

Instruction, it is hereby made the duty of the inspector of schools, in his capacity as clerk of commissioners, to forward to the Superintendent of Education, in company with report of action of board, either in original or copy, all documents detailing the information on which such action in establishing new sections was based.

REG. 4. When in any section the entire number of resident rate-payers is less than twelve, a requisition for the appointment of trustees or a trustee shall be deemed valid if signed by a majority of such rate-payers.

TRUSTEES.

Comment.

A relation being established between the trustees and the teacher, it becomes the duty of the former, on behalf of the people, to see that the scholars are making sure progress; that there is life in the school, both intellectual and moral—in short, that the great ends sought by the education of the young are being realized in the section over which they preside. All may not be able to form a nice judgment upon its intellectual aspect, but none can fail to estimate correctly its social and moral tone. While the law does not sanction the teaching in our public schools of the peculiar views which characterize the different denominations of christians, it does instruct the teacher “to inculcate by precept and example a respect for religion and the principles of christian morality.” To the trustees the people must look to see their desires in this respect, so far as is consonant with the spirit of the law, carried into effect by the teacher.

REG. 1. Whereas it has been represented to the Council that trustees of public schools have, in certain cases, required pupils, on pain of forfeiting school privileges, to be present during devotional exercises not approved of by their parents; and whereas such proceeding is contrary to the principles of the school law, the following regulation is made for the direction of trustees, the better to ensure the carrying out of the spirit of the law in this behalf:—

Ordered. That in case where the parents or guardians of children in actual attendance on any public school or department, signify in writing to the trustees their conscientious objection to any portion of such devotional exercises as may be conducted therein under the sanction of the trustees, such devotional exercises shall either be so modified as not to offend the religious feelings of those so objecting, or shall be held immediately before the time fixed for the opening or after the time fixed for the close of the daily work of the school; and no children, whose parents or guardians signify conscientious objections thereto, shall be required to be present during such devotional exercises.

REG. 2. In cases where sections fail to determine, in annual meeting, which member of the board of trustees shall retire from office, and to fill the annual vacancy in the trusteeship, it shall be the duty of the inspector to determine which trustee shall retire; and the commissioners shall fill such vacancy in the manner directed by law.

REG. 3. When the same secretary is continued in office from one year to another, it is not necessary that he should give a new bond, provided the existing one is drawn in a sufficient sum and the sureties are satisfactory to the trustees.

REG. 4. In every case where no provision is made for the secretary's commission by the school meeting, in its vote of any sum, it shall be allowable for the trustees to add the commissioner in levying the assessment.

REG. 5. In every school in which two or more teachers are employed, it shall be the duty of the trustees to determine which teacher shall be considered the principal of the school. While not holding him responsible for the control and management of the classes directly under the care of the teachers, the trustees are expected to assign to the principal a general supervisory authority over the whole school. The principal shall always have power to visit the class-rooms of his associates, to see that the general regulations of the trustees are carried out, and that satisfactory progress is being made.

REG. 6. The following shall be the proper form of bond for secretary of trustees:—

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT WE, (*name of secretary*) as principal, and (*name of sureties*) as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto our Sovereign Lady VICTORIA by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, &c., in the sum of _____ of lawful money of Canada, to be paid to our said Lady the Queen, her heirs and successors, for the true payment whereof we bind ourselves, and each of us by himself, for the whole and every part thereof, and the heirs, executors and administrators of us and each of us, firmly by these presents, sealed with our seals and dated this _____ day of _____ in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and _____