

<p>Philosophic and Foundational Commitments 1102</p> <p>Celebrating Halloween and the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls</p>	Administrative Application	
	Last Reviewed /Approved on:	December 18, 2018
	References:	Policy 1 – Division of Foundational Commitments and Board Strategic Plan Policy 12 – Role of the Director
	Status:	Operational

Preamble

The application below assist the Regina Catholic School Division (RCSD) schools in recognizing the days of Halloween, the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls.

Application

1. Halloween has both religious and cultural significance. It is the eve of the Solemnity of All Saints (All Saints Day) and a time for costumes, parties and trick or treating. Regina Catholic Schools observes both the religious and cultural aspects of Halloween.
2. We all recognize that there is a place for fantasy and make-believe in the education of our students. The cultural aspect of Halloween can be presented and enjoyed in the period preceding October 31st. It is recommended that schools exercise prudence when it comes to some of the cultural aspects of Halloween which may cause controversy such as costumes or Haunted Houses that emphasize the gory, scary and dark side of Halloween.
3. November 1st is the Solemnity of All Saints (All Saints Day) while November 2nd is the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day). Both are important dates in the Church's liturgical calendar and should be observed in schools.
 - a. On the Feast of All Saints, schools recognize the witness of the saints-especially their patron saint if their feast day falls outside of the school year.
 - b. On All Souls Day, schools pause to pray for family members and friends who have died and for all the people of God who have completed their faith journey on earth.
4. The following resources which are housed in each school have excellent suggestions for celebrating Halloween, All Saints and All Souls Day within Catholic Schools: Prayers for the School Year, Blessing and Prayers through the Year, Let's Pray: Prayers for the Elementary Classroom, Celebrating Our Faith, Words for the Journey for Kids, Words for the Journey for Teens, and the Halloween, and All Saints duo-tang.
5. For further information and resources, contact the Coordinator of Catholic Education Services for RCSD or visit the Catholic Education Services website and search under the headings Halloween, All Saints and All Souls.