



Psst. Want to know a secret?

Contrary to what Catholic school boards have been telling people for years, religious programs – courses, liturgies, and retreats – are not mandatory in Ontario’s publicly funded Catholic high schools in grades 9-12.

Instead, you can take courses of greater interest to you – courses that could better prepare you for your post-secondary education and career.

Not everyone who chooses to attend a Catholic high school does so for religious reasons. Some just want the opportunity to attend a school in their own community – an opportunity many are denied because of the religious divisions in Ontario’s school system.

Continued on reverse ...

Under Ontario's Education Act, religious program exemptions are available for the asking to any student – Catholic or otherwise – who attends a publicly funded Catholic high school under “open access”. To qualify:

- The student's parents must designate themselves “public school supporters” on their municipal property assessment forms.
- The student's parents must request in writing to the school board's Director of Education that their child be exempted from religious programs.

That's all there is to it. Open access students can attend the publicly funded Catholic high school in their community free of any compulsion to participate in religious programming. See MyExemption.com for further details about these exemptions or for any assistance you require in navigating the process.



OneSchoolSystem.org



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