



POLICY 24: ATTENDANCE AT FUNDRAISING EVENTS

The Division interacts with numerous public and private agencies which directly or indirectly support the educational goals of The Red Deer Catholic Separate School Division. On occasion, these public or private agencies hold fundraising events intended to publicize their cause and raise funds to support current or future programs. The Red Deer Catholic Separate School Division's Board members, senior administrators, school administrators, or staff want to remain active, contributing members in the community and may, from time to time, receive invitations to attend such events.

Specifically:

1. When a member of the Board or senior administrator receives an invitation to a fundraising event that member may attend as a representative of The Red Deer Catholic Separate School Division by motion of the Board. Expenses relating to admission and travel will be reimbursed by the Board.
2. When a member of the Board or senior administration receives an invitation to a fundraising event that person may attend the fundraiser as a private citizen at their own expense.
3. On occasion, the fundraising invitation may request the sponsorship of a table. Typically such a table would seat 8 – 10 individuals and symbolizes a significant contribution to the event. Sponsorship of a table for fundraising purposes requires a Board motion.
4. Individuals who are authorized to attend fundraising events on behalf of the Division or one of its schools are prohibited from making purchases, bidding on auction items, or committing funds to the cause on behalf of the Division.
5. The Elections Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act expressly prohibits public funds being used to support fundraisers for political parties, individual politicians, or political causes. Individuals who receive invitations to such events must attend as private citizens and bear all related costs.
6. Under no circumstances shall Division funds be used to offer gifts, hospitality, or the purchase of event tickets or donations to a political party, registered political candidate or to a riding constituency association. Such gifts or donations are illegal under the provisions of the Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act.
7. The Red Deer Catholic Separate School Division has the discretion and may choose to support strategic or associated community or educational partners.

May 2012 Reviewed: May 2018, October 2019, March 2022