



HURON-PERTH CATHOLIC

District School Board

Access to School Premises

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| Adopted: | September 24, 2001 | Policy #: | P 2.1.8. |
| Revised: | August 22, 2022 | Policy Category: | 2.1. School Operations |

BELIEF STATEMENT:

The Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board believes in providing a safe and Christ-centred school environment for students and staff.

POLICY STATEMENT:

It is the policy of the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board to recognize the importance of preventing violent or unsafe behaviour in our schools and on our school grounds. The *Trespass to Property Act* gives the Board the authority of an occupier. Furthermore, the *Access to School Property Regulation* (Reg. 474/00) identifies who may be on school property. Principals have the authority to use this legislation to deal with trespassers or to deny access to school premises.

Therefore, in the interest of providing a safe school environment for students and staff, it is the intent of the Board to authorize the Director of Education to designate its principals to act with the authority of an occupier within legislation recognizing that:

- School premises exist for unique and specific purposes;
- The Board must safeguard school premises for those purposes on behalf of the public;
- Persons entering school premises without authority or using them to engage in prohibited activities may endanger such premises.

Procedures will be developed to review the duties and responsibilities of school board employees as it applies to visitors to school buildings.

PROCEDURE:

1. Persons who are permitted on school premises are:

- Persons enrolled as a pupil in the school;
- Parents/guardians of pupils enrolled in the school;
- Persons employed or retained by the Board;
- Persons on the premises for a lawful purpose (e.g. making deliveries, voting, and other persons authorized by the Board);
- Persons invited onto school premises for a particular purpose (e.g. attend an event, meeting, etc.)
- Parish priests (or associates) visiting schools in the area where they have pastoral charge;
- Members of the Legislative Assembly visiting schools in their constituency;
- Members of the Board.

2. A person is not permitted to remain on school premises if their presence is detrimental to the safety or well-being of a person on the premises, in the judgment of the principal, a vice-principal or another person authorized by the board to make such a determination.
3. All visitors should enter the school through one clearly marked door. All visitors must report to the office. Signs must be posted directing visitors to the office.
4. The principal shall establish and implement a practice, including sign-in book and visitors' tags, to ensure board office staff, volunteers, and visitors are easily identified in the school.
5. The principal shall establish and implement a practice in response to an intruder, suspicious unknown person(s) in/on school property as per Board Policy.
6. The principal shall use this policy to communicate his/her authority to students, staff, Catholic School Advisory Councils, and other individuals or groups as needed.

DEFINITIONS:

- N/A

REFERENCES:

- Trespass to Property Act
- Ontario Reg. 474/00

RESOURCES, APPENDICES AND FORMS:

- N/A