



BACKGROUND INFORMATION



APRIL 23, 2013 BOARD REPORT

At the April 23, 2013 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Board approved eight (8) motions. Motion 2 approved the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review of specific schools:

2.2 School Capacities, Enrolment Trends, Attendance Area Boundaries and Building Utilization 2013 - Phase Two Report

Moved by Trustee Burkholder
Seconded by Trustee MacNeil



APRIL 23, 2013 BOARD REPORT

2. **THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve that the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board review the attendance boundaries of the following St. Catharines Catholic Elementary Schools, Assumption Catholic Elementary School, St. Alfred Catholic Elementary School, St. Ann Catholic Elementary School, Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary School, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School and the consolidated St. James Catholic Elementary School/Michael J. Brennan Catholic Elementary School and that a report be submitted to the Committee of the Whole no later than December 2013.



**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 31, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: CLOSURE OF MICHAEL J. BRENNAN
CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**



RECOMMENDATION

THAT, subject to Ministry of Education funding, the closure of Michael J. Brennan Catholic Elementary School by September 2014;

THAT, subject to Ministry of Education funding, students attending Michael J. Brennan and St. James Catholic Elementary Schools as of February 1st, 2012 be grandfathered, including siblings, until completion of Grade 8 at the St. James Catholic Elementary School site commencing September, 2014;

THAT, in compliance with Board Policy 301.1 Admission of Students, effective February 1st, 2012 out of boundary requests will not be granted for Michael J. Brennan and St. James Catholic Elementary Schools based on current or revised attendance area boundaries;

THAT, the St. Catharines Attendance Area Review Ad Hoc Committee be directed to commence deliberation and public consultation on revised attendance area boundaries for defined areas of St. Catharines and provide a report and recommendations to the Board no later than June 2012;

THAT, revised attendance area boundaries for Michael J. Brennan and St. James Catholic Elementary Schools, excluding students grandfathered as of February 1st, 2012, will be in effect for the September identified by the St. Catharines Attendance Area Review Ad Hoc Committee and approved by the Board.



APRIL 23, 2013 REPORT TO THE BOARD SCHOOL CAPACITIES, ENROLMENT TRENDS, ATTENDANCE AREA BOUNDARIES AND BUILDING UTILIZATION – PHASE 2 REPORT

Excerpt from Appendix B – Long Term Accommodation Review Resource Document
by Watson & Associates Economists Ltd.

Observations of St. Catharines Attendance Area Review Schools:

Assumption Catholic Elementary School

“The facility is projected to have available space for the duration of the forecast term. This school should be studied as part of a larger boundary review for St. Catharines elementary school and include, at a minimum, Canadian Martyrs, St. James/MJ Brennan and St. Alfred.”

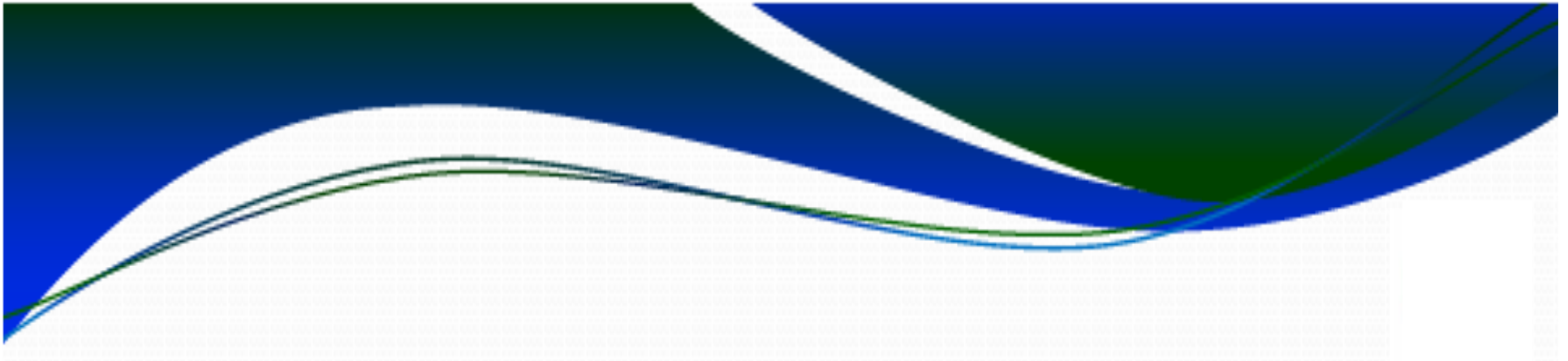


Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary School

“The facility is projected to have available space for the duration of the forecast term. This school should be studied as part of a larger boundary review for St. Catharines elementary school and include, at a minimum, Assumption, St. James/MJ Brennan and St. Alfred.”

