

STANDARDS FOR CHURCH SCHOOL ROLL * 1952-1956 *

Here is information about some questions that are often asked. This is prepared in accordance with 1952 Discipline, Par. 225 (4), which reads: "In order that the statistical records of church schools in The Methodist Church may be reliable and uniform, it (the commission on education) shall follow the standards of membership, attendance, and maintenance of the roll which are established by the General Board of Education, and shall use the forms and record books prepared by the Board."

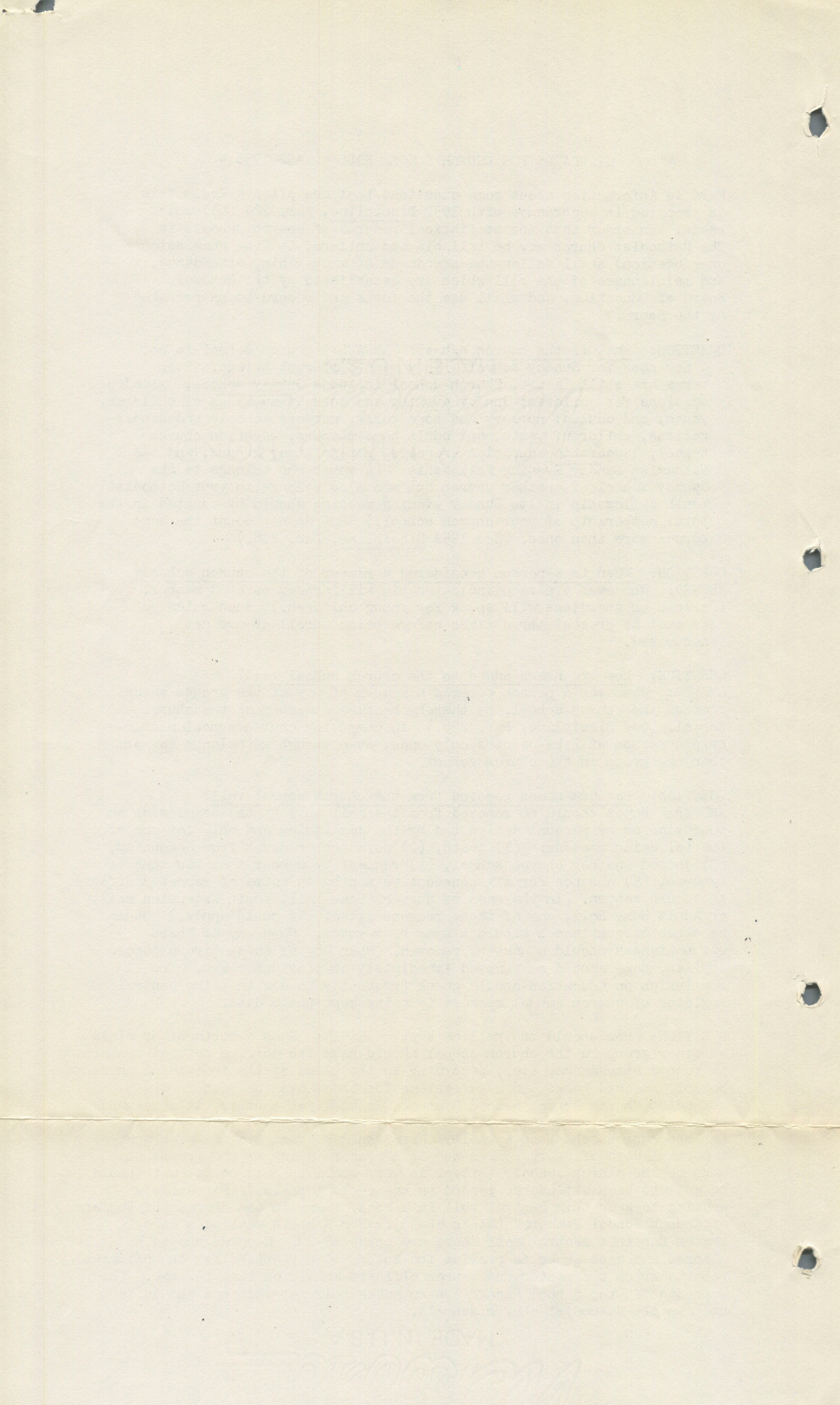
QUESTION: What is the church school? ANSWER: Church school is not a new name for Sunday school. They mean different things. Both terms are still in use. Church school includes Sunday school, extended sessions for children; Sunday evening and weekday meetings of children, youth, and adults; nursery and home rolls, nursery schools and kindergartens, children, youth, and adult home members, vacation church school, leadership education agencies, parent study groups, and the Methodist Sunday Evening Fellowship. (A youth who belongs to the Sunday school of another church but who also belongs to your Methodist Youth Fellowship in its Sunday evening meeting should be counted in the total membership of your church school.) But do not count the same person more than once. (See 1952 Discipline, Par. 228.)

