



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

AGENDA AND MATERIAL

BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2009
7:00 P.M.**

**FATHER KENNETH BURNS, C.S.C. BOARD ROOM
CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE, WELLAND, ONTARIO**

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer - Trustee Fera -
2. Roll Call -
3. Approval of the Agenda -
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest -
5. Minutes of the Board Meeting of April 28, 2009 A5

B. DELEGATIONS

1. National and Provincial Academic Medalists -
 - 1.1 - Niagara Catholic Nation Fair Representative - Ottawa July 7 - 13, 2009 -
 - Jordan Politi, Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School
 - 1.2 - Niagara Catholic District School Board Award -
 - Madyson Sylvester, St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School
 - 1.3 - Sabrina Waller, St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School, Stevensville -
 - Hannah McLeod, St. Mary Catholic Elementary School, Niagara Falls
 - Cara Lozano, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School, Grimsby
 - Connor Moffat, St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School
 - Cody Van der Kooi, Assumption Catholic Elementary School
 - Katherine Cornelius, Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School, St. Catharines
2. Elli Kubarakos, St. Francis Catholic Secondary School -
3. Denis Morris Catholic High School – Godspell Musical Presentation -

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program C1
 - Our Lady of Victory Catholic Elementary School
2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 12, 2009 C2
 - and Consideration of Recommendations
 - 2.1 Administration of Oral Medication to Students Under the Age of 18 C2.1
 - During School Hours Policy (Policy 302.2 - Revised)
 - 2.2 2009-2010 Preliminary Annual Budget C2.2
 - 2.3 Implications of a Phased-In Ban on the Sale of Bottled Water C2.3

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| 2.4 Financial Reports | |
| 2.4.1 Monthly Banking Transactions for the Month of April 2009 | C2.4.1 |
| 2.4.2 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at April 30, 2009 | C2.4.2 |
| 3. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 26, 2009 and Consideration of Recommendations (to be distributed) | C3 |
| 3.1 Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School
Addition and Alterations - Award of Construction Contract | C3.1 |
| 4. Minutes of the S.E.A.C. Meeting of April 1, 2009 | C4 |
| 5. Annual Niagara Catholic Graduation Celebration 2009;
Partners in Catholic Education Symposium; System Faith Day 2009 | C5 |
| 6. Pupil Accommodation Review - Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations | C6 |

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1. Correspondence Re Pupil Accommodation Review | |
| 1.1 City of St. Catharines - Mayor Brian McMullan | D1.1 |
| 1.2 Yvonne Wok - Chair St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School Council | D1.2 |
| 1.3 Gaetano DeBenedetti - St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School, Niagara Falls | D1.3 |
| 2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended | |
| 2.1 OCSTA Conference - May 7 - 9, 2009 | - |
| 3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action | - |
| 4. Trustee Information | - |
| 4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - May 12, 2009 | D4.1 |
| 4.2 Calendar of Events - June 2009 | D4.2 |
| 4.3 L' Aquila Earthquake Fundraiser | - |
| 4.4 Katrina Catholic Scholarship Fundraiser | - |
| 4.5 Specialist High Skills Major | - |
| - Arts and Culture - Niagara Catholic ACT | |
| - Health and Wellness - Niagara Catholic PHASE | |
| 5. Open Question Period | - |
| <i>(The purpose of the Open Question Period is to allow members of the Catholic school supporting public to ask about items on that night's public agenda or any previous agendas, and the Board to answer and react.)</i> | |

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

G. REPORT ON THE IN CAMERA SESSION

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

1. June Committee of the Whole Meeting - Tuesday, June 2, 2009

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

TOPIC: MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 28, 2009

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of Board Meeting of April 28, 2009, as presented.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2009

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, April 28, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Chairperson Burtnik.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Charbonneau.

2. Roll Call

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board excuse Trustee Crole from attending the Board Meeting of April 28, 2009.

CARRIED

Trustee	Present	Excused
John Belcastro	✓	
Kathy Burtnik	✓	
Maurice Charbonneau	✓	
Gary Crole		✓
John Dekker	✓	
Frank Fera	✓	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓	
Tony Scalzi	✓	
Student Trustees		
Ashley McGuire	✓	
Christina Volpini	✓	

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Rob Ciarlo**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, Superintendents of Education; **Larry Reich**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Board Services and Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of April 28, 2009, as amended to add Item D2.2 Correspondence Nominations of Regional Director at OCSTA AGM.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Interest

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

5. Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting of March 31, 2009

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of March 31, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. Niagara Regional Science & Engineering Fair

Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education, introduced Dino Petruzzi, Teacher at Denis Morris Catholic High School, Andrew Boon, Vice-Principal of Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School, and Denis Robertston, Vice-Principal of Denis Morris Catholic High School, who welcomed the award winning students and spoke briefly to their accomplishments. The students were presented with Niagara Catholic "Excellence in Academics" pins in honor of their achievements.

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program - Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School

Director Crocco gave brief background information on the monthly School Excellence Program. Superintendent Iannantuono introduced Lorrie MacKenzie, Principal of Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School in Niagara Falls.

Principal MacKenzie and the Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School Improvement Team introduced the staff members in attendance and showcased the school.

Chairperson Burtnik thanked Principal MacKenzie and the staff for their presentation.

2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 14, 2009 and Consideration of Recommendations

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 14, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

The following recommendations were presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 14, 2009.

2.1 Financial Reports

2.2.1 Monthly Banking Transactions

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of March 2009, as presented for information.

CARRIED

2.2.2 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at March 31, 2009, as presented for information.

CARRIED

3. Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of March 4, 2009

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of March 4, 2009, as presented for information.

CARRIED

4. Revised Student Transportation Policy (#500.2)

Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services, presented the Revised Student Transportation Policy and highlighted the revisions being proposed in order to harmonize the current Transportation Policies of the Niagara Catholic District School Board and the District School Board of Niagara. These changes are to take effect September 2009.

Trustees asked questions of clarification.

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the revised Transportation Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

5. Niagara Catholic System Priorities – 2009-2010

Director Crocco presented the Niagara Catholic System Priorities – 2009-2010 as part of the transition towards a Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Strategic Plan.

Director Crocco explained that provided within each of the priorities are indicators to measure achievement which will be discussed regularly with Principals. Following Board approval, Administrative Council will continue with the finalization of the Budget for 2009-2010. The Niagara Catholic System Priorities 2009-2010 will be forwarded to all Principals, Bishop James Wingle, Catholic School Council Chairs and SEAC as well as being posted on the Board's website.

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Fera

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Niagara Catholic System Priorities – 2009-2010, as presented.

CARRIED

6. Implications of a Phased-In Ban on the Use of Bottled Water: Update

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Robert DiPersio, Administrator of Special Projects who presented the Implications of a Phased-In Ban on the Use of Bottled Water: Update, which is the result of a Notice of Motion put forth at the October 28, 2009 Board Meeting.

Trustees were informed that a report will be presented to the May 12, 2009 Committee of the Whole Meeting which will address the implications on the ban of Single-Use Plastic Water Bottles for the Niagara Catholic District School Board and include a recommendation for consideration.

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence

2.1 Cathy Buis, Chairperson of Holy Cross Catholic School Council

2.2 Nominations of Regional Director at OCSTA AGM

2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended

Nil Report

3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

3.1 Pupil Accommodation Review - Senior Staff Follow-Up Report & Recommendations

4. Trustee Information

4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - April 14, 2009

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - April 14, 2009, issue for Trustees' information.

4.2 Catholic Education Week Planner - Sunday, May 3 - Friday, May 8, 2009

Director Crocco presented the Catholic Education Week Planner - Sunday, May 3 - Friday, May 8, 2009 for Trustees' information.

4.3 Catholic Education Week 2009 - Letter to all Students, Parents & Guardians

Director Crocco presented the Catholic Education Week 2009 - Letter to all Students, Parents & Guardians for Trustees' information.

4.4 Calendar of Events - May 2009

Director Crocco presented the Calendar of Events - May 2009 for Trustees' information.

