as a Community Representative on the Student Senate, the following qualifications are required:
 - The pupil must be enrolled as a resident, full-time, Grade 7 or 8 student at the time of their term in one of the Board's Catholic Elementary Schools, and have signed parental permission to be a Community Representative.
 - The pupil is expected to conduct themselves with proper demeanor at all times in accordance with the Mission, Vision, Values and Policies of the Niagara Catholic District School Board.
 - The pupil must complete an Elementary Student Senate Community Representative Application Form and provide evidence of community involvement.
 - The pupil must provide a written letter of endorsement from their Catholic elementary school Principal.

- The pupil must provide a written letter of endorsement attesting to their community involvement from an individual or an organization.
6. Each Family of Schools' Elementary Student Council will meet a minimum of three (3) times during the school year at the Family of Schools' Catholic secondary school.
 7. The two (2) secondary Student Senators from the Catholic secondary school within the Family of Schools will serve as ex-officio members of the Family of Schools Elementary Student Council.
 8. At the annual Niagara Catholic Student Leadership Symposium, students from each Family of Schools' Elementary Student Council will:
 - a. elect two (2) student Co-Chairs who will represent their respective Family of Schools' Elementary Student Council on the Elementary Student Senate, and,
 - b. select one (1) Community Representative for the Family of Schools' Elementary Student Council consisting of a student who attends one (1) of the Board's Catholic elementary schools. The community representative will be selected by the Family of Schools' Elementary Student Council through an application process prior to the commencement of the new school year. The qualifications to serve and the duration of the term of office for a Community Representative on the Family of Schools' Elementary Student Council will be the same as the Community Representative on the Elementary Student Senate as referenced within these Administrative Procedures.
 9. At the same annual Niagara Catholic Student Leadership Symposium, two (2) student members of the newly elected Elementary Student Senate will be elected to serve as Co-Chairs of the Elementary Student Senate and to serve as members of the Secondary Student Senate.
 10. The two (2) elected Elementary Student Senators of the Secondary Student Senate will be entitled to a binding vote and full membership privileges with the exception of being elected as a Student Trustee and Co-Chair of the Secondary Student Senate.
 11. In the event that a member of the Family of Schools Elementary Student Council or Elementary Student Senate is unable to fulfill their duty, a newly appointed representative will be determined through consultation with the elementary administrative liaison and a by-election process.
 12. The Co-Chairs of the Elementary Student Senate on the Secondary Student Senate will assist the Student Trustees, the student representatives on the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) in determining student issues, gathering student opinion and communication with students.
 13. Through the Co-Chairs of the Elementary Student Senate, the Student Trustees on the Board and the student representatives on the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) will be responsible for reporting back to the Elementary Student Senate on a regular basis.
 14. In addition to providing the student voice throughout the vetting of Board Policies and Administrative Procedures, the Elementary Student Senate will assist the Secondary Student Senate in the organization of Board student conference(s) as requested and the Niagara Catholic Student Leadership Symposium.
 15. In the fall of each year, a retreat may be organized for all students elected to the Elementary and Secondary Student Senate facilitated by the Board's Chaplaincy Leader.
 16. A minimum of two (2) elementary administrators will be appointed by the Director of Education to facilitate the operation of the Elementary Student Senate and to act as a resource. The administrators and Elementary Student Senate will dialogue with and provide advice to the Secondary Student Senate through the Secondary Student Senate Co-Chairs.

17. A minimum of two (2) elementary administrators will be appointed by the Family of Schools Superintendent of Education to facilitate the operation of the Family of Schools Elementary Student Council and to act as a resource. The administrators and Family of Schools Elementary Student Council will dialogue with and provide advice to the Elementary Student Senate through the Elementary Student Senate Co-Chairs.
18. The Student Trustees report to the Board of Trustees and the Co-Chairs of the Elementary and Secondary Student Senate report to the Director of Education.

Appendix A *Elementary Family of Schools' Student Council
and Elementary Student Senate Organizational Flowcharts*