

POLICY

Each Diocesan school will have a Local School Council which will assume authority for those areas of management and operation delegated by the Board of Directors in accordance with the Constitution and By-laws of the Catholic Independent Schools of Nelson Diocese (CISND) and the policies and regulations of the Catholic Independent Schools.

RATIONALE

The policies of the CISND allow for the Board of Directors to delegate any of its authority to the Local School Council. The principle of subsidiarity acknowledges that the decision-making process should be influenced by those responsible for implementing the decision and those who will be affected by the implementation.

A. THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL COUNCILS:

1. There shall be included within the jurisdiction of the Society those certain Catholic School Councils designated as follows, namely:
 - St. Joseph School Council, Nelson, B.C.
 - St. Michael School Council, Trail, B.C.
 - St. Mary School Council, Cranbrook, B.C.
 - Holy Cross School Council, Penticton, B.C.
 - St. Joseph School Council, Kelowna, B.C.
 - Immaculata Regional High School Council, Kelowna, B.C.
 - Our Lady of Lourdes School Council, West Kelowna, B.C.
2. Each Catholic School Council in the Nelson Diocese shall be autonomous in its management and operation as far as practicable and as far as such autonomy does not conflict with the Constitution, By-Laws, Guidelines or directives of the Society.
3. Each Catholic School Council, as above designated, shall operate under by-Laws governing its own conduct.
4. For the purpose of paragraph 3, each Catholic School Council may adopt as its by-Laws, the provision of the Society By-Laws for Councils.

B. THE NAMES OF THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCILS SHALL BE:

- St. Joseph School Council, Nelson, B.C.
- St. Michael School Council, Trail, B.C.
- St. Mary School Council, Cranbrook, B.C.
- Holy Cross School Council, Penticton, B.C.
- St. Joseph School Council, Kelowna, B.C.
- Immaculata Regional High School Council, Kelowna, B.C.
- Our Lady of Lourdes School Council, West Kelowna, B.C.

hereinafter referred to as "The Council".

C. THE OBJECTIVES OF THE COUNCIL ARE:

1. To encourage the attainment of high standards in religious education and to foster the education of our children within the framework of a Catholic environment and philosophy and to encourage the development of true Catholic values, all of which are developed in the Philosophy Statement.
2. To further the knowledge and appreciation of the aims and objectives of Catholic education and to foster participation of the Catholic community in the school.
3. To encourage the attainment of high academic standards and to promote good citizenship.
4. To be responsible for the financial operation of the school.
5. To establish and ensure the carrying out of policies relating to the efficient functioning of the school. In all cases, Diocesan Policies will supersede any locally developed policies.
6. To ensure that School Council members realize they are a part of the school community and therefore they should always act in such a manner as to be a good example of Catholic education.

D. COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL:

The Council shall consist of:

1. The Pastor and associate Pastor of each parish (as designated by the Bishop) supporting the schools, who shall be ex-officio members.
2. A minimum of six other members who shall represent the parishes.
 - a) The voting members of the Council shall be the following:
 - A Chairperson elected from the Council as a whole.
 - A Vice-Chairperson elected from the Council as a whole.
 - A Secretary elected or appointed from the Council as a whole.
 - A Finance Chair elected or appointed from the Council as a whole.

- An Education Chair elected or appointed from the Council as a whole.
 - Members at large and other committee chairs as deemed necessary.
 - Pastors and associate Pastors from each of the parishes.
- b) The principal of the school will be present to act in an advisory capacity to the Council.

E. QUALIFICATIONS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council members:

- must be practicing Catholics, at least nineteen years of age
- must be members of the Parish or Parishes served by the School
- must not be employees of the CISND.
- must be supporters of the CISND.

F. LOCAL BY-LAWS:

1. A By-Law may be adopted, rescinded, or amended by a special resolution passed in a general meeting of the local School Council, by a majority of seventy-five percent (75%) of the members present and voting.
2. Fourteen (14) days notice in writing, together with the text of such resolution must have been given to all Council members.
3. All By-Laws adopted by the individual Catholic School Councils shall require approval from the Board of Directors of the Society.

G. ELECTORATE

Each parish should follow its own guidelines in determining eligibility of voters should elections be held.

H. IMMUNITY OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Every Council member shall be deemed to have assumed office on the express understanding and agreement and condition that every member of the Council and his/her heirs, executors and administrators and estate and effects, respectively, shall from time to time, and at all times, be indemnified and saved harmless out of the funds of the Society, from all costs, charges, and expenses whatever which such member sustains or incurs in or about any action, suit or proceedings which is brought, commenced, or prosecuted against him/her for or in respect of any act, deed, matter or thing whatever made, done, or permitted by him/her or any other member or members of the Council in or about the execution of the duties of his/her office, and also from and against all other costs, charges, and expenses which he/she

sustains or incurs in or about or in relation to the affairs thereof except such costs, charges or expenses as are occasioned by his/her own wilful neglect or default.

I. RULES OF ORDER:

Any procedures not included in the Constitution and By-Laws following hereafter will be according to "Robert's Rules of Order".

Date Approved: February 27, 2020 (re-write)
Date(s) Revised: September 1984, November 2004, September 2007, September 2011
Date Reviewed: