

<p>School, Community, and Home Relations 11140</p> <hr/> <p>School and Parish Relationships</p>	Administrative Application	
	Last Reviewed /Approved on:	January 7, 2019
	References:	Congregation for Catholic Education, Rome, 1988 Policy 12 – Role of the Director Policy 17 – Catholic School Community Councils
	Status:	Operational

Preamble

Catholic schools are extensions of the families they serve. A high quality partnership between families and schools leads to increased student achievement. “Partnership between a Catholic school and the families of the student must continue and be strengthened: not simply able to deal with academic problems that may arise, but rather so that the educational goals of the school can be achieved. It is not a question of convenience, but a partnership based on faith”. Relationships between school, home, and parish communities must receive continuous affirmation and development in order to nurture the faith life of the child.

Application

The Regina Catholic School Division (RCSD) recognizes the importance of the relationship that must exist between parishes and schools. The Board seeks to enhance the quality of these relationships through a variety of practices.

1. The Board affirms and supports appropriate parish involvement in major decisions affecting our educational community.
2. All **Catholic School Community Councils** (CSCCs) shall provide constitutional opportunity for a parish member (from within a school attendance area or connected to a school) to sit on their council by appointment.
3. The selection of the parish representative shall occur through collaboration with the parish priest or designate.
4. The school administrator shall work with the parish team to provide opportunities for students to grow their faith through a connection to their local Parish.

This checklist assists in building the essential relationship between the Catholic school and parish. The checklist provided below, while not comprehensive, is a guideline for meetings between pastors and principals.

Application

1. Bridging Between School and Parish

- a. For the principal:
 - i. Introduce the pastor to staff.

- ii. Introduce the pastor to students.
 - iii. Invite the Pastoral Team to staff meetings and socials.
 - iv. Invite the Pastoral Team to staff retreats and liturgies.
 - v. Respect pastor and principal workloads.
 - vi. Explore helping relationships with the parish.
- b. For the Pastor:
- i. Introduce principal to parish staff.
 - ii. Invite principal to some parish council meetings.
 - iii. Explore helping relationships with the school.

2. Liturgical Celebrations

- a. Eucharistic liturgies.
- b. School Opening liturgy.
- c. Thanksgiving celebration, All Saints Day, All Souls Day, Advent celebration, Christmas celebration, New Year celebration, Lent celebration, Easter celebration, school patron saint, year-ending liturgy, or graduation/farewell liturgy.
- d. Planning staff and student retreats.
- e. Pastor meetings with teachers planning liturgies.
- f. Occasional involvement in parish Sunday celebrations.

3. Sacramental Preparation

- a. Define school duties.
- b. Define parish duties.
- c. Coordinate school and parish programs: resources, timing.
- d. Meetings of teachers and parish coordinators.
- e. Responsibilities for parent meetings.
- f. Pastor and Pastoral Team classroom visits.
- g. Celebration of sacraments: dates, times, duties.
- h. Celebrating the sacrament of Reconciliation: at school, at parish.

4. Communication

- a. Include relevant parish announcements in school newsletters.
- b. Coordinate parish and school calendars.
- c. Include relevant school announcements in parish bulletins.
- d. Introduce Pastor through school's first newsletter at the start of the school year.
- e. List schools, principals, and vice-principals in parish bulletins.
- f. List school duties in sacramental preparation programs.

5. Catholic School Community Council (CSCC) Parish Representative

The principal and Pastor or designate will discuss the suitability of candidates for the appointed position of Parish Representative on the Catholic School Community Council.

The Religious Dimension of Education in Catholic Schools, #42 Congregation for Catholic Education, Rome, 1988.
http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/ccatheduc/documents/rc_con_ccatheduc_doc_19880407_catholic-school_en.html