



Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board

Section: **Schools**

Policy: **Co-Instructional Activities** **SC:12**

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## **POLICY**

The Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board recognizes the value of co-instructional activities in the academic, social, and cultural life of the school. The Board shall support co-instructional activities which enhance the learning environment and improve student achievement.

## **REGULATION**

See Preamble

## **PROCEDURES**

### **1.0 Preamble**

The Education Act S170 (1) requires school boards to develop and implement a plan to provide co-instructional activities for pupils enrolled in elementary and secondary schools operated by the board.

Under the Ministry of Education *Guidelines for School Boards in the Provision of Co-instructional Activities, September 2001*, “the board plan shall be a framework within which principals, working co-operatively with school council, teachers, and members of the community, will develop and implement their own school plans” for the provision of co-instructional activities.

The procedure will provide the framework for the delivery of co-instructional activities in the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board.

### **2.0 Definition of co-instructional activities**

Co-instructional activities are defined in the Education Act and through the historical practice of the board.

### **3.0 The value of co-instructional activities**

Co-instructional programs are an important component of good education for students. Co-instructional activities extend the educational value of the instructional program and support the academic objectives of education in Ontario. Students develop self-esteem, self-confidence, social co-operation and leadership. Specific educational outcomes of

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skill development and teamwork are met through a co-instructional program. The partnership of the instructional and co-instructional program addresses the learning and experiential needs of the total student. Co-instructional activities promote a positive learning environment. (Council of Ontario Directors of Education, December 2000)

“Research shows that students who take part in extracurricular activities enjoy greater overall success in school, and students who participate in after-school programs have lower dropout rates” . (Education Improvement Commission: The Road Ahead V “A Report on Improving Student Achievement”, December 2000)

#### **4.0 Responsibility for planning for co-instructional activities**

It is the responsibility of the board to develop a plan which outlines the framework for supporting co-instructional activities in schools under the Education Act S170 (1). The board allocates resources as appropriate to support the delivery of co-instructional activities in schools.

It is the duty of the principal, in accordance with the board plan to develop and implement a school plan providing for co-instructional activities (Education Act S265 (2)) The school plan for co-instructional activities will be a component of the School Plan which establishes strategic directions and action plans for each school year.

**Please see Appendix A: School Co-Instructional Plan.**

#### **5.0 School planning process**

##### **5.1 Consultation with students and the community**

Each school is unique in the skills, interests, and resources of the students, community, and the staff. School-based planning for the provision of co-instructional activities must reflect the unique characteristics of each school community.

The principal shall consult the school council at least once in each school year respecting the school plan providing for co-instructional activities. (Education Act S265 (3)).

##### **5.2 Development of school plan for co-instructional activities**

All co-instructional activities must conform to the directions of ministry and board policies, operating procedures, school expectations and Code of Behaviour. The role of the principal is of primary importance with respect to the management of the school. All co-instructional activities operate under the leadership, direction, and supervision of the principal. The principal is responsible and accountable for all school activities including co-instructional activities.

When organizing the co-instructional activities for the school, the principal shall take into account:

- (a) the interests of students of diverse cultural backgrounds
- (b) the skills of staff and/or community members
- (c) the resources available at the school

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- (d) the need for communication with students and parents which outlines the unique nature of co-instructional activities and which clearly defines expectations for the activities.
  - (e) strategies for equitable access to all activities for all students including students with special needs and those with differing abilities and interests.

**5.3 The use of volunteers and community resources**

The Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board values the voluntary work of its staff and community members in co-instructional activities and is committed to providing an environment to nurture these activities. The Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board School Volunteers Policy provides the guidelines for the operation of volunteers in the school. Any school related activity that is the responsibility of a volunteer must have a teacher moderator.

**5.4 Related policies and procedures**

- SC:02 Fund Raising Policy
- SC:04 Field Trip Policy
- SC:09 School Volunteers Policy
- SC:15 Accidents/Students Policy
- Ontario Safety Guidelines: Elementary Interschool Athletics (OSBIE, OPHEA)
- Ontario Safety Guidelines: Secondary Interschool Athletics (OSBIE, OPHEA)
- Windsor-Essex County Secondary Schools' Athletic Association: Constitution, Rules, Playing Regulations and By-Laws.
- Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board Elementary Interschool Sport Format.

Approved by the Board: January 29, 2002

Related Policy: see 5.4

Related Board Committee

Policy Review Date: 2006

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**Appendix A**  
**Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board**

**School Co-Instructional Plan**

(to be submitted to the Superintendent of Education by October 15)

**School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Principal:** \_\_\_\_\_

1. *Roster of proposed Co-Instructional Activities*
  - Add as an attachment
  
2. *Community Consultation*
  - Describe the process for consulting students, staff and parents.
  
3. *Expected Student Participation*
  - Provide the number of students expected to participate in each activity.
  
4. *Use of Volunteer*
  - Describe the nature and extent of volunteer involvement including consideration for training and such assessments as appropriate, in particular for high risk activities if appropriate and applicable.
  
5. *Funding of Co-Instructional Activities*
  - I Outline the proposed budget articulating the courses of revenue including possible fund-raising.
  
6. *Accountability and Supervision*
  - I Describe the accountability measures and supervision strategies required to oversee the overall co-instructional program.
  
7. *Review Mechanism*
  - I Describe how school community consultation and input will be considered in the annual review process to the School Plan.
  
8. *School Specific Issues and Actions*
  - I Articulate any school specific issues and the actions required in addressing them.