QUESTION: When is a person considered a member of the church school?
ANSWER: Whenever a person indicates his willingness to be a member. (Parents or guardians will speak for young children.) Such rules as "You must be present three times before being enrolled" are not encouraged.

QUESTION: How are names added to the church school roll?
ANSWER: Whenever a person becomes a member of any of the groups which compose the church school, he thereby becomes a member of the church school. (See Discipline, Par. 228.) In computing church school membership a person will be counted only once, even though he belongs to more than one group in the church school.

QUESTION: How are names removed from the church school roll?
ANSWER: Names should be removed from the roll only by the commission on education or by persons designated by the commission and only for one of the following reasons: (1) death, (2) permanent removal from community, (3) joined another church school, (4) request by member that his name be removed, (5) absence for six consecutive months in spite of repeated efforts to secure return. (In the case of Nursery Home Roll, Youth Extension Roll, or Adult Home Roll, any of these reasons except (5) could apply.) Under no other circumstances should a name be removed. When any of these circumstances should a name be removed. When any of these circumstances applies, name should be removed immediately as provided above. The commission on education should check frequently to see that the central register of church school members is being kept up to date.

QUESTION: How should the roll be kept? ANSWER: Each department or class or other group in the church school should have its working roll of members to record attendance, etc., according to the plans of the individual church school. Record books and card systems for these are included in the Methodist Church School Record System. In addition to this, it recommended that all church schools, small and large, keep a central membership roll for the church school as a whole. Here would be recorded the name and important data of every person who is a member in any of the groups that make up the church school. (Except in very small schools no attempt should be made to keep attendance record on the central rolls.) For schools wanting to keep this central roll in a book, there is the "Permanent Register of Church School Members" (Stock MR-33). For schools wanting a card system for this central roll there are cards MR-20. Records should be planned and kept so as to provide the information required for the official reports which the pastor and church officers make from time to time. The Methodist Church School Record System makes this possible and should be used in all Methodist church schools.



QUESTION: How do you compute church school membership?

ANSWER: If you have a central roll of church school members (see above paragraph), simply count the number of names, arranging them by divisions, But if you do not have a central roll then add together the membership rolls of all the groups, by divisions, which make up the church school, subtracting names which appear more than once. Keep rolls up to date. It is erroneous to add up all names that may have been on the roll over a given period without subtracting those that have dropped out, and call that the membership.

QUESTION: Is a study group conducted by the Woman's Society of Christian Service a part of the church school? ANSWER: Not unless, by special arrangement between the commission on education and the WSCS, it is recognized as a part of the church school.

QUESTION: Are Boy Scouts included in church school membership?

ANSWER: Yes, if their program is a part of the program of the church school and is under the direction of the commission on education and the pastor. Otherwise the answer is no.

QUESTION: Which is correct, "Sunday school superintendent" or "church school superintendent"?

ANSWER: Church school superintendent. The general and division officers are officers of the whole church school, not just of the Sunday school alone.

QUESTION: Does one have to be in Sunday school to be a church school member? ANSWER: Not necessarily. One becomes a member of the church school through any of the groups which compose it. It is highly desirable, however, that all participate in Sunday school.

---A monthly Newsletter for Methodist church school superintendents. January 1953

QUESTION: How do you compare school district membership in the state? You have a certain roll of school district members (see above). In general, district membership is based on the number of children in the district. But it is not always a simple matter. Some districts have a large number of children, but they are not all in the district. Some districts have a large number of children, but they are not all in the district. Some districts have a large number of children, but they are not all in the district.

QUESTION: Is there any group controlled by the board? Is there any group controlled by the board? Is there any group controlled by the board? Is there any group controlled by the board? Is there any group controlled by the board?

ANSWER: The board is not a group. The board is not a group. The board is not a group. The board is not a group. The board is not a group. The board is not a group. The board is not a group. The board is not a group. The board is not a group. The board is not a group.

QUESTION: What is the board's responsibility? What is the board's responsibility? What is the board's responsibility? What is the board's responsibility? What is the board's responsibility? What is the board's responsibility? What is the board's responsibility? What is the board's responsibility? What is the board's responsibility? What is the board's responsibility?

ANSWER: The board's responsibility is to oversee the school district. The board's responsibility is to oversee the school district. The board's responsibility is to oversee the school district. The board's responsibility is to oversee the school district. The board's responsibility is to oversee the school district. The board's responsibility is to oversee the school district. The board's responsibility is to oversee the school district. The board's responsibility is to oversee the school district. The board's responsibility is to oversee the school district. The board's responsibility is to oversee the school district.

QUESTION: How do you handle the budget? How do you handle the budget? How do you handle the budget? How do you handle the budget? How do you handle the budget? How do you handle the budget? How do you handle the budget? How do you handle the budget? How do you handle the budget? How do you handle the budget?

