

**ASSOCIATE SCHOOLS**

**STATEMENT OF POSITION**

**LEGAL REF: EA 87**

It is fundamental to the philosophy of the Board of Education that the right to educate rests with the parents. In trust for the parents, the primary purpose of the Board is to provide for the education of Catholic students living within the boundaries of the school division.

It is incumbent on the Board, provided no principle is compromised and no statutory or legal requirement is broken, to make whatever arrangements are necessary to ensure it fulfills its mandate.

The Board recognizes that alternate schools may be established as a legitimate realization of the aspirations of certain parents for particular programs which cannot ordinarily be provided in the school division.

In order to protect the interests of the Catholic children in such alternate schools, and, at the same time, to acknowledge that such schools are not truly members of the division's "family of Catholic schools", the Board is prepared to operate such schools as associate schools.

Definition – Associate schools are schools which in certain aspects including educational dimensions, funding, operation and administrative policies and procedures, may differ in some material manner from other schools in the Division and which are established by the Board in association with a legally empowered body with whom the Board, by law, is empowered to contract and whose mandate is to represent a special education need of a recognized segment of the Division community.

**BOARD APPROVED:** November 3, 1982

**PROCEDURES**

The onus to seek the status of associate school shall lie with the corporate officers of the alternate school.

A written request should be submitted to the Director of Education and should include a concise description of the object of the alternate school which must provide some special educational opportunities for school-aged children.

**CONDITIONS**

1. The Board will enter into an agreement only with a legally constituted body which has been registered under the Societies Act or has been established under some provisions of Saskatchewan legislation.
2. The agreement between the Board and the Society must meet with the approval of the Minister of Education.
3. The program offered in such a school must meet with the approval of the Minister of Education.
4. The agreement will provide the details with respect to all areas of the operations of an associate school including the term of agreement, review procedure, instruction and education programs, personnel, administration, assets, insurance and indemnity, communication and notices, termination and general covenants.
5. Except in cases which are specified, all policies and regulations of the Board of Education would apply to the various aspects of the school's operations.
6. The agreement must clearly state the basis for the inclusion of a Catholic religious dimension in the programs and activities of the school.
7. The agreement must identify sources of funds which would be generated as a result of the associate school's operations. In no circumstances will money from regular programs of the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools be used to subsidize the operations of an associate school.
8. The agreement must take into consideration the Board's mandate and responsibility as defined by the Education Act. This would apply in a special way to the selection, placement, and evaluation of staff members. It is to be clearly understood that such staff members are employees of the Board of Education and must fulfill all the requirements of employment as such.