



Northeastern Catholic District School Board

SAFE SCHOOLS

Policy Number: E-34

Authority: 99-226/08-04/14-53/14-203/18-89

POLICY STATEMENT

The Northeastern Catholic District School Board (NCDSB) believes that all people are created in the image and likeness of God and that every person has the right to be treated with dignity, respect and fairness. The Board recognizes that a positive school climate exists when all members of the school community feel safe, included and accepted and actively promote positive behaviours and interactions. The NCDSB is committed to building and sustaining safe Catholic school communities where all members and stakeholders share the responsibility of eliminating violence in accordance with our Catholic faith and gospel values.

The NCDSB believes that safe learning environments enable students to reach their full academic and spiritual potential.

REFERENCES

Bill 13 *Accepting Schools Act*

Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario (2014)

Character Development in Action, Kindergarten to Grade 12:

Successful Practices in Ontario Schools, 2008

Caring and Safe Schools in Ontario, 2010

NCDSB Board Policy E-3 Attendance Verification in Schools

Policy Program Memorandum No. 123: Safe Arrivals

Policy Program Memorandum No. 128: The Provincial Code of Conduct and School Board Codes of Conduct.

Policy Program Memorandum No. 141: School Board Programs for Students on Long Term Suspension

Policy Program Memorandum No. 142: School Board Programs for Expelled Students

Policy Program Memorandum No. 144: Bullying Prevention and Intervention.

Policy Program Memorandum No. 145: Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive Student Behaviour

DEFINITIONS

Board Property

Board property is intended to mean not only the school facility and property but also includes all facilities, out-of-school programs and activities which are either approved by or under the jurisdiction of the Board.

POLICY REGULATIONS

It is the policy of the Northeastern Catholic District School Board to:

- 1.0 Support safe, accepting, and inclusive teaching and learning environments in which every student can reach his or her full potential.
- 2.0 Develop procedures in accordance with the Education Act, Ministry of Education policies and Policy Program Memorandum that address a broad range of matters relating to safe and appropriate conduct, promoting a positive school climate, supporting positive student behaviour, responding to incidents, and practicing progressive discipline.
- 3.0 Apply the standards of behavior as outlined in the provincial Code of Conduct to all members of the school community, including students, parents/guardians, all staff members, and volunteers and third-party groups which are using school facilities. These standards of behaviour apply while on board property, while travelling on a school bus, during school-related activities, and in other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact on the school climate.
- 4.0 Provide appropriate training and support ongoing learning opportunities so that all members of the school community can increase their knowledge and understanding of their roles and responsibilities regarding promoting a safe and positive school climate, supporting positive student behaviour, responding to incidents, and practicing progressive discipline.
- 5.0 Monitor, review, and evaluate the effectiveness of procedures relating to safe schools on a regular basis, and involve various stakeholders in these processes as considered appropriate.
- 6.0 Support the inclusion of goals and strategies in school improvement plans that are focused on addressing safe school themes.
- 7.0 Employ effective communication strategies to share this policy and its associated procedures with all stakeholders.