

National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools

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Summarized Board Primary Responsibilities in Collaboration with Leader/Leadership Team

Governance and Leadership

Standard 5: An excellent Catholic school has a governing body (person or persons) which recognizes and respects the role(s) of the appropriate and legitimate authorities, and exercises responsible decision making (authoritative, consultative, advisory) in collaboration with the leadership team for development and oversight of the school's fidelity to mission, academic excellence, and operational vitality.

Benchmarks:

- 5.1 Governance *function* organized through constitution and by-laws
- 5.2 Systemizes and *uses* policy to *ensure* mission effectiveness
- 5.3 *Maintains* a relationship with the local Bishop (Church)
- 5.4 *Maintains* a relationship with the Department of Catholic Schools
- 5.5 *Maintains* a consultant relationship with the pastor or canonical administrator
- 5.6 Engaged in on-going formation, training and self-evaluation to *ensure* effectiveness

Other Summarized Shared Responsibilities with Leader/Leadership Team

Mission and Catholic Identity

Standard 1: An excellent Catholic school is guided and driven by a clearly communicated mission that embraces a Catholic Identity rooted in Gospel values, centered on the Eucharist, and committed to faith formation, academic excellence and service.

Benchmarks:

- 1.1 *Ensure* mission and Catholic identity
- 1.2 *Use* mission to drive planning

Standard 6: An excellent Catholic school has a qualified leader/leadership team empowered by the governing body to realize and implement the school's mission and vision.

Benchmarks:

- 6.6 Shares in program oversight to *ensure* operational vitality

Operational Vitality

Standard 10: An excellent Catholic school provides a feasible three to five year financial plan that includes both current and projected budgets and is the result of a collaborative process, emphasizing faithful stewardship.

Benchmarks:

- 10.1 *Engage* in financial planning
- 10.7 *Provide* for financial transparency; revenue and tuition planning
- 10.8 Use effective business practices in financial planning and practices to *ensure* effective stewardship

Standard 13: An excellent Catholic school enacts a comprehensive plan, based on a compelling mission, for institutional advancement through communications, marketing, enrollment management, and development.

Benchmarks:

- 13.2 *Review* student enrollment and retention data
- 13.3 Participate in development planning to *ensure* placement of strategies for action to support external funding