5. Open Question Period

None Submitted

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Belcastro
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board move into the In Camera Session.

CARRIED

The Niagara Catholic District School Board moved into the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting at 8:50 p.m. and reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of April 28, 2009.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee Scalzi
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of March 31, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

Moved by Trustee Scalzi
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of April 14, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F2)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of March 31, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F4)

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of April 14, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F5)

The following motions were reported from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of April 14, 2009.

Moved by Trustee Dekker

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the appointment of Mario Di Vittorio and Jeff Smith to the Secondary Principal Pool for a period of two years, effective April 28, 2009 and to approve an extension for another two year period for Robert DiPersio, James Whittard and Ken Griepsma.

CARRIED (Item F5.1)

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the April 28, 2009 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **April 28, 2009.**

Approved on the **26th** day of **May 2009.**

Kathy Burtnik
Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
PUBLIC SESSION
DATE**

**TOPIC: SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM
OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL**



Catholic School Profile

Our Lady of Victory Jr./Sr.

Principal: Theresa Murphy
Vice Principal: Mary Kay Kalagian
OLV Jr **OLV Sr**
10 High St. 300 Central Ave.
Fort Erie, ON Fort Erie, ON
L2A 3P L2A 3T3
905.871.3092 905.871.16518

Niagara Catholic District School Board

October 2008

Director of Education

John Crocco

Superintendent of Education

Yolanda Baldasaro

Catholic Education Centre

427 Rice Road
Welland, Ontario
L3C 7C1
905.735.0240
Fax 905.734.8828

Parish

St. Michael's Parish
310 Central Ave.
Fort Erie, ON

Pastor: Father Randy Gallant

Board Mission

"The Mission of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, as a Catholic Community of learners, is to ensure that all students develop the knowledge, skills and values to reach their full potential, with Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Light."

School Mission Statement

*"Victory for Life
Through Christ"*

Who We Are

Our Lady of Victory School is located in Fort Erie. It was officially opened on September 4, 1956 and the school accommodated students in Kindergarten through grade 8. In 1966, Our Lady of Victory School became Our Lady of Victory Junior School for Kindergarten through grade 5, while a second school, Our Lady of Victory Senior School was opened for grade 6, 7, and 8. In September 1998, both schools were twinned so that the Junior building accommodates Kindergarten through grade 4 and the Senior building accommodates grade 5 through Grade 8.

- ◆ Total enrolment as of September, 2008: 490 students
- ◆ Our staff includes: Principal, Vice Principal, 21 Classroom teachers, 2.0 Educational Resource teachers, .5 Reading Recovery Teacher, 2.5 French teachers, 1.5 ESL teachers, .8 Child & Youth Care Worker, 2 Library Technicians, 1.5 ESL teachers and 4 Educational Assistants.
- ◆ A computer lab exists in each library and each classroom contains four computers
- ◆ Our playground consists of 3 creative playgrounds, a large paved area and a large field area.
- ◆ In addition to the regular Ontario school program we have a Junior Kindergarten program, Full-Day SK program, extended French as a Second Language (FSL), the Learning Through the Arts Program, an Intermediate Instrumental program, English as a Second Language Program, Reading Recovery Program and a full Religious program.

What We Stand For

Community Projects

- ◆ Fundraising for Holy Childhood Mission Association
- ◆ Support for the "Kids Helping Kids" Project of the Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre
- ◆ Food Drives for local Food Banks and St. Michael's Parish
- ◆ Participate in a variety of Parish projects (Sacramental preparation, monthly and weekly masses, special celebrations)
- ◆ Fundraising for Terry Fox

Special Activities/Programs

- ◆ Roots of Empathy Program
- ◆ SWIS project (Support Worker In Schools) - Supporting Immigrant Families
- ◆ Breakfast Snack Program – Jr. and Sr. buildings
- ◆ Senior Citizen Pals with Gilmore Lodge
- ◆ READ TO SUCCEED Literacy Campaign
- ◆ Reading Recovery Program
- ◆ Literacy Coach Support
- ◆ Royal Canadian Legion Poster & Essay Contest
- ◆ Catholic Professional Learning Community
- ◆ Heart Healthy School/Intramural programs /Sports electives

Ideals, Values/Commitments

Our school is an extension of the Catholic communities of parish and home. The message of Jesus Christ is intricately and inseparably interwoven into school life.

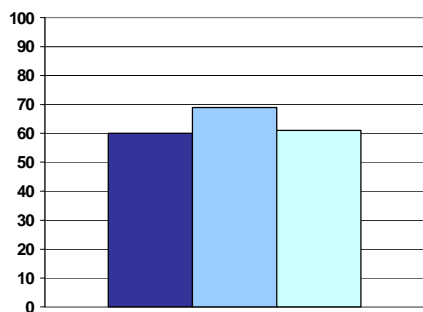
How we are doing

EQAO Primary Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics

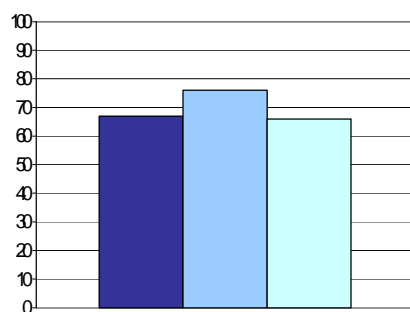
The Niagara Catholic District School Board is celebrating student achievement after province-wide test results showed its Grade 3 students have exceeded the provincial averages in Reading, Writing and Mathematics, once again. In May of 2008 the EQAO Primary Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics was administered across elementary schools in our board. Achievement is described in four levels, where Level 3 is the provincial standard. The EQAO reported the results of school, board and provincial achievement by two methods: Method 1 includes all Grade 3 students and Method 2 includes Grade 3 students excluding students who were exempted or did not complete any work during the assessment. The Niagara Catholic District School Board's commitment to quality Catholic education and to the success and achievement of each individual child entrusted to its care was demonstrated by the fact that 98% of Grade 3 students participated in the Provincial Assessment

Primary Assessment Results

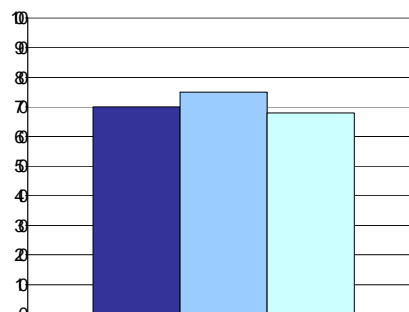
Reading Level 3, 4 Method 1



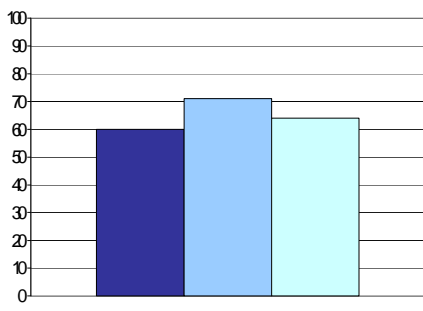
Writing Level 3, 4 Method 1



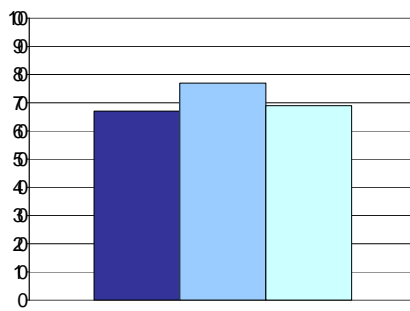
Mathematics Level 3, 4 Method 1



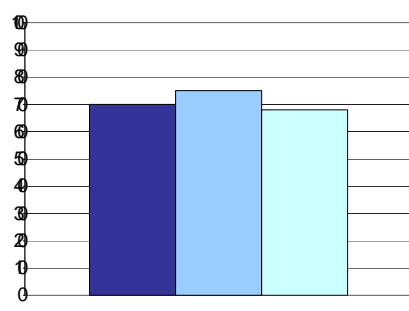
Reading Level 3, 4 Method 2



Writing Level 3, 4 Method 2



Mathematics Level 3, 4 Method 2



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Levels 3, 4

- 60% of all students at Our Lady of Victory Jr. School achieved levels 3, 4 in reading.
- 69% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 61% across the province attained this level.

