



ROLE OF THE PRINCIPAL¹

IN A PRESIDENT/PRINCIPAL MODEL SCHOOL

EDMUND RICE CHRISTIAN BROTHER SCHOOLS

The Principal as Spiritual Leader

Area of responsibility: Moral and Ethical Development

- Facilitates the moral development and maturity of children, youth and adults
- Integrates gospel values and Christian ethics into the curriculum, policies, and life of the school

Area of responsibility: History and Philosophy

- Knows the history and purpose of Catholic school in the United States
- Utilizes church documents and Catholic guidelines and directives
- Develops and implements statements of school philosophy and mission that reflects the unique Catholic character of the school

The Principal as Educational Leader

Area of responsibility: Leadership

- Demonstrates symbolic and cultural leadership skills in developing a school climate reflecting Catholic identity
- Applies a Catholic educational vision to the daily activities of the school
- Promotes healthy staff morale
- Recognizes and fosters leadership ability among staff members
- Interprets and uses research to guide action plans
- Attends to personal growth and professional development

Area of responsibility: Curriculum and Instruction

- Demonstrates a knowledge of the content and the methods of religious education
- Knows of the developmental stages of children and youth
- Recognizes and provides for cultural and religious differences
- Provides leadership in curriculum development, especially for the integration of Christian values
- Demonstrates an understanding of a variety of educational and pedagogical skills
- Recognizes and accommodates the special learning needs of children within the inclusive classroom
- Supervises instruction effectively
- Demonstrates an understanding of effective procedures for evaluating the learning of students
- Demonstrates the ability to evaluate the general effectiveness of the learning program of the school

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¹ ¹ Adapted by Raymond J. Vercruysee, CFC, from *Expectations for the Catholic School Principal*, Maria J. Ciriello, OP, Ph.D., Editor; United States Catholic Conference, 1995; pp. ix –x; to fit a President / Principal model for Catholic Schools.

The Principal as Managerial Leader

Area of responsibility: Personnel Management

- Recruits, interviews, selects, and provides an orientation for school staff
- Knows and applies principles of adult learning and motivation
- Knows and applies the skills of organizational management, delegation or responsibilities and communication skills
- Uses group process skills effectively with various school communities
- Evaluates staff

Area of responsibility: Institutional Management

- Provides for an orderly school environment and promotes student self-discipline
- Recognizes the importance of the relationship between the school and the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North American Province
- Recognizes the importance of the relationship between the school and the other area Catholic schools
- Understands state requirements and government-funded programs
- Understands the usefulness of current technologies