



POLICY STATEMENT

APPROVAL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/FAMILY LIFE CURRICULA AND INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

Rationale

The cornerstone of the Catholic school system is its rootedness in the teaching mission of the Roman Catholic Church. In Ontario, the Institute for Catholic Education, created by and serving the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario, as well as the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis, created by and serving the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, are recognized as having the legitimate and particular authority to propose and promote curricula and instructional resources (including, but not limited to, textbooks) in the areas of religious and family life education.

Guiding Principles

- The Board recognizes that the religious and family life education programs which have been prescribed by the ACBO be in place in all schools.
- Only those programs and materials that have been approved by the local Bishops shall be considered by the Board of Trustees for use in the schools of the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board.
- Notwithstanding the important responsibilities and moral authority of other Catholic organizations, the Board recognizes that only the local Bishop has the final authority to approve curricula and resources in the areas of religious and family life education in those areas of his diocese that are coterminous with the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board.
- The Board recognizes that it may be necessary to review concerns about such programs and materials from time to time.

References

Amoris Laetitia: Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis, 2016
Ontario Catholic Secondary Curriculum Policy Document, Grades 9-12, Religious Education, 2016
Catholic Companion to Family and Social Justice, Grade 12 (U/C), 2013
Ontario Catholic Elementary Curriculum Policy Document, Grades 1-8, 2012, Family Life Education
Ontario Catholic Elementary Curriculum Policy Document Grades 1-8, 2012, Religious Education

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Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, ICE, 2011
Religious Education: "Faith and Culture: World Religions", Grade 11 Expectations, Revised 2010
Vatican Letter on Catholic Education, 2009
The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium, Congregation for Catholic Educations, Vatican, 1997
General Directory for Catechesis, Congregation for the Clergy, Vatican, 1997
Educational Guidance in Human Love, Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education, 1983
Mission Statement of the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board
The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School, Congregation for Catholic Education, Vatican, 1988
The Catechism of the Catholic Church
Fully Alive, Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario
Parent Resources – Fully Alive, Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario

Administrative Procedures

Approval of Religious Education/Family Life Curricula and Instructional Resources

Approved: November 23, 2010
Revised: April 25, 2017
Reviewed: May 2019