Levels 2, 3, 4

- 97% of all students at Our Lady of Victory Jr. School achieved levels 2, 3, 4 in reading.
- 94% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 87% across the province attained this level.

Levels 3, 4

- 67% of all students at Our Lady of Victory Jr. School achieved levels 3, 4 in writing.
- 76% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 66% across the province attained this level.

Levels 2, 3, 4

- 100% of all students at Our Lady of Victory Jr. School achieved levels 2, 3, 4 in writing.
- 99% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 95% across the province attained this level.

Levels 3, 4

- 70% of all students at Our Lady of Victory Jr. School achieved levels 3, 4 in mathematics.
- 75% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 68% across the province attained this level.

Levels 2, 3, 4

- 100% of all students at Our Lady of Victory Jr. School achieved levels 2, 3, 4 in mathematics.
- 97% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 93% across the province attained this level.

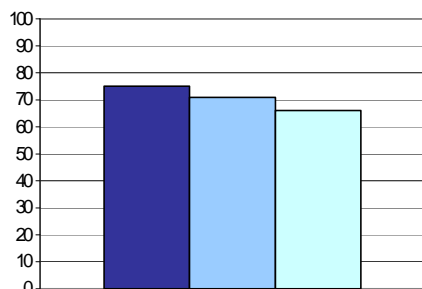
How we are doing

EQAO Junior Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics

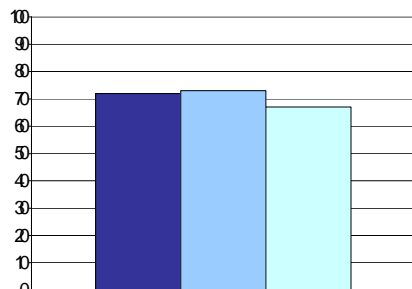
The Niagara Catholic District School Board is celebrating student achievement after province-wide test results showed its Grade 6 students have exceeded the provincial averages in Reading, Writing and Mathematics, once again. In May of 2008 the EQAO Junior Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics was administered across elementary schools in our board. Achievement is described in four levels where Level 3 is the provincial standard. The EQAO reported the results of school, board and provincial achievement by two methods: Method 1 includes all Grade 6 students and Method 2 includes Grade 6 students excluding students who were exempted or did not complete any work during the assessment. The Niagara Catholic District School Board's commitment to quality Catholic education and to the success and achievement of each individual child entrusted to its care was demonstrated by the fact that 98% of Grade 6 students participated in the Provincial Assessment

Junior Assessment Results

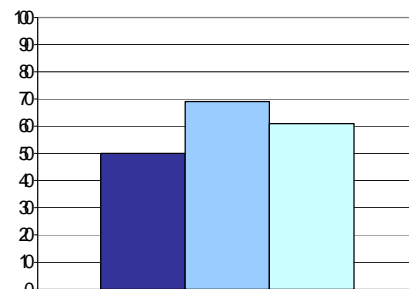
Reading Level 3, 4 Method 1



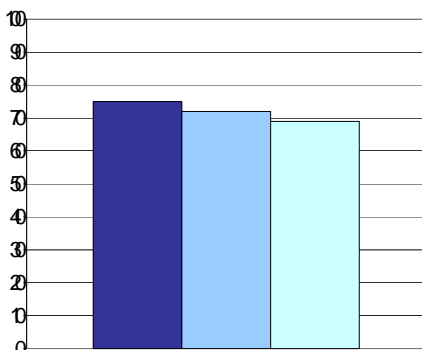
Writing Level 3, 4 Method 1



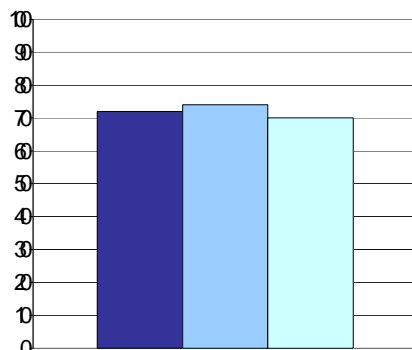
Mathematics Level 3, 4 Method 1



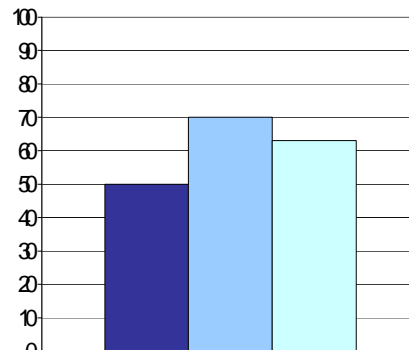
Reading Level 3, 4 Method 2



Writing Level 3, 4 Method 2



Mathematics Level 3, 4 Method 2



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Levels 3, 4

- 75% of all students at Our Lady of Victory Sr. School achieved levels 3, 4 in reading.
- 71% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 66% across the province attained this level.

Levels 2, 3, 4

- 100% of all students at Our Lady of Victory Sr. School achieved levels 2, 3, 4 in reading.
- 95% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 90% across the province attained this level.

Levels 3, 4

- 72% of all students at Our Lady of Victory Sr. School achieved levels 3, 4 in writing.
- 73% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 67% across the province attained this level.

Levels 2, 3, 4

- 100% of all students at Our Lady of Victory Sr. School achieved levels 2, 3, 4 in writing.
- 98% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 95% across the province attained this level.

Levels 3, 4

- 50% of all students at Our Lady of Victory Sr. School achieved levels 3, 4 in mathematics.
- 69% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 61% across the province attained this level.

Levels 2, 3, 4

- 98% of all students at Our Lady of Victory Sr. School achieved levels 2, 3, 4 in mathematics.
- 95% of the students across the Niagara Catholic District School Board and 90% across the province attained this level.

Board Planning For Continuous Improvement

The Niagara Catholic District School Board Improvement Plan and individual School Improvement Plans will set SMART Goals as a means to continuous improvement. Each school's plan will include SMART goals on Faith Formation, EQAO targets, Safe Schools, and an additional two goals that are school specific.

Our Improvement Plans are dynamic in that they will be closely monitored by both Board and School Improvement Planning Teams, along with Senior Administration, throughout the school year. If required, adjustments will be made to the individual plans to reflect the needs of our students and school communities.

SMART stands for goals that are S – Specific, M – Measurable, A – Attainable, R – Relevant, T – Time Based.

School Goals

Our Catholic Identity

100 % of our teachers will participate in a faith formation opportunity once per term .

Curriculum

1. To sustain literacy initiatives and focus specifically on GUIDED READING strategies on a daily basis in all classrooms from Gr. 1- 6 to increase student achievement in making connections and reading for meaning.
2. All teachers will read to students on a daily basis.
3. Focus on Mathematics in the Junior Division to increase student's achievement on EQAO in geometry and spatial sense areas
4. All Gr. 1- 6 teachers will encourage a home reading program where parents will be expected to read to their children on a daily basis for 5-10 minutes as a homework routine.
5. Focus on boy's attitudes towards reading in all grades to include more graphic novels and books in our classroom libraries that will motivate our male students to read for pleasure.

School Climate

100 % of our staff will be familiar with our Safe Schools action plan as it reflects the creation of a safe learning environment for all students and staff. Our school rules will be founded in our Gospel Values.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE MEETING OF MAY 12, 2009**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 12, 2009, as presented.

The following recommendations are being presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 12, 2009.

2.1 Administration of Oral Medication to Students Under the Age of 18 During School Hours Policy (Policy 302.2 – Revised)

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Administration of Oral Medication to Students Under the Age of 18 During School Hours Policy (Policy 302.2 - Revised), as presented.

