



SECTION:	Board Governance and Operations	APPROVAL DATE:
SUBSECTION:	Trustee Services	November 5, 2007
POLICY NAME:	Code of Ethics for Catholic Trustees	LAST REVISED:
POLICY NUMBER:	P.BGO.D.3	November 5, 2007

The trustees of the Wellington Catholic District School Board believe that Catholic Education is the development of each student towards personal fulfillment and responsible citizenship motivated by the spirit of the Gospel and modeled on the example of Jesus Christ.

The members of the Wellington Catholic District School Board of Trustees occupy positions of public trust and confidence. Trustees are expected to discharge their duties and responsibilities in a professional, impartial and Catholic manner.

Accordingly as a Catholic trustee I will;

- acknowledge that our Catholic schools are an expression of the teaching mission of the Church;
- provide an example to the Catholic community by active participation in the communal life of a parish and by a personal lifestyle that reflects the teachings of the Church;
- provide the best possible Catholic education in compliance with the programs approved by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Ministry of Education;
- affirm a strong sense of Christian community and work with other Board members in a spirit of respect, courtesy, cooperation and proper decorum, in spite of differences of opinion that may arise during debate;
- accept that authority rests with the Board and that a trustee has no individual authority;
- recognize and defend the democratic and corporate authority of the Board, specifically, that the expenditure of school funds is a public trust that is to be expended efficiently in the best interests of the students of the Board;
- respect the confidentiality of the business of the Board by not divulging confidential information obtained in the capacity of trustee;
- support all Board policies and by-laws;
- act with integrity and ensure that the business of the Board is conducted with openness, justice and compassion;

- comply with Municipal Conflict of Interest Act and declare a conflict of interest for all direct and indirect pecuniary conflicts and abstain from making a decision;
- comply with the letter and spirit of all of the laws of Canada and the province of Ontario and any contractual obligations of the Board;
- not use the position of trustee for personal advantage or to the advantage of any other individual apart from the total interest of the school Board;
- endeavour to improve personal knowledge of current Catholic educational issues, research and practices through trustee professional development opportunities;
- provide support, encouragement and prayer for all persons engaged in the ministry of Catholic education in Canada.

The heart and soul of Catholic education is Jesus Christ, and our school system finds its very reason for existence in its communication of the Christian message. The goal of Catholic education is nothing less than a truly holistic formation of persons who will be living witnesses to the faith.

Ontario Conference of Bishops