

<p><b>Philosophic and Foundational Commitments 1000</b></p> <p>Philosophy and Commitment to Catholic Education</p>	<b>Administrative Application</b>	
	<b>Last Reviewed /Approved on:</b>	December 18, 2018
	<b>References:</b>	The Education Act, 1995, Sec. 53 The Constitution Act, 1867, Sec. 93 The Saskatchewan Act, 1905, Sec. 17 Policy 1 – Division Foundational Commitments and Board Strategic Plan Policy 2 – Role of the Board Policy 13 – Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters Other References: See Footnotes
	<b>Status:</b>	Operational

### Preamble

The Regina Catholic School Division (RCSD) believes that every child whose family wants to pursue, has a right to a Catholic education in an atmosphere in which the Gospel values of Jesus Christ are lived and taught.

The Board recognizes that the excellent Catholic education students of the Regina Catholic School Division are receiving is due, in large part, to the dedication and quality of its staff. The belief statements of our school division are:

1. We are called to develop and deepen our relationship with God, self, family, and community.
2. We have a responsibility to strive to exemplify the message and vision of Jesus Christ and promote these gospel values and Catholic teachings.
3. We are an instrument of the local Church that evangelises, educates, and fosters the formation of a healthy and morally sound lifestyle.
4. All people are interdependent.
5. Our community (students, parents, trustees, staff, clergy, and supporters) has a right to have input into major decisions that affect our education community.
6. All people have unconditional worth.
7. All people have a right to an education.
8. All people have a moral responsibility to create a better world.
9. Education is a personal, lifelong, truth-seeking journey that supports all facets of human development.

The vision, mission and goals of RCSD inform the foundational commitments of the school division. Every four (4) years a strategic plan is established as a major component of the Board's governance policies and guiding principles. It is intended that this plan will provide a flexible blueprint to direct the activities of the school division and the Board.

### **Vision Statement**

The Vision of the Regina Catholic School Division will provide a quality Catholic Education that is faith based, student-centred, and results oriented.

### **Mission Statement:**

The Regina Catholic School Division will work with the community and the local church to provide a quality Catholic education that fosters academic excellence and the development of informed, responsible citizens.  
*May 3, 1993*

### **Application**

All staff shares the responsibility of building such a condition in each school within the school division. In a Catholic atmosphere students can grow toward:

1. Fulfilling their part in building the Kingdom
2. Integrating faith, culture and life
3. Maturity in faith and social responsibility
4. Becoming responsible and productive members of society

### **Goals**

As per Board Policy 1 – Division Foundational Commitments and Board Strategic Plan.

*Regina Roman Catholic Separate School Division #81 exists so that our students will be informed, responsible citizens, living the teachings of the Catholic faith and building the Kingdom of God. This will be accomplished through staff who are committed to the teachings of the Catholic faith; and with a responsible stewardship of resources.*

1. *Staff and students demonstrate commitment to the Catholic faith.*
  - 1.1. *Staff and students can articulate the Catholic faith.*
  - 1.2. *Staff and students are servant-leaders, and proclaimers of our Catholic faith.*
  - 1.3. *Staff and students demonstrate commitment to the teachings of Jesus Christ.*
  - 1.4. *Staff and students demonstrate stewardship of talent, treasure and time.*
2. *Students have foundations for success.*
  - 2.1. *Students demonstrate achievement consistent with curriculum requirements.*
    - 2.1.1. *Students demonstrate continuous academic growth.*
    - 2.1.2. *Students demonstrate proficiency in the use of technology.*
  - 2.2. *Students demonstrate social skills for success.*
  - 2.3. *Students demonstrate healthy life-style choices.*
  - 2.4. *Students are engaged in learning.*