2.2 2009-2010 Preliminary Annual Budget

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the report on the 2009-2010 Preliminary Annual Budget, as presented.

2.3 Implications of a Phased-In Ban on the Sale of Bottled Water

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve that Administrative Council be provided with additional time to collect further data and information to address implications of a phased-in ban on the sale of bottled water in Niagara Catholic. A consultation process with community stakeholders and partners is recommended, with information shared in a future report during the 2009-2010 school year.

2.4 Financial Reports

2.4.1 Monthly Banking Transactions

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of April 2009, as presented for information.

2.4.2 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at April 30, 2009, as presented for information.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2009

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, May 12, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Vice-Chairperson Fera.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Dekker.

2. Roll Call

Trustee	Present	Excused
John Belcastro	✓	
Kathy Burtnik	✓	
Maurice Charbonneau	✓	
Gary Crole	✓	
John Dekker	✓	
Frank Fera	✓	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓	
Tony Scalzi	✓	
Student Trustees		
Ashley McGuire	✓	
Christina Volpini	✓	

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Rob Ciarlo**, **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, Superintendents of Education; **Larry Reich**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Khayyam Syne**, Administrator of Staff Development; **Christine Graham**, Program Officer - Curriculum; **Marcel Jacques**, Program Officer - Student Support Services; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Board Services and Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 12, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Interest

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

5. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 14, 2009

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 14, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Policy Committee

1.1 Unapproved Minutes
Policy Committee Meeting - May 5, 2009

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Committee of the Whole receive the unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of May 5, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

1.2 Approval of Policies

1.2.1 Administration of Oral Medication to Students Under the Age of 18
During School Hours (Policy 302.2 - Revised)

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education, presented the Administration of Oral Medication to Students Under the Age of 18 During School Hours Policy and indicated that the Policy reflects the Ministry of Education Policy Program Memorandum 81.

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Administration of Oral Medication to Students Under the Age of 18 During School Hours Policy (Policy 302.2 - Revised), as presented.

CARRIED

1.3 Policy Development Update

John Crocco, Director of Education, presented the Policy Development Update for information. He stated that at the May 5, 2009 Policy Committee Meeting, the Attendance Areas Policy was deferred to the May 25, 2009 Policy Committee Meeting where it can be presented in conjunction with the New Student Admissions Policy. If these

policies are approved at the Policy Committee Meeting, they will be vetted and presented to a Special Policy Committee Meeting on June 16, 2009, with presentation to the Board on June 16, 2009.

2. 2009-2010 Preliminary Annual Budget

Director Crocco, presented the 2009-2010 Preliminary Annual Budget, stating that the balanced 2009-2010 Annual Budget continues to allocate the necessary funding to implement and deliver the excellence in distinctive programs and services to students and staff as approved in the System Priorities for 2009-2010.

Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services, presented the highlights of the 2009-2010 Preliminary Annual Budget.

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the report on the 2009-2010 Preliminary Annual Budget, as presented.

CARRIED

3. Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities

Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development, presented the report on the Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities for information.

4. Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) - Implementation

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells introduced the report on the Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) Implementation and welcomed Marcel Jacques, Program Officer - Student Support Services. Mr. Jacques introduced Sigrid Reid, Special Assignment Teacher, and Kathy McMullin, Special Needs Facilitator, who presented an overview of the Applied Behaviour Analysis Program which focuses on an effective instructional approach in the education of students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. They stated that the Program must be individualized based on the students' needs and that it has been successful for the students involved. Trustees asked questions regarding the Program.

5. Implications of a Phased-In Ban on the Sale of Bottled Water

Superintendent Baldasaro presented the report on the Implications of a Phased-In Ban on the Sale of Bottled Water, and highlighted some areas for consideration which resulted from a survey, and discussions and information from staff, cafeteria and cold drink vendors.

Trustees asked questions of clarification and discussed if additional time should be granted for further review of the issue or if the mandated of the Notice of Motion has been met.

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Niagara Catholic District School Board that Administrative Council be provided with additional time to collect further data and information to address implications of a phased-in ban on the sale of bottled water in Niagara Catholic. A consultation process with community stakeholders and partners is recommended, with information shared in a future report during the 2009-2010 school year.

CARRIED

6. Niagara Catholic District School Board InfoWorld Green 15 Award

Rob Ciarlo, Superintendent of Education, presented the report on the Niagara Catholic District School Board InfoWorld Green 15 Award in which the Niagara Catholic District School was nominated by XEROX Canada for its implementation of XEROX products as part of the Niagara Catholic's ECO Green Initiatives.

7. Specialist High Skills Major Program - Enhancements

Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education, introduced the report on the Specialist High Skills Major Program - Enhancements. Christine Graham, Program Officer - Curriculum introduced teachers from the various sectors of the Program and highlighted their many accomplishments.

Pat Mete, Secondary Consultant, welcomed teachers and students from the various Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) Sectors. The teachers and students gave personal accounts of their SHSM experiences.

The Transportation Technology Sector displayed a race car built by students and demonstrated their robots; the Construction Sector showed a news clip highlighting a house they are rebuilding and donated a bench to the Catholic Education Centre constructed by the students; the Horticulture and Landscape Sector presented the Board with flowers and plants; and the Hospitality and Tourism Sector served specialty coffee and dessert.

8. Financial Reports

8.1 Monthly Banking Transactions

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of April 2009, as presented for information.

CARRIED

8.2 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at April 30, 2009, as presented for information.

CARRIED

9. Monthly Updates

9.1 Capital Projects Progress Update

James Woods, Controller of Plant, presented the Capital Projects Progress Update.

9.2 Student Trustees' Update

Ashley McGuire, Student Trustee, gave a brief verbal update on the activities of the Student Senate.

9.3 Family of Schools Superintendents' Monthly Update

The Family of Schools Superintendents gave brief verbal reports highlighting the activities in their schools.

Superintendent Baldasaro

- The Niagara Catholic Regional School Council held their First Annual Regional School Council Bus Tour featuring Director Crocco as tour guide. The Tour included visits to the Cyberquest Program at St. Mary School in Welland, Specialist High Skills Major transportation site in Welland, Culinary Arts and Specialist High Skills Major construction site in Port Colborne, SCOEP in Ridgeway, and the Catholic Education Centre.
- St. Patrick Catholic Elementary School hosted a Food and Fitness Fun Night, which included a family dinner, a guest speaker for the parents, and nutrition and fitness activities for the student.

Superintendent Ciarlo

- Kyra Reilly, a Grade 12 student at Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School in Grimsby, received several awards this month including the Grimsby's Youth Citizen of the Year, the Vicky Hull Young Woman of Distinction Award for Sports, Recreation and Leisure from the YWCA and the 2009 Blessed Trinity's Catch the Spirit Award for Catholic Leadership.

Superintendent Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells

- St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School celebrated Earth Day with a variety of activities coordinated by Lara Van Riesen, Grade 4 teacher and a group of 20 eco-savvy students working to improve the ecological footprint.
- The first Early Act Program in partnership with the Rotary Club of South St. Catharines was formed at Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School. Students will participate in local, provincial and international projects with Community Care, St. Vincent de Paul, and an international project, by collecting eyeglasses for Guatemala.
- Assumption Catholic Elementary School focussed their Education Week activities on literacy and the arts, which paired student in older grades with students in younger grades to create books and participate in the play, "The Big Bad Musical".

Superintendent Iannantuono

- Chef Mario Scozzafava, Culinary Arts Instructor at Saint Michael Catholic High School in Niagara Falls, won the first Iron Chef Niagara Competition. The Iron Chef competition raised over \$20,000 for a variety of Niagara charities through several qualifying competitions throughout the winter.
- Students and teachers at Our Lady of Mount Carmel participated in "Power of One", which was a six week unit that integrated language, the religious social teachings of the Church, Music and social studies, and focused on individuals responsible for positive and significant change in human condition.

D. INFORMATION

1. Trustee Information

1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - April 28, 2009

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - April 28, 2009 issue for Trustees' information.

