

## Administrative Procedure 201

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### Religious Education

#### Background

The District adheres to the principle that the element of faith is integrated into every program and every aspect of school life; this is called permeation.

The concept of permeation recognizes that Catholic identity finds expression in every dimension of a Catholic school. Even though there is continuous pressure in society to separate the secular and the religious (Church and State), as Catholics we are called by Baptism to live our faith every moment of every day.

Instruction in Religious Education shall be provided to all students.

#### Procedures

1. The Principal shall:
  - 1.1 Assist Teachers in the teaching of the Religious Education Program and request the help of Learning Coaches when necessary, and
  - 1.2 Encourage the organization of in-service activities in Religious Education within the school.
2. All Teachers shall participate in the establishment of a Christian Catholic community in the school.
3. All Teachers shall annually, develop one Professional goal under Catholicity that deepens their understanding and ability as a Catholic School Educator.
4. All students shall take part in the Religious Education Program.
  - 4.1 All Students shall take a religious studies course per grade.
  - 4.2 Instructional time for religious studies course shall be:
    - 4.2.1 Elementary classes: 120 – 150 minutes per week
    - 4.2.2 Junior High classes: 75 – 100 hours per school year
    - 4.2.3 Senior High classes: Three (3) or five (5) credits per course for: Religious Studies 15, 25 and 35 courses.

Service hours may be a component of a Religious Studies course but cannot be counted as instructional hours for Credit Enrolment Unit funding.

Retreat Day hours can be counted for Credit Enrolment Unity funding only during the time of direct instruction at the retreat.

- 4.3 A Principal may approve that a student not take an active part in the religious celebrations held at school if requested in writing by the parents.
- 4.4 Students are expected to be respectfully present at all religious celebrations.
- 5. Principals, Learning Coaches and High School Chaplains are available as a resource to schools to assist in the provision of Religious Education.
  - 5.1 The Principal will resolve issues related to the Catholicity of Schools as it relates to programming, parents or staff members.
  - 5.2 The Principal shall consult and report such issue to the Superintendent as required.

Approval Date: September 18, 2019

Reference: Section 3, 20, 50, 60, 61, 113 School Act