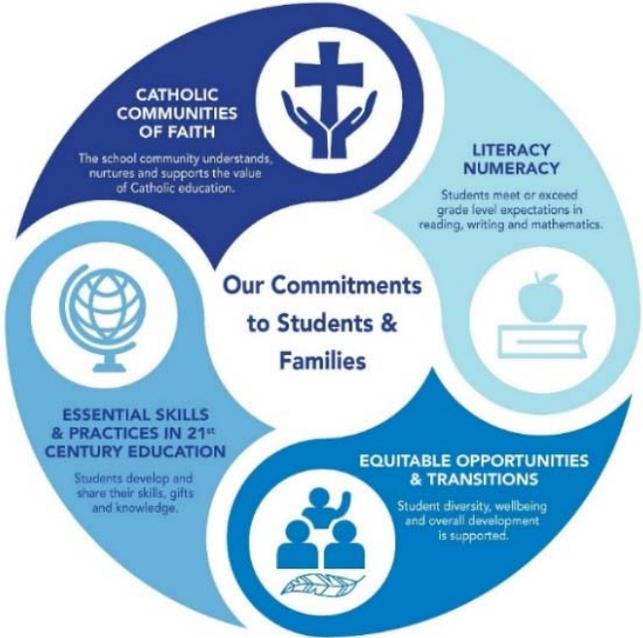
2.5. Graduates are able to meet the entrance requirements for the post-secondary education of their choice, and/or have skills for meaningful employment.

2.6. Students have an environment conducive to learning.

3. The community understands and supports the value of Catholic education.

*Through the provision of program, personnel, facilities, finances, and administrative services, the school division has the overall purpose of helping individual learners achieve their potential in moral, spiritual, intellectual, emotional, cultural, social, and physical development.*

*Our Commitments to Students and Families – Board Strategic Plan (2016-2020)  
(Policy 1 – Division Foundational Commitments and Board Strategic Plan)*

<p><b>Catholic Communities of Faith</b> The school community understands, nurtures and supports the value of Catholic education.</p>	
<p><b>Literacy / Numeracy</b> Students meet or exceed grade level expectations in reading, writing and mathematics.</p>	
<p><b>Equitable Opportunities &amp; Transitions</b> Student diversity, wellbeing and overall development is supported.</p>	
<p><b>Essential Skills &amp; Practices in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Education</b> Students develop and share their skills, gifts and knowledge.</p>	

Catholic education is best understood in terms of the learner as an irreplaceable and unique human person called into existence by a loving God and launched on a journey back to God. Catholic education is a shared responsibility. Parents are the first educators, not the only educators, of their children. It belongs to them, therefore, to exercise with responsibility their educational activity in close and vigilant cooperation with civil and ecclesial agencies. Parents have the right to choose the formative tools that respond to their convictions and to seek those means that will help them best to fulfil their duty as educators, in the spiritual and religious sphere also.

Public authorities have the duty to guarantee this right and to ensure the concrete conditions necessary for it to be exercised. In this context, cooperation between the family and scholastic institutions takes on primary importance. Trustees, administrators, teachers, support staff, priests, and parish staff work in close collaboration with parents in the service of pupils for whom the school exists. At the same time, RCSD

acknowledge that the office of Catholic Education belongs by a unique title to the Church under the Local Ordinary, and in recognition of such, the Archbishop of Regina is the honorary Chair of the Board.

The Church announces the way of salvation to all communicating the life of Christ to those who believe and assisting them...so that they may grow into the fullness of the same life. Catholic schools exist because the Church considers them as a privileged means of promoting the formation of the whole person.

<sup>1</sup>John Paul II, Encyclical Letter, The Redeemer of Man, "Redemptor Hominis", 1979, Boston, Daughters of St. Paul, No. 15.

<sup>2</sup>United States Council of Catholic Bishops, Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, 2005, Washington, Dc.

<sup>2</sup> Second Vatican Council, Declaration on Christian Education. "Gravissimum Educationis", 1963-65, No. 3.

<sup>3</sup>The Holy See, Charter of the Rights of the Family, 1983. The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, Article 5 (a),(e)

<sup>4</sup>Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education, The Catholic School, 1977, Ottawa: Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, No. 30. See also Canon 806 #1, #2 (Code of Canon Law)

<sup>5</sup>John Paul II, Apostolic Exhortation on Catechesis in Our Time. "Caechesi Tradendae", 1979, Ottawa, Canadian Council of Catholic Bishops, No. 138. See also, Canon #381 #1 (The Code of Canon Law)