1.2 Calendar of Events - May 2009

Director Crocco presented the Calendar of Events for May 2009, and highlighted the Graduation Celebration - Class of 2009 on May 14, 2009 and the Niagara Catholic System Faith Day on May 15, 2009.

1.2.1 Graduation Celebration - Class of 2009 - May 14, 2009

1.2.2 System Faith Day - May 15, 2009

1.3 H1N1 Letter to all Niagara Catholic Families

Director Crocco presented a copy of the H1N1 Letter sent to all Niagara Catholic Families for Trustees' information.

1.4 Canadian Secondary School Rowing Association Award

Director Crocco presented information on the Canadian Secondary School Rowing Association Award being presented to the Niagara Catholic District School Board on May 31, 2009.

1.5 Report of the Governance Review Committee to the Minister of Education

Director Crocco presented the Report of the Governance Review Committee to the Minister of Education for Trustees' information.

1.6 Additional Information

Director Crocco informed Trustees that the 2009-2010 Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars have been approved by the Ministry of Education. School communities will be informed of the Ministry approved calendars for 2009-2010.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

1.1 Letter from Mayor Brian McMullan - City of St. Catharines

Director Crocco presented Trustees with a letter from Mayor Brian McMullan - City of St. Catharines, regarding the Pupil Accommodation Review. The letter will be included in the May 26, 2009 Board Meeting Agenda and placed on the Board website under the Pupil Accommodation Review tab.

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Committee of the Whole move into the In Camera Session.

CARRIED

The Committee of the Whole moved into the In Camera Session of the Meeting at 10:45 p.m. and reconvened at 11:15 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 12, 2009.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - Section A: Student Trustees Present held on April 14, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - Section B: Student Trustees Excluded held on April 14, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F3)

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F4 of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda - Section B: Students Trustees Excluded of May 12, 2009.

CARRIED (Item F4)

Moved by Trustee Dekker

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve that the meeting be extended beyond 11:00 p.m.

CARRIED

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the May 12, 2009 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **May 12, 2009**.

Approved on the **2nd** day of **June 2009**.

Frank Fera
Vice-Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: ADMINISTRATION OF ORAL MEDICATION TO
STUDENTS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 DURING SCHOOL
HOURS (POLICY 302.2 – REVISED)**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the revised Administration of Oral Medication to Students Under the Age of 18 During School Hours Policy, as presented.

Prepared by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: May 26, 2009

Niagara Catholic District School Board

ADMINISTRATION OF ORAL MEDICATION

TO STUDENTS UNDER THE AGE OF 18

Adopted: October 27, 1998

Revised: April 8, 2009

Policy No. 302.2

STATEMENT OF POLICY

All students shall have access to the Catholic educational programs conducted within the schools of the Niagara Catholic District School Board regardless of prescribed and non –prescribed medication needs during school hours.

The Director of Education shall issue Administrative Guidelines in conjunction with this Policy.

Reference:
Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memorandum No. 81

ADMINISTRATION OF ORAL MEDICATION

TO STUDENTS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 DURING SCHOOL HOURS

Issued: October 27, 1998
Revised: April 8, 2009

Policy No. 302.2

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

1. In accordance with the Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memorandum No. 81 Provision of Health Support Services in School Settings, all school boards will be responsible for the administration of oral medication where such medication has been prescribed during school hours.
 - That such procedures be applied only to those services, requested by the parent and prescribed by a physician or other health care professional, which must be provided during school hours.
 - That a request for the service and the authorization to provide such service be made in writing by the parent and the physician, specifying the medication, the dosage, the frequency and method of administration, the dates for which the authorization applies, and the possible side effects, if any.
 - That the storage and safekeeping requirements for any labeled medication be stated.
 - That a record of administration be maintained which includes the pupil's name, date, time of provision, dosage given, name of person administering, etc.
 - That the telephone numbers of the parent and physician be readily accessible in the school.
 - That the medication be administered in a manner which allows for sensitivity and privacy and which encourages the pupil to take an appropriate level of responsibility for his or her medication.

(Source: Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memorandum No. 81)

2. For all prescribed and non-prescribed medication taken **during school hours**, the parent/guardian's signature and the physician's signature are required on the completed Administration of Prescribed and Non-Prescribed Medication During School Hours Form (Appendix A).
3. Any changes to the dosage/regimen requires that the parent/guardian provide an updated form signed by the parent/guardian and physician.
4. A record of administration is to be maintained at the school by the Principal/Designate on the Record of Administration of Prescribed and Non-Prescribed Medication Form (Appendix B).
5. The medication is to be administered by the Principal/Designate in a manner which allows for the sensitivity and privacy of the pupil and which encourages the pupil to take an appropriate level of responsibility for his/her medication
6. In order for medication to be accepted by the Principal for administration purposes, it must be hand delivered in the original container by the parent/guardian to the Principal or his/her Designate who shall inform the Principal as soon as possible.
7. All medication stored in the school shall be kept in a secure location.
8. The Principal/Designate of each school shall be responsible for both the control and administration of the medication.

9. The Principal/Designate can delegate the responsibility for the administration of medication to an appropriate staff member. Staff members, aside from trained Educational Assistants or other trained individuals, may exercise the option not to become involved in the administration of medication; the responsibility thereby returning to the Principal, or in his/her absence, to the Vice-Principal/Acting administrator.
10. Once the regimen has been completed, the parent/guardian will be contacted to pick up the unused medication. If the parent/guardian does not comply, the Principal/Designate will take the medication to a local pharmacy.
11. The parent/guardian shall be given a copy of the Record of Administration of Prescribed and Non-Prescribed Medication Form at the completion of the regimen.
12. The Principal shall keep on file the Record of Administration of Prescribed and Non-Prescribed Medication Form for the duration of the student's attendance at the school.
13. If the specific dosage and directions are not provided under no condition should a Principal/Designate administer said medication. Specific dosage and directions must be stated for the administration of prescribed and non-prescribed medication.
14. Medication authorized to be taken two and three times daily may not necessarily require administration at the school. Clarification as to the necessity for such treatment should be sought if the Principal has any specific concerns.

NOTE: "Administration" for the purposes of this policy means:

- the safe storage and handling of the medication
- the visual supervision and observation of the taking of the medication
- the actual administration of the medication if appropriate or necessary
- the recording of the administration on the Record of Administration of Prescribed and Non-Prescribed Medication form.

April 9/09



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
ADMINISTRATION OF PRESCRIBED AND NON-PRESCRIBED
MEDICATION DURING SCHOOL HOURS**

This information is being collected under the Authority of The Education Act, and will be used for the purposes of administering prescribed and non-prescribed medication during school hours. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Superintendent of Education - Student Support Services, Niagara Catholic District School Board, 427 Rice Road, Welland, ON L3C 7C1 Telephone (905) 735-0240

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN		TO BE COMPLETED BY PHYSICIAN	
Name of Student		Name of Physician	
Student's Date of Birth	Grade	Street Address	
Day Month Year			
School		City	Postal Code
Student's OEN #		Telephone ()	
Parent/Guardian Telephone		Name of Medication	
Home: () _____		Condition for Which Medication is Prescribed	
Mobile: () _____		Possible Side Effects	
Business: () _____			
e-mail: _____			
Emergency Contact		Times Per School Day for Administration	
Name: _____			
Telephone: () _____		Dosage Per Administration	
Mobile: () _____			
Parent/Guardian Approval		Administration Parameters (Dates)	
<i>I hereby request and give permission to</i>		From: _____ To: _____	
_____		Storage Requirements	
<i>school to administer the noted medication according to Board procedures and the instructions of the Physician.</i>			
(Remaining Medication will be returned to the Parent/Guardian)			
Date: _____		Date: _____	
Signature: _____	Parent/Guardian	Signature: _____	
		Physician	

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

TOPIC: 2009-2010 PRELIMINARY ANNUAL BUDGET

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the report on the 2009-2010 Preliminary Annual Budget, as presented.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Administrative Council

Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Administrative Council

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: May 26, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MAY 12, 2009

2009-2010 PRELIMINARY ANNUAL BUDGET

On March 27, 2009 Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Education, announced the funding allocations for the school year 2009-2010. She indicated that school boards would receive an increase of \$592 Million, which represents an increase of approximately 3.1%, over last year.

