



Multi Use Facilities

To conform to our Catholic teachings, a Catholic school has a distinct and unique culture and philosophy. It is defined and characterized as being Christ-centred, an instrument of the Church, focused on the development of the whole human person, committed to the inculturation of life and faith, and permeated in every aspect by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. A Catholic school is one in which God's presence, truth and life permeate every aspect of the school.

The Board has the responsibility to make decisions for our local communities, but also recognizes its reciprocal responsibility to the greater Catholic community. In order to ensure that all educational programs are offered in a strong Catholic educational environment coupled with the view to sustaining a strong publicly funded Catholic school district, the Superintendent may consider the use of multi use facilities for students to receive their regular educational programming in appropriate circumstances.

The Board from time to time may be supportive of multi use facilities provided the facilities adhere to the following fundamental principles:

1. Free-standing Catholic schools on separate sites have a long and successful history in the province of Alberta, and remain the standard for Catholic educational facilities.
2. The Board shall oppose the joint use of school buildings with public school boards in any manner that has the effect of undermining or interrupting the full permeation of Catholic values and beliefs.
3. The Board shall not be pressured into any type of partnership or joint-use arrangement that could restrict the Board's ability to fulfill its mandate to provide quality Catholic public education to its students.
4. If the Board is contemplating a facility other than a free-standing school, the Board shall inform the Alberta Catholic School Trustees Association in writing of such intention, and seek and receive the support of the archbishop prior to beginning the project development process.

In circumstances where the Board has indicated by majority vote that the above principles are being met, the superintendent may:

1. Proceed with the necessary steps to open a facility where it is ensured that an independent third party be located in a middle section that separates the two school facilities, and where it is deemed to be agreeable and beneficial to both school boards.
2. Proceed with construction of a multi use facility where a written guarantee from government is in place stating that should space become available in one of the schools, there be no encroachment from one school into the other school.

3. Take any steps necessary to ensure that the appropriate educational space in the multi-use facility be designated solely for the exclusive use and possession by the Board.
4. Ensure that grade level programming is the same for both schools.

Approved: February 9, 2004

Revised: October 23, 2006

Reference: _____