



YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

BOARD POLICY	
<i>Policy Section</i> Property	<i>Policy Number</i> 706
<i>Former Policy #</i> 503	<i>Page</i> 1 of 3
<i>Original Approved Date</i> November 1999	<i>Subsequent Approval Dates</i> February 25, 2014 January 25, 2022

POLICY TITLE: ALTERNATIVE ACCOMMODATION ARRANGEMENTS

SECTION A

1. **PURPOSE**

Legislative provisions encourage school boards to consider alternative accommodation arrangements for all elementary and secondary students when acquiring a school site or building a standalone school. The purpose of this policy is to guide Senior Administration in the identification of partnerships that support Board priorities, within the specified requirements outlined in this policy.

2. **OBJECTIVE**

The York Catholic District School Board will consider possible alternative accommodation arrangements with municipalities, school boards or other persons or bodies in the public or private sector, including arrangements of a long-term or cooperative nature for the benefit of all new elementary and new secondary students.

3. **PARAMETERS**

- 3.1 The [Education Act](#) and [Ontario Regulations](#) identifies opportunities for alternative projects and accommodation arrangements.
- 3.2 The [Municipal Act, 2001](#) authorizes municipalities and school boards to enter into arrangements under which they can provide for exemptions from taxation for municipal and school purposes of land or a portion of it that is “entirely occupied and used or intended for use for a service or function that may be provided by a “school board” or municipality. It also authorizes an exemption to be given from municipal and education development charges in certain circumstances.
- 3.3 The Board recognizes that Alternative Arrangements can provide an opportunity to improve service delivery and address peak enrolment capacity, reduce duplication of public facilities, maximize the effective use of available dollars, and reduce site size requirements. These include a variety of acquisition strategies

- such as forward buying, options, purchases, lease buy-back, sites exchanges and joint venture partnerships.
- 3.4 The Board's Alternative Accommodation Arrangement shall demonstrate and record this commitment, as per legislative requirements, e.g., St. Nicholas (1994), Sutton Multi-Use Facility (St. Bernadette, 1996), St. John Chrysostom (2003), Langstaff Discovery Centre (Blessed Pope John Paul II, 2003), St. Jean de Brebeuf C.H.S. (2005).
 - 3.5 The arrangement shall be cost effective and advantageous for the Board compared to other possible arrangements including an acquisition of a school site and the construction of a free standing building.
 - 3.6 Regardless of built form, the arrangement shall meet or exceed all applicable standard facility space templates (e.g. classrooms, outdoor play space, gyms, etc.) and meet parameter 3.7 of Policy 707 Acquisition and Development of School Sites.
 - 3.7 The arrangement shall comply with any guidelines issued by the Ministry of Education.
 - 3.8 The Board may enter into lease arrangements respecting school facilities intended to be used to accommodate peak enrolment, but shall not enter into such arrangements respecting school facilities that are necessary to accommodate long-term enrolment unless the arrangements could result in ownership at the Board's discretion.
 - 3.9 The Board shall retain sufficient governance authority over the facility to ensure that it is able to deliver the appropriate educational program to its pupils, and to ensure that its Catholic identity, ambience and integrity are preserved.
 - 3.10 Any Joint Use facility shall have a separate entrance and separate Administrative area with the school name on the exterior of the school that is easily visible from the street.
 - 3.11 The arrangement must promote student achievement.
 - 3.12 The arrangement must promote the well-being and safety of all students and staff.
 - 3.13 The arrangement must fit within provincial capital and operational funding, or be supported by alternative funding sources as supported by legislation.
 - 3.14 The arrangement shall compensate for cost premiums associated with meeting a typical space template and any additional school needs as a result of the built form.
 - 3.15 Any alternative accommodation and the site that it refers to would also be reviewed in the context of Policy 707 Acquisition and Development of School Sites.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 Board of Trustees

- 4.1.1 To support the Alternative Accommodation Arrangements policy.

4.2 Director of Education

4.2.1 To oversee compliance of the Alternative Accommodation Arrangements policy.

4.3 Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Board

4.3.1 To ensure compliance with the Alternative Accommodation Arrangements policy.

4.4 Coordinating Manager of Planning & Operations

4.4.1 To implement the Alternative Accommodation Arrangements policy.

5. DEFINITIONS

5.1 Alternative Accommodation Arrangements

Alternative accommodation arrangements include but is not limited to facility partnerships, agreements, alternative projects, etc.

6. CROSS REFERENCES

[Ontario Regulation 20/98](#)
[Municipal Act](#)

YCDSB Policy 707 [Acquisition and Development of School Sites](#)

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