The 2009-2010 Grants for Student Needs (GSN) include the funding required to support the staffing provisions and the 3% increase in compensation for all staffing categories under the Provincial Framework Agreements (PFA).

In order to deal with the current global economic uncertainty, the Ontario Government has found it necessary to impose constraint measures on all school boards in the funding envelopes for textbooks and learning materials, computers, professional development and transportation. These constraint measures will result in a funding reduction of approximately \$1 Million for Niagara Catholic.

It is important to note that the operating costs of all school boards continue to increase substantially in the following areas: Special Education, Employee Benefits, Plant Utilities and Student Transportation. These operating costs are still exceeding the related funding allocations provided by the funding formula for the year 2009-2010 and, as a result, all school boards continue to face challenges in balancing their budgets.

The members of Senior Staff have now completed the review and analysis of the 2009-2010 Budget Requests submitted by staff, including the deployment of staff and the allocation of resources to the schools and departments of the Board. After many meetings and deliberations, the members of Senior Staff have now completed the preparation of the preliminary 2009-2010 Annual Budget.

The preliminary 2009-2010 Annual Budget amounts to a total of \$228,706,574 and it will be balanced with a transfer of \$1,753,539 from the Reserve for Working Funds. This budget will enable Niagara Catholic to continue to offer excellent educational programs to all the students in its jurisdiction.

Please note that the preliminary 2009-2010 Annual Budget was prepared in accordance with the System Priorities approved by the Board and in accordance with the Compliance Requirements established by the Ministry of Education. For the review of the Trustees, we enclose the following information:

APPENDIX A

Summary of Key Budget Factors

APPENDIX B

Analysis of Funding Allocations and Budget Restrictions

APPENDIX C

Analysis of Expenditures by Department

We take this opportunity to express our appreciation to all Board Staff, who have been involved in the budget process, for their diligence and hard work.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the report on the 2009-2010 Preliminary Annual Budget, as presented.

Prepared by Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
 Administrative Council

Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
 Administrative Council

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: May 12, 2009

APPENDIX A



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

ANNUAL BUDGET

Summary of Revenue & Expenditures and Key Budget Factors

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET

Total Budget Revenue & Expenditures
Budget Revenue

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments
Budget Revenue				
Total Operating Funding & Other Rev.	216,795,547	210,184,519	6,611,027	
Total Capital Funding & Other Rev.	11,911,028	11,272,661	638,367	
Amount Required to Balance	(0)	(0)	(0)	
Total Budget Revenue	228,706,574	221,457,180	7,249,394	

Budget Expenditures

Total Operating Expenditures	216,838,746	210,379,942	6,458,804	
Total Capital & Other Expenditures	11,867,828	11,077,238	790,590	
Amount Required to Balance	0	0	0	
Total Budget Expenditures	228,706,574	221,457,180	7,249,394	
Total Budget Surplus (Deficit)	0	0	0	

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET

Projected Student Enrolment

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments
Elementary Enrolment - ADE	14,132	14,385	(253)	The ADE enrolment is projected to decrease
Secondary Enrolment - ADE	8,401	8,349	52	The ADE enrolment is projected to increase
Total Board Enrolment - ADE	22,533	22,734	(201)	
Adult & Continuing Education - ADE	561	530	31	The ADE enrolment is projected to increase
Adult Non-Credit ESL Programs - ADE	716	734	(18)	The ADE enrolment is projected to decrease
Summer School Enrolment - ADE	98	122	(24)	The ADE enrolment is projected to decrease
Total Adult & Cont. Ed. Enrolment - ADE	1,375	1,386	(11)	

Average Daily Enrolment (ADE) continues to be a major factor in the calculation of the Funding Allocations for all school boards.

Under the Regulations, the calculation of Average Daily Enrolment for the school year is to be based on the number of students enrolled in our schools on two specific dates: OCTOBER 31 and MARCH 31.
 - The number of students enrolled on those dates is to be weighted at 50% for each date.
 - The number of students enrolled in JK & SK is to be counted as half-time.

ADE for Adult & Continuing Education programs is to be calculated using the same methods and parameters, as outlined in the regulations, as in prior years.

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

Projected School Staffing

	<u>Annual Budget 2009-10</u>	<u>Revised Budget 2008-09</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Total Elementary School Teachers	905	912	(7)	Decrease is mainly due to changes in enrolment
Total Secondary School Teachers	547	555	(8)	Decrease is mainly due to changes in staff deployment
Total Board School Teachers	<u>1,452</u>	<u>1,467</u>	<u>(15)</u>	

Average Class Size - Elementary

23.5 : 1 23.5 : 1

Under the Regulations,

- The Maximum Average Class Size for JK, SK and Grades 1, 2 & 3 is 20 : 1.

and the Maximum Average Class Size for Grades 4 to 8 is expected to decrease to 24.5:1 by the year 2011-12.

Average Class Size - Secondary

22.0 : 1 22.0 : 1

Under the Regulations,

- Under the Regulations, the Maximum Average Class Size for all Secondary School Grades is 21 : 1.

However, school boards may adjust the Maximum Average Class Size up to 22 : 1

- The Board has approved a special motion to increase the Maximum Average Class Size up to 22: 1.

APPENDIX B



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

ANNUAL BUDGET

Analysis of Funding Allocations

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Funding Allocations & Budget Restrictions
Budget Revenue**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments on Major Changes
Education Taxes	45,856,253	46,436,051	(579,798)	
Education Grants	175,303,805	167,154,041	8,149,764	
Total Funding Allocations	221,160,058	213,590,092	7,569,966	For details relating to changes in funding allocations, see page 4
Adult & Cont. Education Other Revenue	3,869,146	3,848,659	20,487	Increase is mainly due to changes in funding allocations and enrolment
Other Capital & Operating Grants	600,000	500,000	100,000	Increase is mainly due to availability of additional funding
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	338,942	624,901	(285,959)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the interest rates and to the elimination of the home internet services
Tuition Fees - Elementary & Secondary	984,890	984,890	-	
Transfer from Reserves	1,753,539	1,908,638	(155,099)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the use of reserve funds required in order to balance the budget
Amount Required To Balance Budget	(0)	0	(0)	
Total Budget Revenue	228,706,574	221,457,180	7,249,394	

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Funding Allocations & Budget Restrictions
Budget Expenditures**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments on Major Changes
Salary & Wages	161,881,254	155,036,050	6,845,204	Increase is mainly due to an increase in the salary grids
Employee Benefits	22,896,592	22,380,846	515,746	Increase is mainly due to changes in the benefit rates
Professional Development	549,768	641,300	(91,532)	Decrease is mainly due to changes in the training of staff
Supplies & Services	18,237,509	18,074,031	163,478	Increase is mainly due to the purchase of additional supplies
Furniture & Equipment	490,827	514,430	(23,603)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of equipment
Classroom Computers	267,281	400,184	(132,903)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of computers
Capital Expenditures	2,782,576	2,463,638	318,938	Increase is mainly due to the completion of additional capital projects
Debt Charges & Interest	8,378,463	8,078,349	300,114	Increase is mainly due to changes in projected repayment of loans
Rentals & Leases	893,486	905,966	(12,480)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the lease of portable classrooms
Fees & Contracts	12,136,331	12,769,898	(633,567)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the cost of transportation and to a reclassification of plant expenditures
Provision for Reserves & Other Expenditures	192,487	192,487	-	
Total Budget Expenditures	228,706,574	221,457,180	7,249,394	

