

National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective

Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools

Rubrics for Benchmarks

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.

Benchmark: 5.4

The governing body, in collaboration with or through the actions of the leader/leadership team, maintains a constructive and beneficial relationship with the (arch)diocesan Education Office consistent with (arch)diocesan policy pertaining to the recognition of Catholic schools by the Bishop.

Level 4 Exceeds Benchmark	The governing body, in collaboration with or through the actions of the leader/leadership team, continuously fosters a mutual, productive and beneficial relationship with the (arch)diocesan Education Office, working to support the work of the central office, adopting and integrating initiatives from the central office and working in collaboration with other schools in the community. The governing body supports the work of the leadership team as members of diocesan working groups. All work is monitored for consistency with all Archdiocesan policies pertaining to Catholic schools.
Level 3 Fully Meets Benchmark	The governing body, in collaboration with or through the actions of the leader/leadership team, maintains a constructive and beneficial relationship with the (arch)diocesan Education Office consistent with (arch)diocesan policy pertaining to the recognition of Catholic schools by the Bishop.
Level 2 Partially Meets Benchmark	The governing body, and/or the leadership team are inconsistent regarding the need for a constructive and beneficial relationship with the (arch)diocesan Education Office. At times, policies or procedures are followed and at other times are overlooked or ignored in favor of autonomy. Some decisions are inconsistent with (arch)diocesan policy pertaining to the recognition of Catholic schools by the Bishop.

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Level 1 Does Not Meet Benchmark	The governing body and the leader/leadership team, either by choice or lack of understanding, do not maintain a constructive and beneficial relationship with the (arch)diocesan Education Office. Archdiocesan policies are largely ignored and sometime even obstructed. Evidence of an understanding of the relationship of the school to the Bishop appears absent.
Possible Sources of Evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Governing Board copies of (arch)diocesan school policies• School leaders copies of (arch)diocesan school policies• Published (print and internet) copy of (arch)diocesan school policies• Diocesan committee listings• Adoption documents for (arch)diocesan recommended programs• Budgets• Publications supporting (arch)diocesan programs• Accountability measures and reports