

## 2022 Questionnaire

# Ontario Catholic School Trustees

**The Catholic Church** considers that elected democratic office is a position of immense responsibility, to be held in high trust and exercised with great humility, wisdom, and responsibility, in the interest of the common good.

*This is particularly true with respect to those who seek to govern publicly-funded Catholic Schools. Education is of first importance for the future of our society; and Catholic education, properly conducted, can be of unique importance in passing our faith to future generations. Few endeavors offer comparable opportunities to integrate faith into the entire range of personal and social values for future generations.*

*The Church teaches that the ultimate purpose of this life is to seek the truth, which is God. “God is the ultimate end of his creatures and for no reason may the common good be deprived of its transcendent dimension.” This truth is most effectively communicated to our children by their families, parishes, and schools.*

*Please confirm your name, district and ward, and preferred contact information:*

*Candidate’s name: Julie Molenaar*

*School District: WDCSB*

*Ward: 6 (Waterloo)*

*E-mail: [jmolenaar1@yahoo.com](mailto:jmolenaar1@yahoo.com)*

*Phone: 519-635-6644*

*Social Media Handle(s): [www.healthyspiceoflife.com](http://www.healthyspiceoflife.com), [linkedin.com/in/Julie-molenaar-69259740](https://www.linkedin.com/in/Julie-molenaar-69259740)*

### YOUR VISION FOR SERVICE AS A TRUSTEE

*Adapted from OCSTA’s “Becoming a Catholic School Trustee”*

Catholic schools are not alternate public schools. In addition to the curriculum presented by secular schools, Catholic schools provide religious instruction, impart Gospel values, and display religious symbols, and serve as a critical part of the Church’s mission to evangelize youth. Catholic parents freely choose to send their children to Catholic schools with the full expectation that they will be socialized into a faith community in which the person and message of Jesus is central to instruction in all subject areas.

The distinctiveness of Catholic schools arises from their teaching students to incorporate the person and the message of Jesus Christ in all aspects of their lives, while our secular society makes the human

person the measure of all things. Catholic schools provide the spiritual and transcendent dimension which says that God is ultimately the measure and meaning of life.

**Q. 1. What draws you to the vocation of service as a Catholic school trustee?**

I feel it is important to help our community with change and help our children have the best education possible and the best resources. I feel it is so important to be kind and respectful to everyone. Treat Others The Way That You Want To Be Treated!

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**Q. 2. What do you hope to accomplish as a Catholic school trustee?**

I am hoping to make a difference. My end goal is to help everyone feel wanted and respected. I do not feel it is up to me to judge others. Diversity and Inclusion, I feel that is so important. Mathew 7:12 Treat others the same way you want them to treat you. Verse "Concepts" In everything you do treat others The Way You Want To Be Treated. This is the Law of the Prophets.

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**Q. 3. What experience do you have that qualifies you to serve as a Catholic school trustee?**

I am a practicing Catholic with Full and Complete Faith in God and the Bible. I have played an active role with my own children on the PTA and helped in the classrooms. I have been a teacher with Kidproof Canada for many years teaching Safety Programs example: At Home Alone, Babysitting and First Aid. Kidz Clubz Bully support Group started in the London Ontario area and in 2010 it started in the Waterloo Region. This group is about building Self-esteem, confidence and making friends.

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[we invite you to attach a copy of your resume]

*Catholic school trustees are called to express their personal faith in full communion with and participation in the faith life of the Catholic Church.*

**Q.4. In your view, what are the most important contributions Catholic education can make to the lives of children, and the communities they will become part of?**

I believe that the Catholic education can help provide kids develop a stronger sense of Faith. I have also witnessed kids showing so much respect for others including adults. Children offering help to seniors and children with disabilities. I am seeing children really shine with taking responsibility for their own actions and mistakes, something that I feel was lacking.

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**Q. 5. Please describe the nature of your devotion to Christ and the Catholic Church, including ways in which you witness to your faith in your daily life.**

It has impacted my daily life as sometimes it just helps me get through the day because of hard times and that is because I have Faith. I say prayers every day and show my gratitude ongoing. I show remorse whenever it is warranted.

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**Q.6. As a trustee, how do you propose to ensure that the sacramental needs of Catholic students are supported by the Catholic school system?**

Preparation for sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmations should be family-focused, parish-based and Catholic school supported. Catholic schools need to respect the primary role of the family in the faith education of their children and partners with families in the preparation of children for the sacraments. Catholic schools will partner with the parish in preparing for and celebrating the sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation. Ongoing communication with the Pastor is required to ensure that the teachers are fulfilling their requirements.

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**Q.7. In addition to ensuring that students are taught the Catholic notion of incorporating faith into all aspects of our lives, trustees are responsible for ensuring that students are encouraged to do their very best in all their studies, covering the full range of provincial educational curricula. How do you see yourself assisting in that process?**

I believe we need to have all resources available to help our kids along. A lot of children have fallen behind in their studies due to the pandemic. We need tutors, teachers and volunteers to pull together to get these children on track.

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**Q.8. In order to ensure that Catholic schools and the communities they teach in remain true to the Catholic faith, it is important that Catholic school boards and individual trustees remain in contact with their local parishes and bishops. What is your plan for remaining in touch?**

Ongoing emails are the best resource for staying in touch. A few drops INS can go a long way. I would also research to educate myself so that I can be sure the schools are meeting the Catholic requirements.

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**Q.9. Some have proposed that separate Catholic schools be abolished. In what ways do you envision yourself advocating for the continuing rights of Catholics to educate their children in separate Catholic public schools?**

I am someone who is not easily intimidated by difficult people or situations and I have little difficulty speaking up for myself and I have NO difficulty speaking up for my children. I would start a petition and send it to the highest government as well as the Pope. I would follow up with emails and phone calls in order to get the right people involved. I would protest if needed. I believe we have the right to our religion, beliefs and values this should never be taken away from us.

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**Q.10. Trustees are responsible to students and parents for ensuring that the fullness of Catholic values, beliefs and teachings are passed on to our children, and for helping to ensure that our children carry those values and teachings into the broader community. How do you propose to ensure that you yourself are aware of the full range of matter you will be expected to impart to students?**

I am someone who likes to stay educated. I can learn more by speaking with my pastor, reading the bible and communication with the kids. I can also learn a lot through discussions with our teachers.

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**Q.11. As elected public officials, trustees are accountable to their constituents for prudent, wise, and equitable use of resources, in an open and accountable fashion. In what specific ways do you propose to discharge that duty?**

As a trustee I would like our community to stay in touch, bringing forward any concerns that they have. It is my job to bring those to the meetings and communicate with board and have discussions/debates in a professional manner. It is also my responsibility to respond back to the community when decisions are made. I want to be people's voice.

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**Q.12. It is a [statutory requirement that candidates](#) for the office of Catholic public school trustee be Catholic. Please attach a copy of a letter of reference from your pastor confirming your Catholicity, or other evidence, if available.**

[\[attach letter of reference\]](#)



Pressing SUBMIT will cause a copy of this document to be returned to Catholic Conscience, for posting on our website for use by voters in choosing trustees. Should you wish later to revise or withdraw your responses, please contact us at [info@CatholicConscience.org](mailto:info@CatholicConscience.org).

SUBMIT

Thank you for helping to improve our electoral process and our schools!