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Funding Allocations & Budget Restrictions
Education Taxes**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments on Major Changes
Share of Taxes for September to December				
38% of Residential & Farm Taxes	6,191,774	6,268,045	(76,271)	
38% of Industrial & Commercial Taxes	11,656,140	11,351,291	304,849	
38% of Payments In Lieu Of Taxes	36,169	39,536	(3,367)	
Subtotal	17,884,083	17,658,871	225,211	
Share of Taxes for January to August				
62% of Residential & Farm Taxes	10,203,392	10,329,078	(125,686)	
62% of Industrial & Commercial Taxes	19,208,091	18,705,732	502,359	
62% of Payments In Lieu Of Taxes	59,012	64,505	(5,493)	
Subtotal	29,470,495	29,099,316	371,179	
Add: Estimated Supplementary Taxes	515,391	1,214,203	(698,812)	
Less: Estimated Tax Write-Offs	1,722,514	1,248,866	473,648	
Total Education Taxes for the School Year	45,856,253	46,436,051	(579,798)	No significant change in this area

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Funding Allocations & Budget Restrictions
Education Grants - Funding Allocations**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments on Major Changes
Foundation Grants				
Elementary - General	60,257,740	59,242,690	1,015,050	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Elementary - School Administration	10,745,652	10,402,758	342,894	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Secondary - General	45,257,568	44,066,366	1,191,202	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Secondary - School Administration	5,217,492	5,037,784	179,708	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Subtotal - Foundation Grants	121,478,452	118,749,597	2,728,855	
Special Purpose Grants				
Primary Class Size	5,075,775	4,837,358	238,417	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Special Education	23,855,427	23,448,165	407,262	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Language - ESL & FSL	3,570,147	3,571,557	(1,410)	Decrease is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Geographic & Small Schools	0	0	-	
Learning Opportunities	2,850,993	2,758,109	92,884	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Adult Education	2,140,687	2,031,889	108,798	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Teacher Compensation	11,873,172	9,348,612	2,524,560	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Transportation	9,736,095	9,639,698	96,397	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Board Administration	6,208,087	6,096,332	111,755	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
School Operations	20,785,074	19,925,888	859,186	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Declining Enrolment	673,992	831,046	(157,054)	Decrease is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Program Enhancement	588,650	588,650	-	
First Nation Supplemental	114,745	112,398	2,347	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Safe Schools	297,733	378,132	(80,399)	Decrease is mainly due to changes in funding allocations
Subtotal - Special Purpose Grants	87,770,578	83,567,833	4,202,744	
Capital Grants				
Facility Renewal	3,568,391	2,860,784	707,607	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Good Places to Learn	2,013,046	1,865,394	147,652	Increase is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
New Pupil Places	5,088,073	5,286,026	(197,953)	Decrease is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Approved Debt Charges	1,207,918	1,260,457	(52,539)	Decrease is mainly due to changes in enrolment & funding allocations
Other Capital Programs	33,600	0	33,600	Increase is mainly due to changes in funding allocations
Subtotal - Capital Grants	11,911,028	11,272,661	638,367	
Total Funding Allocations	221,160,058	213,590,092	7,569,966	

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET

Analysis of Funding Allocations & Budget Restrictions
Funding Lines - Net Revenue & Net Expenditures

	ANNUAL BUDGET 2009-10			REVISED BUDGET 2008-09		
	Net Revenue 2009-10	Net Expenditures 2009-10	Variance 2009-10	Net Revenue 2008-09	Net Expenditures 2008-09	Variance 2008-09
Classroom						
Classroom Teachers	117,122,318	117,380,446	(258,128)	111,858,144	112,161,218	(303,074)
Classroom / Supply Teachers	2,563,459	3,278,456	(714,998)	2,434,478	3,115,285	(680,807)
Educational Assistants	12,600,256	14,098,511	(1,498,255)	12,447,086	12,967,997	(520,910)
Textbooks, Learning Materials & Equip.	6,792,320	6,958,024	(165,704)	7,264,151	7,226,143	38,009
Classroom Computers	1,177,889	1,053,524	124,364	1,529,415	1,208,471	320,944
Professionals & Paraprofessionals	6,339,827	4,949,223	1,390,604	5,915,215	4,949,180	966,035
Library & Guidance	4,568,309	4,715,668	(147,359)	4,367,605	4,563,744	(196,138)
Staff Development	280,500	313,372	(32,872)	361,521	361,503	18
Program Chairs	371,112	364,160	6,952	356,938	363,236	(6,298)
	<u>151,815,989</u>	<u>153,111,384</u>	<u>(1,295,395)</u>	<u>146,534,554</u>	<u>146,916,776</u>	<u>(382,222)</u>
Non-Classroom						
Principals, Vice-Principals	10,363,951	9,385,718	978,234	10,096,309	9,107,269	989,040
School Office Administration	5,828,912	4,803,253	1,025,659	5,586,429	5,063,654	522,775
Coordinators & Consultants	1,654,379	2,144,519	(490,141)	1,627,322	2,069,594	(442,272)
Board Administration	6,290,417	6,969,052	(678,635)	6,177,360	6,782,774	(605,414)
Operations & Maintenance - Schools	20,945,124	19,957,530	987,594	20,247,047	19,852,276	394,771
Continuing Education, Summer School	2,585,287	2,228,427	356,860	2,380,179	2,138,163	242,016
Pupil Transportation	9,764,970	10,692,348	(927,378)	9,668,230	10,582,346	(914,116)
	<u>57,433,040</u>	<u>56,180,847</u>	<u>1,252,193</u>	<u>55,782,876</u>	<u>55,596,076</u>	<u>186,801</u>
Capital & Other						
School Facilities Renewal	3,568,391	2,568,391	1,000,000	2,860,784	1,860,784	1,000,000
Approved Debt & Other Capital Debt Service	3,254,564	3,211,563	43,201	3,125,852	2,930,430	195,422
New Pupil Places	5,088,073	6,088,073	(1,000,000)	5,286,026	6,286,026	(1,000,000)
Provision for Reserves	0	0	-	0	-	-
	<u>11,911,028</u>	<u>11,867,827</u>	<u>43,201</u>	<u>11,272,662</u>	<u>11,077,240</u>	<u>195,422</u>
Total	<u>221,160,058</u>	<u>221,160,058</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>213,590,092</u>	<u>213,590,092</u>	<u>0</u>

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Funding Allocations & Budget Restrictions
Budget Restrictions on Classroom Funding Envelope**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	----- Comments on Major Changes -----
Net Classroom Funding Allocation	<u>151,815,989</u>	<u>146,534,554</u>	
Net Classroom Expenditures	<u>153,111,384</u>	<u>146,916,776</u>	
Total Classroom Funding Allocation less Net Classroom Expenditures	<u>(1,295,395)</u>	<u>(382,222)</u>	
Less: Provision for Reserve for Classroom Exp.	0	0	
Less: Provision for Reserve for Special Ed. Exp.	0	0	
Less: Other	0	0	
Unspent (Overspent) Classroom Funding	<u>(1,295,395)</u>	<u>(382,222)</u>	
Note: Boards can now utilize Unspent Classroom Funding to pay for Non-Classroom Expenditures			
Amount Actually Transferred to the Reserve Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	The Board is in compliance with the regulations

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Funding Allocations & Budget Restrictions
Budget Restrictions on Special Education Funding Envelope**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	----- Comments on Major Changes -----
Special Education Funding Allocation			
SEPPA Grants	12,474,767	11,986,740	
Specialized Equipment Amount	150,000	150,000	
High Needs Amount & Measure of Variability Amount	11,159,057	11,239,822	
Total Funding Allocation For Special Ed.	23,783,824	23,376,562	
Add: Other Special Education Grants	71,603	71,603	
Net Funding Allocation For Special Ed.	23,855,427	23,448,165	
	=====	=====	
Special Education Expenditures			
Total Expenditures relating to Special Education	26,348,795	25,360,675	
Add: Net strike savings attributable to Sp. Ed.	0	0	
Less: Other Revenue Attributable to Sp. Ed.	0	0	
Less: Transfer from Special Ed. Reserve Funds	0	0	
Less: Foundation Grants For Special Ed. Classes Elementary & Secondary Adjustment	26,348,795 (432,793)	25,360,675 (408,983)	
Net Total Expenditures for Special Education	25,916,002	24,951,692	
Unspent (Overspent) Special Ed. Funding	(2,060,575)	(1,503,527)	
Note: Unspent Funding Allocation must be placed in Special Ed. Reserve Fund			
Amount Actually Transferred to the Reserve Fund	0	0	
	=====	=====	

