

POLICY: <u>SCHOOL ADMISSIONS</u>		#	<u>701</u>
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CROSS REFERENCE:	Forms: Admission Of A Non-Resident Student or Admission Of An Elementary Student Who Is Not Catholic, or Whose Parent/Guardian Is Not An English-language Separate School Supporter [ADM(a)] Conditions of Admission of Elementary School Children Into The System [ADM(b)] Application for Direction of School Support Separate School Support Lease Coded Memos: ADM-06 Deferred Admission to Zoned School ADM-18 Student Registration – Proof of Identification and Birth SA-04 Placement of Six-Year Olds SA-20 Accepting JK Students with High Needs		

A: POLICY

1. 1.1 The Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board strives to make each school under its jurisdiction a faith community in which the spiritual, intellectual, moral, social, cultural, emotional and physical growth of the student is fostered from early childhood through to maturity in a Catholic Christian environment.
- 1.2 In this context, and in keeping with our Mission Statement, it is the primary responsibility of the Board of Trustees to provide a Catholic education for students of separate school ratepayers. Where feasible and practical, the Board will accommodate students of the Catholic faith whose parents are not separate school supporters and for those students of other religions whose parents/guardians desire for them a Catholic education and who are willing to meet the Board requirements in this regard.

B: DEFINITIONS

2. Resident Pupil Qualifications in accordance with the *Education Act*:

- i) Elementary English-language Separate:
 - (a) the person resides in the separate school zone; and
 - (b) the person's parent or guardian is a separate school supporter, is not a French-language separate district school board supporter, and resides in the school zone.
- ii) Secondary English-language Separate:
 - (a) the person and the person's parent or guardian is a separate school supporter, is not a French-language district school board supporter, and resides in the separate school zone;
 - (b) the person is 16 or 17 years of age, has withdrawn from parental control, is a Roman Catholic, and resides in the separate school zone;
 - (c) the person is a separate school supporter, is not a French-language district school board supporter, resides in the separate school zone and is an owner or tenant of residential property in the zone that is separately assessed; or
 - (d) the person is a Roman Catholic, is not a supporter of any board, is at least eighteen (18) years of age and resides in the separate school zone.

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C: GUIDELINES

3. School Boundaries/Choice of School

- 3.1 It is the general policy of the Board that students will attend the school for which the defined attendance area encompasses the neighbourhood in which they live.
- 3.2 The Board will allow parental choice of a school most suited to the needs of the child, provided that:
 - 3.2.1 the Principal of the receiving school in consultation with the Superintendent determines that adequate accommodation is available within the prevailing school organization;
 - 3.2.2 costs and responsibility for transporting the child to/from that school are borne by the parents/ guardians.

4. Age Requirements

Children of Separate School Supporters have the right to attend a school within our System in accordance with the following age requirements:

- 4.1 **Junior Kindergarten:** Age four (4) years on or before December 31st of the current year.
- 4.2 **Kindergarten:** Age five (5) years on or before December 31st of the current year.
- 4.3 **General:** Age six (6) years on the first of September to age twenty-one (21) years.

5. Admission Of English-language Separate School Supporters

Student registration will not be considered completed until the following conditions have been met:

- 5.1 Children of Catholic parents who are not English-language Separate School Supporters shall be admitted upon the parents signing an **"Application for Direction of School Support"** form to direct their property taxes to support the separate schools.
- 5.2 Children in a family in which either parent is a Catholic shall be admitted upon the parents signing a **"Separate School Support Lease"** form for school tax purposes.

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5.3 Catholic parents of non-Catholic children must also sign Form ADM(a) “**Admission Of A Non-Resident Student, or Admission Of An Elementary Student Who is Not Catholic, or Whose Parent/Guardian Is Not An English-language Separate School Supporter**”.

6. Admission of Non-Separate School Supporters

Elementary non-Catholic students and children of Catholic parents who are not Separate School Supporters may be admitted to and maintained in the elementary schools in the system at the sole discretion of the Board upon completion of Form ADM(a), which includes the following conditions:

- 6.1 the school is in receipt of a written statement from the parent/guardian that they desire that their child receive a Catholic education;
- 6.2 the parent/guardian agrees in writing that the student participate in Religious/Family Life Education instruction classes and liturgical and paraliturgical celebrations;
- 6.3 the non-Catholic student cannot participate in the Sacraments;
- 6.4 adequate space, staff and resources are available within the prevailing organization of the school. Placement of students will be confirmed as soon as possible after registration; and
- 6.5 continuance of the student in the school will be dependent upon the student's adherence to the school's Code of Behaviour.

7. Admission of Secondary Level Students

7.1 Right to instruction:

- (a) *a person who is qualified to be resident pupil of an **English-language public board** and to receive instruction in a secondary school grade is entitled to receive instruction provided in a secondary school operated by an **English-language Roman Catholic board** if the area of jurisdiction of the public board is in whole or in part the same as the area of jurisdiction of the roman Catholic board.* [Education Act, S. 42(1)]
- (b) *A person who is qualified to be resident pupil of an **English-language Roman Catholic board** and to receive instruction in a secondary school grade is entitled to receive instruction provided in a secondary school operated by an **English-language public board** if the area of jurisdiction of the roman Catholic board is in*

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whole or in part the same as the area of jurisdiction of the public board. [Education Act, S. 42(3)]

- (c) *A French-speaking person who is qualified to be a resident pupil of a **French-language public district school board** and to receive instruction in a secondary school grade is entitled to receive instruction provided in a secondary school operated by an **English-language separate district school board** if the area of jurisdiction of the French-language board is in whole or in part the same as the area of jurisdiction of the English-language board.* [Education Act, S. 42(7)]
- (d) *A French speaking person who is qualified to be a resident pupil of an **English-language separate district school board** and to receive instruction in a secondary school grade is entitled to receive instruction provided in a secondary school operated by a **French-language public district school board** if the area of jurisdiction of the English-language board is in whole or in part the same as the area of jurisdiction of the French-language board.* [Education Act, S. 42(8)]

7.2 Students who live beyond the jurisdiction of the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board **may** be admitted at the discretion of the Board and upon recommendation of the Principal where the age requirements referred to in Section 4 are met.

7.2.1 In the case of insufficient space to accommodate all non-resident applicants, preference will be given to students of the Catholic faith.

7.2.2 These conditions apply to either a full-time or part-time program.

7.3 In accordance with school policy and the *Education Act*, all students must participate in Religious/Family Life Education instruction classes and in the liturgical and paraliturgical celebrations.

8. **Admission of French Immersion Students**

Students shall not be admitted to the French Immersion Program beyond the Senior Kindergarten level unless that student is admitted from a French Immersion Program in another school system or a French-as-a-First Language Program in another school system.