


Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board



Section: Building/Plant/Grounds

POLICY B: 08 Community Planning and Partnerships

NUMBER:	B: 08
EFFECTIVE:	Sept. 28, 2010
AMENDED:	Oct.28, 2015
RELATED POLICIES:	See References
REPEALS:	B:08 Facility Partnerships
REVIEW DATE:	2019-2020

1.0 OBJECTIVE:

- 1.1 To establish guidelines for the development of facility partnership opportunities with community partners whose missions enhance and respect the autonomy and denominational rights of the Catholic school system.
- 1.2 To support effective planning with community partners regarding land-use and green space/park planning.

2.0 DEFINITIONS:

- 2.1 **Facility Partnerships:** Partnerships between the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board and community partners to share facilities to benefit the board, students and the community, and to optimize the use of public assets owned by the school board. Partnerships may involve co-built facilities, lease, license, and joint-use agreements to utilize part of a school facility specifically during school hours, in new and existing school facilities where students are being taught.

3.0 GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- 3.1 The Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board shall operate its school buildings and property for the primary purpose of providing a suitable learning environment for the delivery of educational programs to support student achievement and safety of students.
- 3.2 The Board recognizes that cooperative and collaborative partnerships are part of the foundation of a strong, vibrant and sustainable publicly funded educational system and that effective partnerships must respect the core values of each partner.
- 3.3 The Board is open to consideration of joint capital ventures where they are demonstrated to be in the best interest of the Board. When considering a facility partnership, the health and safety of students must be protected and the partnership must be appropriate for the school setting.
- 3.4 The intent of entering into a facility partnership is to:
 - a) Improve services and supports available to students;

- b) Strengthen relationships between the Board, community partners and the public;
- c) Maximize the use of public infrastructure;
- d) Reduce facility operating costs;
- e) Provide opportunities for new and/or additional sources of funds for financing building improvements and program delivery;
- f) Provide a foundation for improved service delivery for the community.

4.0 SPECIFIC DIRECTIVES:

4.1 This policy does not apply:

- a) where the Board has declared space surplus in compliance with *Ontario Regulation 444/98*, which grants priority treatment to coterminous boards and other public entities when disposing of surplus property through sales or leases.
- b) under the Community Use of Schools program which encourages community partners to use school facilities outside of school hours.

4.2 In addressing the future needs of students, the Board shall identify within its capital plan areas of growth and decline, enrolment projections, school capacity, renewal needs, potential consolidations and construction of new schools or additions, including significant renovations.

4.3 Through the planning process, the Board will identify facilities that may be suitable for facility partnerships with respect to new construction and unused space in Board facilities, as well as opportunity to consider potential surplus properties in which community partners may be interested.

4.4 The Board shall share planning information with community partners so that external entities may have sufficient time to respond to presented opportunities.

4.5 Administration shall develop procedures for planning, identification of potential partnership opportunities, community notification, selection of appropriate community partners, and formalizing of partnership agreements that protect the best interests of the Board.

5.0 RESPONSIBILITY:

5.1 It is the role and responsibility of the Board to determine what facilities are suitable and not suitable for partnerships, what entities are suitable and not suitable facility partners, and when to enter into a partnership.

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- 5.2 The Board is responsible for ensuring proper legal agreements that respect the *Education Act* and protect its rights.
- 5.3 The Director is responsible for the development of procedures that further the objectives of this policy and for assisting the Board in the process of long-term accommodation planning, in order to monitor enrolment trends, school capacity, address provincial policy initiatives, and implement new capital projects accordingly. This planning should take into account opportunities for facility partnerships.
- 5.4 The Director shall designate a member of senior administration to be responsible for formalizing Facility Partnership agreements.
- 5.5 The Board's Outreach Coordinator shall be responsible for ensuring information is provided as required under this policy and for addressing facility partnership inquiries received from the Ministry of Education and/or the community.

6.0 REVIEW AND EVALUATION:

- 6.1 The effectiveness of this policy shall be assessed through Trustees, staff, and community satisfaction measures.
- 6.2 This Policy shall be reviewed during the 2019-2020 policy review cycle.

7.0 REFERENCES:

Ontario Education Act
Ontario Regulation 444/98 - Disposition of Surplus Properties
Community Planning and Partnerships Guideline, Ministry of Education, March, 2015
Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines, Ministry of Education, March, 2015

Board Policy References:

A:03 Community Use of Schools
A:05 Pupil Accommodation Review
A: 14 Promoting and Supporting Equity and Inclusion within a Catholic Community
A: 22 School Boundary
A:31 Accessibility Standards for Customer Service
A: 32 Integrated Accessibility Standards
B:01 Smoke Free Schools and Sites
B:03 Vehicles on School Property During School Hours
B:04 Keys to Schools
B:05 Property Damage/Vandalism/Theft
B:06 Facility Maintenance
B:06 Access to School Premises
SC:11 Trespassing