



Policy Manual – Schools

S.20 – Blessing, Official Opening and Dedication of New School Buildings or Addition(s)

{combined with Policy S.14 Blessing and Official Opening of Schools}

The mission of Catholic Education in Hamilton-Wentworth, in union with our Bishop, is to enable all learners to realize the fullness of humanity of which Our Lord Jesus Christ is the model.

Policy Statement

An appropriate ceremony shall be arranged for the blessing and dedication of a new school building or an addition(s) to a school.

1. The Special **Events** Co-ordinator, in consultation with the school's Superintendent of Education, will organize an official blessing/dedication program committee comprised of the Superintendent of Education, the Principal, **the pastor of the local parish (or designate)** other designated school staff, local school Trustee(s), Chair of the Catholic School Council, President of the Student Council and the **Media & Communications Manager**.
2. The Bishop of the Diocese shall be invited to officiate at the Blessing and Official Opening of a new school.
3. The Episcopal Vicar for Education of the Diocese or the local pastor shall be invited to officiate at the Blessing and Dedication of a new addition(s) to a school or other Board related facility.

Purpose:

The blessing, opening and dedication of a school or an addition is an important moment for a school community to give thanks and celebrate publicly with all in the school community.

Responsibility

Director of Education

Regulations

Related Board Committee

Student Achievement & Well-Being

Policy Review Date:

BM Original Policy Approved June 4, 2012

Revision: 20 June 17, 06 October 2020

To be reviewed every three years.