

SCHOOL LETTERHEAD

Letter to Catholic Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of a Student without Roman Catholic Baptism or Reception Into the Church

Date

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated _____. Provided that your tax support is directed to the Catholic School System, your (child/children) may attend _____ Catholic School.

Your wish that your (child/children) attend a Catholic school is respected. It is understood that this wish includes an acceptance of the fact that (name of child/children) will be instructed in the Catholic faith. However, as a further expression of this intention, you should discuss the status of your child's baptism with your parish priest. This process will involve at least one parent, as well as the child, the teacher, and the local pastor.

I am sure you appreciate that, without Catholic Baptism or Reception into the Church, children cannot receive the other Sacraments of the Church, including the Sacraments of Reconciliation, the Eucharist and Confirmation. The ineligibility of children to fully participate in these Sacraments is potentially a cause for some distress for them. It is very difficult for children to understand why they cannot be as involved in Sacramental activities as their classmates and this can be a source of anxiety and stress. We would much prefer that every child enjoy, by full participation, the enriching experience that Catholic education should be. However, we do respect your choice.

I thank you again for your interest in this school and encourage you to seriously consider the comments previously offered in the positive light in which they were made.

Sincerely,

Principal

cc: _____, Director of Education
_____, Superintendent of School Effectiveness

ALGONQUIN AND LAKESHORE CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD