



HURON-PERTH CATHOLIC

District School Board

Flag Protocol

Adopted:	November 25, 2019	Policy #:	P 2.1.20.
Revised:	May 27, 2024	Policy Category:	2.1. School Operations

BELIEF STATEMENT:

The Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board (the Board) believes that the flag protocol must be consistent with the vision and mission of the Board to nurture a Christ-centred environment, provide student-focused learning opportunities and support the growth of the whole person. The Board believes that we are called to live out the principles of Catholic Social Teaching and our responsibility to exercise a preferential option for the poor and marginalized. The Board recognizes our requirement under law to abide by the Ontario Human Rights Code.

POLICY STATEMENT:

Unless otherwise prescribed by statute or regulation, it is the policy of the Board that all schools and sites fly the National Flag of Canada. Where an additional flag pole exists at its secondary schools and the Catholic Education Centre a tertiary flag may be flown. The default tertiary flags are:

- The Official Flag of the Province of Ontario
- The Flag of the Holy See – the Papal Flag
- The Inclusionary Flag of the Board (Appendix A).

It is the policy of the Board that tertiary flags be flown in less prominent positions than the National Flag of Canada. The Inclusionary Flag of the Board shall be flown during the month of June.

PROCEDURES:

1. The National Flag of Canada

- 1.1. The National flag of Canada is always displayed as the predominant flag in all situations.* The flag should always be flown on its own mast or flag pole. When the flag is raised or lowered everyone present should remove their hats.
- 1.2. Staff shall take care to ensure that the Canadian flag is never discoloured or tattered.
- 1.3. The Canadian flag should never touch the ground, be stepped or flown upside down.

2. Disposal of the National Flag of Canada

Canadian flags that are tattered or in otherwise poor condition should be disposed of in a dignified manner. A flag is considered to be tattered or worn when the colour has faded, it has developed a hole, or the outermost seam (fly) of the flag has become frayed.

When a flag is no longer in a suitable condition for use, it should be disposed of in a dignified manner – this may be facilitated by delivery of the flag for disposal to the local Canadian Legion.

3. Half-Masting

Flags are flown at half-mast as a sign of mourning. Flags may only be half-masted in the following circumstances:

- 3.1. The death of a current student or employee of the Board on the day of the funeral;
- 3.2. In solidarity and on the occasion that the Government of Canada half-masts the flag on Parliament Hill;
- 3.3. On Remembrance Day from 11 am to noon.

DEFINITIONS:

- N/A

REFERENCES:

- Government of Canada – Canadian Heritage Services – Flag Etiquette
- The only flags to which precedence is given over the National Flag are the King's Personal Canadian Flag, the Governor General's Flag, the Flags of the Lieutenant Governors (within their province) and the Personal Canadian Flags of the other members of the Royal Family.

RESOURCES, APPENDICES AND FORMS:

- N/A

APPENDIX A

