POLICY:	FACILITY PARTNERSHIPS			#	318
SECTION:	300 : Facilities and Equipment			Page 1 of	3
APPROVAL/REVISION DATE:	September 1, 2022	EFFECTIVE DATE:	September 20, 2022	REVIEW DATE:	September 2027
CROSS REFERENCE:					

A. POLICY

It is the policy of the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board to work with its community partners in order to share its facilities to the benefit of the Board, its students and the community, and to optimize the use of the assets owned by the Board. The Board will seek opportunities to share facilities with community partners when building new schools and undertaking significant renovations, and when considering the use of unoccupied space in schools. The Board will attempt to expand the number of partnerships in a way that is transparent, sustainable and supportive of student achievement.

B. RATIONALE

Cooperative and collaborative partnerships are part of the foundation of a strong, vibrant and sustainable publicly funded education system. Offering space in schools to partners can strengthen the role of schools in communities, provide a place for programs and facilitate the coordination of, and improve access to, services for students and the wider community.Where a Volunteer Committee expresses an interest in developing a creative playground, the Principal shall be responsible for providing the representative group with pertinent information regarding the installation of the equipment.

C. APPLICABILITY

a. Where unused space is declared surplus the Board will follow the circulation process outlined in Ontario Regulation 444/98.

b. Where the unused space in open and operating schools is not surplus, but is available for partnership, or where the partnership opportunity involves new construction, the information will be provided to potential partners through the notification process outlined in this Policy.

D. GUIDELINES

a. Eligibility Criteria

As a minimum, potential partners must meet the following criteria:

- health and safety of students must be protected
- partnership must be appropriate for the school setting
- partnership must not compromise the student achievement strategy
- entities that provide competing education services such as tutoring services, JK-12 private schools or private colleges, and credit offering entities that are not government-funded, are not eligible partners
- partnerships must be consistent with the mission of the board
- additional eligibility criteria may be established by the Board on an individual case basis, as required.

b. Selection Criteria

Potential parties will be evaluated on the basis of:

- congruence with the eligibility criteria
- history and stability of the potential partner
- ability to pay
- impact on the site
- additional selection criteria may be established by the Board on an individual case basis, as required.

c. Available Space

i. Space availability for potential partnerships will be identified through the Capital Plan and updates to the Capital Plan as required.

ii. Available space will be identified through consideration of

- school needs
- enrolment projections
- Board accommodation strategies
- zoning and site restrictions
- condition of the school
- configuration of the school
- other factors as appropriate.

d. Notification List

A notification list of potential partners will be maintained by the Director or designate consisting at a minimum of applicable entities listed in Ontario Regulation 444/98. If child care operators and government-funded agencies request it, they will be added to the notification list. Other eligible agencies may be added to the notification list by the Director or designate.

e. Notification Process

i. Information on space available to partners will be posted on the Board's website and the information will be updated on an annual, or more frequent, basis. Entities on the notification list will be notified when information is updated.

ii. A public meeting will be held once per year to discuss potential facility partnerships and to receive information on the needs of the communities within the Board. Details on the time and location of the meeting will be provided to the entities on the notification list and posted on the Board's website at least 30 days in advance of the meeting.

iii. When the Board is considering building a new school or undertaking a significant

addition or renovation, it will notify the entities on the notification list one to three years prior to the potential construction start date. The Board will provide as much information as possible about its plans and the site to support potential partners in determining the project's suitability for their purposes.

f. Other

i. The rent and/or fees charged to partners should cover the operations and capital cost, including administrative costs and property taxes (if applicable), to the Board of the space occupied by the partner. Additional costs to perform minor renovations to protect student safety, provide appropriate washrooms, and otherwise make the space suitable for use by facility partners should be borne by the partners.

ii. Notwithstanding the above, where suitable partners cannot be found or where the Board considers it to be in its best interest, surplus space may be sold or leased in accordance with Ontario Regulation 444/98 as amended. Board Policy 310 - Pupil Accommodation Review governs the study of schools for potential closure.