



# HURON-PERTH CATHOLIC District School Board

## Educational Field Trips/Excursions

<b>Adopted:</b>	<b>September 28, 1998</b>	<b>Policy #:</b>	<b>P 2.2.3.</b>
<b>Revised:</b>	<b>March 23, 2026</b>	<b>Policy Category:</b>	<b>2.2. School Program</b>

### **BELIEF STATEMENT**

The Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board (the Board) believes that well-organized educational field trips and excursions are essential components of an educational program that provides significant value to student learning. All activities associated with these events shall be consistent with Catholic teachings and purposefully support the academic, cultural, and spiritual growth of our students. Furthermore, the Board is committed to ensuring that all educational field trips and excursions reflect the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, specifically by prioritizing the preferential option for the poor to ensure equitable access and participation for all students.

### **POLICY STATEMENT**

It is the policy of the Board that all educational field trips and excursions shall contribute to a high-quality Catholic education, adhere to rigorous safety and risk management standards, and provide clear educational value. Every excursion must align with the Board's mission and vision and serve as a valid extension of the Ontario Curriculum, Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, and Catholic teachings.

To fulfill this policy, educational field trips and excursions shall:

- Provide proportional educational value in relation to travel time, activity duration, and cost;
- Maintain instructional continuity for students not participating in the activity to ensure they are not adversely affected;
- Provide adequate supervision by a teacher or Board-designated employee and comply with all provincial health and safety standards;
- Demonstrate thorough preparation, including documented pre-trip and post-trip learning activities;
- Adhere to all other relevant Board policies and provincial regulations.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Director of Education shall ensure that administrative procedures are in place to support the implementation of this policy, including requirements related to risk management, staff training, emergency protocols, and student supervision. Administrative procedures shall include requirements for a comprehensive approval process that ensures all trips align with the Ontario Curriculum and Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations. This policy and the corresponding administrative procedures shall align with applicable legislation, Ministry of Education direction, and the safety standards established by the Ontario School Board Insurance Exchange (OSBIE) and the Ontario Physical Activity Safety Standards in Education (OPHEA).

#### **DEFINITIONS:**

**Educational Field Trip** - Any event or programme which, for educational purposes (e.g. class trips to the science centre), has students leaving school property.

**Educational Excursions** - An Educational Excursion is any event or programme which, for co-curricular purposes (e.g. athletics or clubs), has students leaving school property. Use of this term will not include student exchanges, co-op education, credit/non-credit courses outside of school and outside the regular school day.

#### **REFERENCES:**

- Education Act c. E.2, s. 171 (1)
- Ontario School Board Insurance Exchange (OSBIE)
- Ontario Physical and Health Educators Association (OPHEA)
- Science Teachers' Association of Ontario (STAO)
- Ontario Council for Technology Education (OC

#### **RESOURCES, APPENDICES AND FORMS:**

- Administrative Procedure 2.2.16: Educational Field Trips/Excursions (in development)
- Appendix A - Student Educational Field Trips/Excursions Application
- Appendix B - Student Educational Field Trips/Excursions Approval Matrix
- Appendix C - Permission/Acknowledgement for Educational Field Trips and Athletic/Co-Curricular Participation
- Appendix D - Release and Indemnification Form for Educational Field Trips and Athletic/Co-Curricular Participation
- Appendix E - Application to Principal to be a Volunteer Driver