



## *Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board*

### PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES STUDENT DRESS CODE

#### Background:

The school's dress code must support both O. Reg. 298 – S.23(1)(f), which states that students must “be clean in person and habits”, and Bill 81: Safe Schools Act - S.302(5):

“If required to do so by the Minister, a board shall establish policies and guidelines respecting appropriate dress for pupils in schools within the board's jurisdiction, and the policies and guidelines must address such matters and include such requirements as the Minister may specify.”

#### Definitions:

1. Dress code is defined as the standard of student dress established and implemented at the school level. Dress code must be in keeping with Catholic virtues (e.g., modesty) and the Education Act and Regulations.
2. School uniform is defined as the standard of student dress consistent in style, colour and pieces (e.g., shirts, sweaters, pants) established and implemented at the school level.

#### Dress Code:

1. The principal, in consultation with the Catholic School Council and school superintendent, shall develop a student dress code as part of the Code of Student Conduct.
2. A school's student dress code shall be communicated annually to the school community.

### School Uniform:

1. All secondary schools within the Board, with the exception of Holy Angels Learning Centre, shall adopt a mandatory school uniform policy.
2. Elementary schools within the Board may establish a school uniform policy if it is supported by the “majority” of families. “Majority” is defined as at least 70% of the families of the students registered at the school.
3. If an elementary school decides to establish a school uniform policy, compliance by all students is expected.
4. The principal and/or the Catholic School Council may initiate the process of adopting a school uniform.
5. Elementary schools considering a school uniform shall:
  - a) inform the appropriate superintendent;
  - b) establish a representative committee including parents, staff, students and school administration. The purpose of the committee will be to determine whether or not the school community concurs with the adoption of a school uniform; explore the implications of introducing a uniform, including affordability; and, subject to the acceptance of the school community, implement the introduction of a school uniform;
  - c) ensure that no advertising of any kind appears on the uniform; only the school logo/name is permitted to appear;
  - d) develop an action plan, which includes the following:
    - i) data collection;
    - ii) public consultation;
    - iii) communication plan;
    - iv) cost effectiveness and subsidy plans;
    - v) clear voting procedures and clear ballot question;
    - vi) decision to implement or not;
    - vii) strategy for compliance;
    - viii) acquisition of apparel;
    - ix) review/monitoring process;
    - x) plan to publish annually the school uniform policy.