



St. Clair Catholic  
District School Board



## Enclosure 13

# Policy Approval: Recommendations to Rescind

Prepared by: **Scott Johnson, Director of Education**

Date: **February 15, 2022**

## Background

On January 18, 2022, the Policy Review Committee met to consider recommendations to rescind four (4) policies. The recommendations are part of the regular cycle of policy review required to keep our policies current.

The policies under review are listed below, along with the rationale for the recommendation that they be rescinded:

### **Sec. A: Governance – Commitment to Staff and Students**

This policy is redundant. It is simply a re-articulation of the Board's mission statement, which is captured in other relevant Board policies, including Sec. A Governance – Governance Commitment; Sec. A Governance – Vision, Mission, Priorities and Values; and Sec. D Staff and Volunteers – Catholic School Community Councils.

### **Sec. C: Students – Students with Blood Borne Pathogens**

Blood borne pathogens are bodily fluids that carry blood borne infections or diseases, such as HIV/AIDS or Hepatitis B, C or D. All staff are required to ensure proper hand hygiene and the use of gloves, when responding to situations in which they may come in contact with bodily fluids. This was not a universal practice in educational settings when this policy was first written.

Additionally, students who require personal care such as toileting, shallow suctioning and feeding are required to have personal care plans in which health and safety procedures are clearly articulated. Students with diagnosed medical conditions and health support needs may have a Plan of Care that falls under the umbrella of the Health Support Policy.

### **Sec. C: Students – Use of Corporal Punishment**

Corporal punishment is an outmoded and abhorrent means of correcting student behaviour. Current expectations are found in the Child and Family Services Act and Professional Guidelines and Advisories, as set out by the Ontario College of Teachers, which guide professional conduct. The Corporal Punishment Policy was created in 2000 and preceded many legislative changes such as the Accepting Schools Act (2019), Ontario College of Teachers Act, Provincial and School Board Code of Conduct (PPM 128), Bullying Prevention (PPM 144), Progressive Discipline (PPM 145) and Equity and Inclusive Education expectations.

All students are entitled to safe, caring, accepting and inclusive environments in order to maximize learning potential and create positive school climates for all individuals. For students who require last resort physical redirection, annual training, safety plans, signed consent and parental input are required. Each time non-violent crisis intervention is necessary, signed paperwork and documentation are required and a process is followed.

### **Sec. C: Students – Loss and Abuse of Board Property**

The Board's Code of Conduct references expectations with regard to proper care of Board and school property and the property of others. The Code of Conduct also sets out discipline, as necessary. As such, the Loss and Abuse of Board Property Policy is redundant. Principals reference the Board Code of Conduct to address issues on a case-by-case basis for each specific situation.

## **Recommendations**

**Motion:** That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board receive the report: *Policy Approval – Recommendations to Rescind*, for information.

**Motion:** That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board rescind *Sec. A: Governance – Commitment to Staff and Students*, effective February 15, 2022.

**Motion:** That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board rescind *Sec. C: Students – Students with Blood Borne Pathogens*, effective February 15, 2022.

**Motion:** That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board rescind *Sec. C: Students – Use of Corporal Punishment*, effective February 15, 2022.

**Motion:** That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board rescind *Sec. C: Students – Loss and Abuse of Board Property*, effective February 15, 2022.