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School

“The facility is projected to have available space for the duration of the forecast term. Due to the availability of permanent space and ELKP space, Our Lady of Fatima is recommended for French Immersion (FI) implementation. Expected entry points for the proposed FI implementation are ELKP, Grade 1 and potentially Grade 4. If the Grade 4 FI entry point was to be implemented, seven Grade 4 students from St. Nicholas could be moved to Our Lady of Fatima school. Assuming full FI implementation, the school could have an additional 50 students in Year 1 which includes two proposed ELKP classes and one grade 1 and 4 class. Using entry point estimates, the school could have an FI program of 250 students when all grades are implemented. Cont’d...

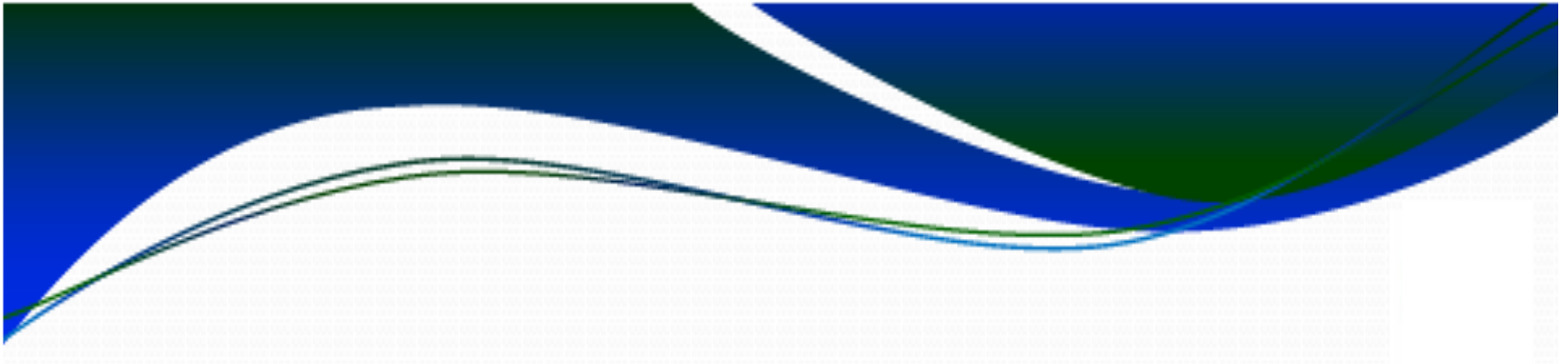


Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School – cont’d

The FI program with two ELKP classes has the potential to exceed the school’s permanent capacity and the program should be monitored and capped if necessary.”

St. Alfred Catholic Elementary School

“The facility is projected to have a deficit of space for the duration of the forecast term with mid to long term projected utilization rates at St. Alfred above 110%. To accommodate current and future enrolments, St. Alfred may require either portables or a small boundary adjustment. Currently, St. Alfred’s has no portables – at least 2 portables would be required to accommodate the 50 surplus students projected by 2026/27, if a boundary adjustment is not implemented. The school should be studied as part of a larger boundary review for St. Catharines elementary schools and include, at a minimum, Assumption, St. James/MJ Brennan and Canadian Martyrs.”



St. James Catholic Elementary School

“The Board has received approval for consolidation of MJ Brennan and St. James with a new capacity of 259 spaces at St. James. The new consolidated school has a projected utilization rate that would remain over capacity at St. James. Therefore, the existing 4 portables would need to remain at St. James in order to accommodate enrolments from Michael J. Brennan or a boundary change may be necessary. The new school should be studied as part of a larger boundary review for St. Catharines elementary schools and include, at a minimum, Assumption, Canadian Martyrs and St. Alfred.”