

**ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
SECTION A: GOVERNANCE**

MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS	POLICY
EFFECTIVE: 2000 12 01/ 2006 09 26 / 2013 01 22	

POLICY STATEMENT:

Members of the Board of Trustees exercise the distinct nature of their roles by providing policy direction and governance, which are inspired by the values and traditions of the Catholic faith and guided by the Mission and Vision Statements of the Board.

POLICY GOALS:

The Mission and Vision Statements of the Board and the official logo are reflections of the core beliefs of the St. Clair Catholic District School Board. They were developed and designed in consultation with a variety of stakeholders. The goal of this policy is to explain the origin and symbolism of these foundational pieces.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Walking together in Christ's light with parish and family, we are called to build a safe and inclusive Catholic learning community, and to serve as partners in the formation of life long learners by:

- Living our faith
- Promoting educational achievement and innovation
- Fostering stewardship, leadership and social justice

The key perspectives of the Mission Statement are as follows:

- ***Walking together in Christ's light with parish and family*** – Reflects the notion of journey identified in the Vision Statement and the fact that, as Catholics, we walk in Christ's light, as He is the light and the way. On this journey, we are not alone as a School Board, as we work with the parishes and the families in providing the very best educational opportunities for all our learners in both their educational and faith development experiences.
- ***We are called to build an inclusive Catholic learning community*** – Represents the sense of calling that exists within our Catholic faith. We work together to build a learning community that is inclusive of all its members, no matter their ability, needs or

**ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
SECTION A: GOVERNANCE**

perspectives. As well, we ensure that the learning environment is focused on faith development, is infused with Catholic values and builds on each learner's ability to understand and practice their faith as an active living dimension of their daily lives.

- ***To serve as partners in the formation of life long learners*** – Represents a major role of the Board, which is to create an understanding of and a desire amongst all our people to be life long learners. Education no longer ends at a prescribed date or year. In today's world, the ability to continually learn, to upgrade, to discover and to extend ourselves is a key to both one's faith development and one's life journey.
- ***Living our faith*** –One of three key outcomes of the Board, that is to give each learner the opportunity and understanding to live their faith on a daily basis and to give full expression and evidence to that faith.
- ***Promoting educational achievement and innovation*** – Another key outcome of the Board is to ensure that it provides opportunities and educational environments that inspire people to want to learn, to discover their abilities and to pursue educational achievement. Also within this context, is the importance of creating educational environments that both support and inspire innovation, creativity, self discovery and individual development.
- ***Fostering stewardship, leadership and social justice*** – A further key outcome of the Board is endeavoring to foster stewardship amongst learners, staff and others for both our Catholic faith and the world we live in. This fostering also involves developing and providing leadership in terms of our faith and civic communities. Without leadership, these communities would be very different places, as it is through leadership that values are brought forward and given presence; that challenges are overcome; that people are served; and that human perspectives are improved. Finally, the fostering of social justice within our local communities and the broader society is a fundamental Catholic belief and pursues God's call for us to help those who need help, ensuring that justice prevails for all, as we are all equal in God's eyes.

ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SECTION A: GOVERNANCE

VISION STATEMENT:

Lighting the Way – Rejoicing in Our Journey

The Vision Statement has the following key elements:

Lighting the Way:

This phrase identifies two key elements. Christ lights the way as we follow in His path. This reflects our belief that He is the light and the way and that He is the beacon within the Catholic faith. Also, education can be seen as the lamp of learning as it unwraps people's potential and inspires them to achieve through knowledge and personal growth.

Rejoicing in Our Journey:

This phrase identifies the belief that we need to celebrate and rejoice together as we move through our educational journey, while we are supported by our Catholic community and our Catholic faith. Also, education is a life-long journey, and the school system, in partnership with the parish and the home, participates actively in each person's journey by contributing to their personal development as a Catholic and as a member of the community. On this journey we believe all I am, I give to you, Lord.

PRINCIPLES AND VALUES:

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board believes:

- in the vitality, uniqueness and importance of our Catholic values and in the need to live our faith each day
- in the infusion of the teachings of Jesus Christ in all curricula
- in the fundamental dignity of each person as one of God's children and that each one is to be treated with respect and equity in all that we do
- in being learner-centred in all our programs, services, relations and decisions
- that parents/guardians are the first and foremost educators of their children
- that every person has the potential, the right and the need to learn
- in valuing all our people through affirming their achievements, recognizing their contributions and supporting their efforts
- in effectively communicating with, and facilitating the participation of all our stakeholders as the basis for supporting an effective home-school-parish partnership built on faith, trust, meaningful engagement and community cohesion
- in creating an organizational culture that gives voice and witness to social justice, enables responsible risk-taking, responds to changing needs and is built upon striving for academic excellence
- in being accountable for our programs, services, decisions and for the effective stewardship and use of resources

**ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
SECTION A: GOVERNANCE**

LOGO:



The logo for the St. Clair Catholic District School Board was designed to project, unify and enhance the amalgamation of the former Lambton County Roman Catholic School Board with the former Kent County Roman Catholic School Board.

Central and unique to the new Board is its Catholicity, exemplified by the central Cross in the logo. The arms of the cross are outstretched and welcoming. Christ lights the way as we follow in His path. He is the Beacon within the Catholic faith. Education is the Lamp of Learning for all of us. The upper section of the new design suggests an awakening, a new dawning, a rising sun and celebration. The light rays also represent the turning pages of the book.

As an expression of the Vision Statement, the symbol comprises both a horizon and converging focus. The symmetrical nature suggests two Boards merging into one. The converging lines add an electronic digital dimension to the design which is important in this Information Technological age. The lower section represents an open book and vessel. Beneath is the landscape, the fields and water, representing the life-flow of the St. Clair and Thames Rivers. The 'waves' also represent the paths of our journey