

**Special Board Meeting**  
**April 29, 2024 - 11:00 a.m.**

## **AGENDA**

- 1. Opening Business**
  - 1.1. Opening Prayer Page 2
  - 1.2. Attendance
  - 1.3. Approval of the Agenda of the Regular Session of the Special Board Meeting of April 29, 2024 Page 1
  - 1.4. Declaration of Interest
  
- 2. Committee and Staff Reports** Pages 3-6
  - 2.1. **Report for Information** - Recommendation from the Policy Committee on changes to the Board's policy: Flag Protocol.
  
- 3. Closing Prayer**
  
- 4. Adjournment**



# HURON-PERTH CATHOLIC

District School Board

## Special Board Meeting Monday, April 29, 2024

**Opening Prayer & Intentions:** Board Chaplain, Father David

Come Holy Spirit!

We ask your intercession throughout our meeting as we reflect on our challenges and respective responsibilities. We ask you to help us commit to trust and collaboration so that we may grow as a team for the future of our Board.

Enlighten our minds to the ways we can best serve those we are entrusted to educate and form.

Bless our conversations with good will, sincerity, and truth.

Help us see and understand issues which face our institution with clarity and charity.

Give us wisdom to find solutions and the courage to see them through.

May we be a team united with one goal: To honor You through the noble work of educating our students in the Catholic tradition.

We humbly ask in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

- Written by Mary Massa

**Board Chaplain, Father David:** St. André Bessette.

**All:** Pray for us.

**Sign of the Cross:** In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.



## REPORT TO THE HURON-PERTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Prepared by: Chris N. Roehrig, Director of Education and Secretary  
Presented to: The Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board  
Date: April 29, 2024  
Submitted by: Chris N. Roehrig, Director of Education and Secretary

# FLAG PROTOCOL

Public Session

## BACKGROUND

In April of 2023, the Board passed a motion that would allow it to fly flags other than prescribed in the Flag Protocol Policy (The Policy). The Board struck an ad hoc Flag Policy Committee to review The Policy and to make a recommendation to the Board. The ad hoc Flag Policy Committee was a committee of the whole Board. The committee met five times and passed a motion to recommend that the Board make changes to its Policy.

## DEVELOPMENTS

The ad hoc policy committee recommends that the Board change The Policy in the following ways:

- Ensure that the Flag of Canada remains flying at all times and in a prominent position relative to other flags
- Permit tertiary flags to fly at the Catholic Education Centre and its Catholic secondary schools where a second flag pole exists
- Define permissible tertiary flags as:
  - The Papal Flag
  - The Flag of the Province of Ontario
  - A Board Approved Inclusionary Flag during the month of June.\*

The revised policy is being presented to the Board for information and will be posted on the website for 30 days. The community can provide feedback on this policy change by completing the form found [here](#) (on the Board website/ Board Policies). The Board will consider the recommendation at the May Regular Meeting of the Board (May 27th).

The revised Policy is attached and can be found on the Board website (Board Policies tab).

\*Recommended inclusionary flag can be seen in the attached policy.

## RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board receives the Flag Protocol policy for information.



# HURON-PERTH CATHOLIC

District School Board

## Flag Protocol

<b>Adopted:</b>	<b>November 25, 2019</b>	<b>Policy #:</b>	<b>P 2.1.20.</b>
<b>Revised:</b>		<b>Policy Category:</b>	<b>2.1. School Operations</b>

### 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 on flown upside down or

#### 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:**

- Appendix A - The Inclusionary Flag of the Board

APPENDIX A

