



POLICY

1. The Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board recognizes the necessity of providing Trustees and Student Representatives with the ability to participate in all meetings arranged by the Board (i.e., Regular and Special Board meetings, Ad Hoc Committee meetings and/or Standing Committees and/or any other meeting that requires Trustee/Student Representative membership; both In-Camera and Open Sessions)
2. Electronic meetings permit the Trustees and/or Student Representatives to hear and be heard through auditory and/or visual means.
3. Trustees and Student Representatives who participate in a meeting through electronic means shall be deemed to be present at said meeting subject to such conditions or limitations that may be provided for in the Education Act and/or Regulation.
4. Electronic meetings of the board or recognized committees defined in the approved Board Rules and Regulations (including AD Hoc Committees) are recognized as being a legitimate means of the Board conducting its business.
5. Electronic Meetings of the Board are intended to provide for more efficient use of time and productive use of resources in circumstances where time and/or availability of trustees and/or staff make it a better means of conducting a Board or Committee Meetings.
6. While the Board recognizes the right of a member or pupil representative to be provided with electronic means for participating in a meeting or meetings of the Board or its committees, it is the policy of the Board that the normal method of participation and attendance at such meetings is for the member or representative to be physically present at the meeting.

It is the policy of the Board that a member or representative should be physically present at a minimum of two-thirds of the board's regular meetings in a twelve month period. Departures from this policy to the extent permitted by S.229 of the Education Act may be granted by the Chair of the Board and the Director upon receipt of a written request put forth by the member to do so which sets out a satisfactory reason.

7. A member electing to participate through electronic means in a closed meeting of the Board shall be bound by the same requirements of confidentiality as if he or she were physically present at the meeting. In addition, the member undertakes and is responsible to ensure that no unauthorized person is given access to the proceedings or any documents pertaining thereto. A member electing to participate through electronic means in closed meetings of the Board shall not record, videotape or transcribe in any way the proceedings or any part of the meeting.

REGULATIONS

Education Act, Section 208.1
Regulation 463.97

PROCEDURES

1. The Chair of the Board or designate, the Director of Education or designate and one other Trustee shall be physically present at an in-camera session of an electronic meeting of the board. However, the student Representative cannot participate in an In-Camera session and therefore cannot be the additional necessary Trustee.
2. The Chair of the Board or designate, the Director of Education or Designate and one other Trustee shall be physically present at all Open Sessions of an electronic meeting of the board
3. For Committee meetings other than Board meetings, the Chair of the Committee or designate and the Director of Education or designate shall be physically present at the meeting site.
4. Electronic meetings permit the Trustees and/or Student Representative to hear and be heard through auditory and/or visual means.
5. Electronic meetings shall be provided in such a way to ensure compliance with the rules governing Conflict of Interest of Trustees.
6. Student Representatives who are participating through electronic means shall not participate in any proceedings that are not open to the public.
7. Electronic meetings shall be conducted from the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise determined by the meeting schedule.
8. The designated meeting location must be such that the public can attend the open session.

Approved by the Board: June 26, 2001

Reviewed by the Board: March 2005

Related Policy:

Related Board Committee:

Policy Review Date: 2010