

Philosophic and Foundational Commitments 1102 Celebrating Halloween and the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls	Administrative Application	
	Last Reviewed / Approved on:	August 14, 2024
	References:	Policy 1 – Division of Foundational Commitments and Board Strategic Plan Policy 12 – Role of the Director
	Status:	Operational

Preamble

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

Application

- Halloween, or All Hallows' Eve, 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. RCSD observes both the religious and cultural aspects of Halloween.
- 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 as we turn our thoughts to the religious roots of the day. It is recommended that schools exercise prudence when it comes to some of the cultural aspects of Halloween which may cause controversy avoiding certain costumes or Haunted Houses that emphasize the gory, scary, and dark side of Halloween.
- 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 for understanding the communion of saints and must be observed in schools.
 - On the Feast of All Saints, schools recognize the faith witness of the saints-especially their patron saint if their feast day falls outside of the school year.
 - 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 journey on earth. We reflect on being part of the Kingdom of God on earth and in heaven.
- The following resources which are housed in each school and online, have suggestions for celebrating Halloween, All Saints and All Souls Day within RCSD schools: Blessing and Prayers through the Year, Let's Pray: Prayers for the Elementary Classroom, Words for the Journey for Kids, plus many up-to-date resources in the Catholic Education Services section of the RCSD Portal.
- For further information and resources, contact the Coordinator of Catholic Education Services for RCSD.