



## **POLICY**

1. The purpose of this policy is to establish criteria for the development and review of elementary and secondary school boundaries.
2. The objective of the school boundary policy shall be to achieve the greatest good for the greatest number of our students and their families. It shall be implemented in keeping with our mission and shall be mindful of the best and most prudent use of all resources available to us.
3. The Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board is required to operate schools that are educationally advantageous and economically efficient. Various factors beyond the Board's control will impact on this commitment. These include declining, increasing and shifting populations, current funding and operational realities, changing educational objectives and physical limitations.
4. The Board, through its administration shall continuously monitor these factors and plan for pupil accommodations. This may result in an administrative recommendation that a particular boundary or boundaries be adjusted.
5. This policy applies to all new schools and to amendments to established school boundaries.

## **PRINCIPLES**

Boundaries shall be established for all schools operated by the Board.

Elementary school boundaries where possible shall be developed to create neighbourhood/community school(s). The boundary of the school shall be of a sufficient size to sustain the long term operation of the school at a full or a near full capacity level. However, it is recognized that in order for a school to reach the mature sustainable enrolment it will experience levels of peak enrolment that may necessitate temporary accommodation.

Secondary school boundaries shall be developed based on the associate elementary school boundaries and/or geographic parameters.

## REQUIREMENTS

Where possible, highways, railroad lines, parks, and major open spaces, utility corridors, along real lot lines and the mid-point of arterial roads shall be used for locations for school boundary limits.

School boundaries shall be set giving consideration to maximization of a safe walking route to school.

A proposed school boundary report shall be developed by Administration and approved "in principle" by the Board.

The Chair of the Board will create a Boundary Review Committee that will consist of two trustees (at least one of the trustees will be from the affected area) and a member of senior administration who will act as a resource.

The purpose of the Boundary Review Committee will be to study the recommendations of the administration report and to hear from concerned parents and others affected by the recommendations.

All those who may be affected by the recommendations shall be notified by the affected school(s) Principal(s) as to date, time and location of the consultation meetings. (School Councils, local Parish Priest, interested community members, etc.)

The Boundary Review Committee will then issue its report with recommendations to the whole Board for approval. If approval is granted, the recommendations will be acted upon in an appropriate time manner as set out in the report. If the report is not accepted the Board may then ask the present committee to do further review; the Board may modify and approve the report ; or the Board may decide to bring an end to the review process at this time.

Approved by Board: March 25, 2003

Related Policy: **A:05 School Closure/Pupils Accommodation Review**

Related Board Committee:

Policy Review Date: September 25, 2003