

Bylaws of the Board

Membership — Catholic School Boards (*Most recent review: February 13, 2023*)

Policy adopted: March 12, 1983

Revised: May 11, 1985; March 6, 1999 (Archdiocesan Board of Education); May 1, 2010 (Archdiocesan Faith Formation Commission & Catholic School Board); September 1, 2016 (Archdiocesan Catholic School Board); December 9, 2020 (Archdiocesan Catholic School Board)

Reviewed: February 13, 2023 (Archdiocesan Catholic School Board)

Quality faith formation and education, a desired goal of Catholic schools, is promoted and supported through the effective leadership of the Catholic school board. Persons who serve on the board are expected to acknowledge that faith formation and educational programs are a significant expression of the mission of the Catholic Church and support the teachings of the Catholic Church. Members are to be given ongoing in-service and formation opportunities relative to their role. Boards shall strive to have a numerically appropriate membership that is representative of the parish or parishes they represent, and whenever possible, include members that are diverse in age, gender, socioeconomic status, marital status and ethnicity.

Qualifications for election and service on a Catholic school board are as follows:

1. Must be a practicing Catholic;
2. Must be approved by their local pastor*;
3. Must be a registered member of a supporting parish;
4. Must be at least 18 years old;

Even if qualified under the preceding paragraph, the following persons may not serve on the Catholic school board due to the potential for conflicts of interest;

1. Any person employed at the school;
2. Any spouse, parent or child of a person employed at the school;
3. Any current student at the school;
4. Any person employed by one of the supporting parishes of the school.

Catholic school board members should exercise prudence guided by the highest ethical standards as they perform their role. Conflicts of interest, or even the appearance of a conflict of interest, should be avoided. When decisions or discussions involve family members, the business or employer of a member, or any close personal relationships, members should excuse themselves from any discussion and abstain from decisions (consensus or voting) in these situations.

*The term “pastor” herein refers to priests appointed as pastor/PLC or pastoral administrator according to c.521 and to those deacons and persons appointed to care for a parish according to c.517.2.”