

POLICY: <u>SCHOOL FOOD GARDENS</u>		#	<u>502</u>		
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APPROVAL/REVISION	EFFECTIVE	REVIEW			
DATE: <u>July 24, 2019</u>	DATE: <u>July 24, 2019</u>	DATE: <u>July 24, 2024</u>			
CROSS REFERENCE: <u>Appendix A – Guidelines for School Food Gardens</u> <u>Foundations for a Healthy School, Ministry of Education, 2014</u>					

A: POLICY

1. The Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board recognizes the important role that school food gardens can play in students' learning. Garden-based learning can enhance academic achievement through the integration of hands-on experiences into diverse subjects such as math, science, nutrition and environmental education. Garden-based learning allows students to discover and experience fresh, healthy food and to make healthy food choices.
2. The Board is committed to healthy food environments. School food gardens allow for the incorporation of fresh, local fruit and vegetables into the school community. A school food garden can play a role in increasing the options of healthy food for the students and their families by providing space for the production of food through school gardens.
3. By contributing to the greening of school grounds and the building of green spaces for neighbourhoods in Thunder Bay, the Board promotes enhanced social and emotional development in students.
4. The Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board recognizes the many benefits to developing and maintaining school food gardens including opportunities for learning and increased access to healthy food. Therefore, the Board encourages and supports the development of school food gardens.

B: GUIDELINES

1. Guidelines for School Food Gardens (Appendix A) have been developed to help the school community carry out a successful and sustainable project that is consistent with the policy statements above.