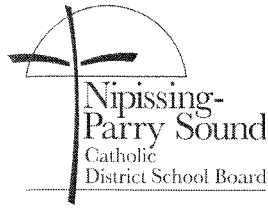


BOARD POLICY



POLICY: GP 2

SUBJECT: GOVERNING STYLE

POLICY STATEMENT

The Board of Trustees will govern the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board legally and with a faith filled strategic perspective continually improving its process and capability to express values and vision with an emphasis on (a) outward vision rather than an internal preoccupation, (b) encouragement of diversity in viewpoints, (c) strategic leadership more than administrative detail, (d) clear distinction of Board of Trustees and chief executive roles, (e) collective rather than individual decisions, (f) future rather than past or present, and (g) proactivity rather than reactivity.

1. The Board of Trustees will cultivate a sense of group responsibility. The Board, not the staff, will be responsible for excellence in governing. The Board will be the initiator of policy, not merely a reactor to staff initiatives. The Board will not use the expertise of individual members to substitute for the judgement of the Board, although the expertise of individual members may be used to enhance the understanding of the Board of Trustees as a body.
2. The Board of Trustees will direct, control and inspire the organization through the careful establishment of broad written policies reflecting the Board's values and perspectives. The Board's major policy focus will be on the intended long term impacts outside the staff organization, not on the administrative or programmatic means of attaining those effects.
3. The Board of Trustees will enforce upon itself whatever discipline is needed to govern with excellence. Discipline will apply to matters such as attendance, preparation for meetings, policymaking principles, respect of roles, and ensuring the continuance of governance capability. Although the Board can change its Governance Process policies at any time, it will observe them scrupulously while in force.
4. Continual Board of Trustees development will include orientation of new trustees covering:
 - a. The role of the Board of Trustees in governance.
 - b. A review of the Trustee's Policy Governance model and Board policies.
 - c. An overview of the Board of Trustees' calendar.
 - d. Background information on general operations of the school board including structure, roles, relationships and communication protocols.
 - e. Primary legislation affecting the school board as well as relevant regulation, Ministerial guidelines and directive.
 - f. The organization's annual revenue, expenses and audited financial statement.
 - g. The Board of Trustees relationship with the First Nations, municipal, provincial and federal bodies who are involved in supporting Catholic education.

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BOARD POLICY



POLICY: GP 2

SUBJECT: GOVERNING STYLE

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5. The Board of Trustees will allow no officer, individual or committee of the Board to hinder or be an excuse for not fulfilling its commitments.
6. The Board of Trustees will clearly distinguish between information that belongs to the Board and information that belongs to the Director of Education to whom the Board has delegated the operation of the administrative organization within the Board's governance policies.
7. The Board of Trustees will monitor and discuss its process and performance.
 - A. At the beginning of each meeting, the Board of Trustees will appoint someone to compare Board activity and discipline to policies in the 'Governance Process' and 'Board of Trustees - Staff Linkage' categories.
 - B. Once every two years under the leadership of the Chair, the Board of Trustees will conduct a self-evaluation monitoring of its performance in relation to its 'Governance Process' and 'Board of Trustees - Staff Linkage' policies. As a result of this evaluation, the Board will include in its governance action plan specific goals and objectives for improvement of identified areas.

Monitoring: May/June	Method: Internal	Frequency: Each meeting
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Revision Date(s): 2010 01 26 (NPS 09-10)	Review Date(s): 2015 12 15



 Chair of the Board



 Secretary of the Board

Distribution: