

ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD


REPORT TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES
September 29, 2020

 Deb Crawford, Director of Education

SUBJECT: Policy Approval: Sec. C – Student Discipline

PREPARED BY: Lisa Demers, Superintendent of Education

BACKGROUND:

In July 2020 the Ontario government announced the [Ontario’s Action Plan to Address Systemic Racism in Schools](#), the ministry has created new regulations that change how student behaviour is addressed in junior kindergarten to Grade 3.

The [new regulations](#) remove the discretion of the principal to suspend students in junior kindergarten to Grade 3 for activities listed in [subsection 306\(1\)](#) of the Education Act, beginning in the 2020-2021 school year. These behaviours should be addressed with the appropriate positive behaviour supports in the school setting. Activities listed in [subsection 310\(1\)](#) will still be subject to mandatory suspensions, pending the results of an investigation.

Everyone – staff, students, teachers, parents, and community members – has a role to play in promoting a positive school climate and making schools safe and accepting.

The ministry has updated the following resources to provide information on how staff must handle student incidents that occur at school, at school-related activities or in any other circumstances where the student’s behaviour can have a negative impact on the school climate:

- [Reporting and Responding: A Resource for Board Employees](#)
- [Reporting and Responding to Incidents: A Resource for Occasional Teachers](#)
- [Suspensions and Expulsions: What Parents and Students Need to Know](#)

These resources are intended to support a shared understanding among school staff, students and parents with regards to policies and procedures related to inappropriate student behaviour.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board receive the report: *Policy Approval: Sec. C – Student Discipline*, for information.

That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board approve the change to *Sec. C Policy – Student Discipline* as presented, effective September 29, 2020.