The Board is in compliance with the regulations

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Funding Allocations & Budget Restrictions
Budget Restrictions on Board Administration Funding Envelope**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	
Board Administration Funding Allocation			
Total Funding Allocation for Board Administration	6,290,417	6,177,360	
Add: Additional Funding Allocations	0	0	
Less: Other Adjustments	0	0	
	-----	-----	
	6,290,417	6,177,360	
	=====	=====	

Comments on Major Changes

Board Administration Expenditures

Net Expenditures relating to Board Administration	7,247,591	7,168,733
Add: Net strike savings attributable to Administration	0	0
Less: Transfer from Reserve Funds	(153,539)	0
Less: Other Revenue Attributable to Administration	(125,000)	(385,959)
Less: Other Adjustments	0	0
	-----	-----
	6,969,052	6,782,774
	=====	=====

Unspent (Overspent) Board Admin. Funding

Note: If Funding Allocation is overspent

by more than 15%, then the Board must submit a plan to reduce the expenditures within two years.

Overspending as a percentage of funding allocation	-10.8%	-9.8%
	=====	=====

The Board is in compliance and will have not have to submit a plan to reduce the overexpenditure within two years, because the over-expenditure is less than 15%

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Funding Allocations & Budget Restrictions
Budget Restrictions on Pupil Accommodation Funding Envelope**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	
Pupil Accommodation Funding Allocation			
Grants for Facilities Renewal	3,568,391	2,860,784	
Grants for New Pupil Places	5,088,073	5,286,026	
	<u>8,656,464</u>	<u>8,146,810</u>	
Pupil Accommodation Expenditures			
Expenditures for Facilities Renewal	2,568,391	1,860,784	
Expenditures for New Pupil Places	6,088,073	6,286,026	
	<u>8,656,464</u>	<u>8,146,810</u>	
Less: related transfer from reserves			
Transfer from pupil accommodation reserve fund	0	0	
Amount of transfer from disposition reserve fund	0	0	
Amount of transfer from other reserve funds	0	0	
Other revenue sources	0	0	
	<u>8,656,464</u>	<u>8,146,810</u>	
Unspent (Overspent) Pupil Accom. Funding	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
Note: Unspent Allocation must be placed in Pupil Accommodation Reserve Fund			
Amount Actually Transferred to the Reserve Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	

Comments on Major Changes

The Board is in compliance with the regulations

APPENDIX C



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

ANNUAL BUDGET

Analysis of Expenditures by Department

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Expenditures by Department
Total Board Expenditures**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments on Major Changes
Operating Expenditures				
Board Administration	7,247,592	7,168,733	78,858	See comments on page 2
Elementary Schools	107,949,112	103,547,492	4,401,620	See comments on page 3
Secondary Schools	64,705,647	62,855,816	1,849,830	See comments on page 4
Adult & Continuing Education	6,097,576	5,986,820	110,756	See comments on page 5
Plant Operations	17,536,179	16,963,205	572,974	See comments on page 6
Plant Maintenance	2,610,294	3,078,013	(467,719)	See comments on page 7
Student Transportation	10,692,348	10,779,861	(87,513)	See comments on page 8
Capital & Other Expenditures				
Good Places to Learn	2,003,445	1,669,973	333,472	See comments on page 9
Facilities Renewal	2,568,391	1,860,784	707,607	See comments on page 10
Approved Debt Charges	1,207,918	1,260,457	(52,539)	See comments on page 11
New Pupil Places	6,088,073	6,286,026	(197,953)	See comments on page 12
Provision For Reserves	0	0	0	See comments on page 13
Total Board Expenditures	228,706,574	221,457,180	7,249,394	

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Expenditures by Department
Board Administration Expenditures**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments on Major Changes
Salary & Wages	4,586,088	4,297,719	288,368	Increase is mainly due to increases in the salary grids
Employee Benefits	874,011	831,021	42,990	and additional administration staff Increase is mainly due to changes in the benefit rates
Professional Development	90,000	90,000	0	
Supplies & Services General Administration	137,500	137,500	0	
Business Administration	934,993	1,092,493	(157,500)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of supplies & service
Program Administration	5,000	5,000	0	
Computers	25,000	50,000	(25,000)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of computers
Furniture & Equipment	10,000	10,000	0	
Fees & Contracts	585,000	655,000	(70,000)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in contracts & fees
Total Administration Expenditures	7,247,592	7,168,733	78,858	

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Expenditures by Department
Elementary School Expenditures**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments on Major Changes
Salary & Wages	90,276,460	85,910,027	4,366,433	Increase is mainly due to increases in the salary grids
Employee Benefits	12,448,433	12,043,866	404,567	Increase is mainly due to changes in the benefit rates
Professional Development	305,000	370,000	(65,000)	Decrease is mainly due to changes in the training of staff
Supplies & Services				
School Instruction Budgets	1,641,442	1,665,440	(23,998)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of learning materials
Central Instruction Budgets	1,450,000	1,589,100	(139,100)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of learning materials
Central Other Budgets	720,000	740,623	(20,623)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of learning materials
Computers	763,895	860,278	(96,383)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of computers
Furniture & Equipment	343,882	368,158	(24,276)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of equipment
Fees & Contracts	0	0	0	
Total Elementary School Expenditures	107,949,112	103,547,492	4,401,620	

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET

Analysis of Expenditures by Department
Secondary School Expenditures

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments on Major Changes
Salary & Wages	53,529,335	51,477,336	2,051,999	Increase is mainly due to increases in the salary grids
Employee Benefits	6,783,715	6,743,781	39,933	Increase is mainly due to changes in the benefit rates
Professional Development	120,000	135,000	(15,000)	Decrease is mainly due to changes in the training of staff
Supplies & Services				
School Instruction Budgets	1,677,234	1,677,234	0	
Central Instruction Budgets	1,700,950	1,813,206	(112,256)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of learning materials
Central Other Budgets	339,000	363,000	(24,000)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of learning materials
Computers	371,468	462,987	(91,519)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of learning materials
Furniture & Equipment	111,945	111,272	673	
Fees & Contracts	72,000	72,000	0	
Total Secondary School Expenditures	64,705,647	62,855,816	1,849,830	

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET

Analysis of Expenditures by Department
Adult & Continuing Education Expenditures

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments on Major Changes
Salary & Wages	4,175,956	4,153,980	21,976	Increase is mainly due to increases in the salary grids
Employee Benefits	604,065	596,905	7,160	Increase is mainly due to changes in benefit rates
Professional Development	14,860	15,800	(940)	Decrease is mainly due to changes in the training of staff
Supplies & Services				
School Instruction Budgets	721,695	639,135	82,560	Increase is mainly due to the purchase of additional learning materials
Central Instruction Budgets	550,000	550,000	0	
Central Other Budgets	0	0	0	
Computers	15,000	15,000	0	
Furniture & Equipment	10,000	10,000	0	
Fees & Contracts	6,000	6,000	0	
Total Adult & Cont. Ed. School Exp.	6,097,576	5,986,820	110,756	

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Expenditures by Department
Plant Operations Expenditures**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments on Major Changes
Salary & Wages	8,005,553	7,908,053	97,500	Increase is mainly due to increases in the salary grids
Employee Benefits	1,881,625	1,864,651	16,974	Increase is mainly due to changes in benefit rates
Professional Development	10,000	20,000	(10,000)	Decrease is mainly due to changes in the training of staff
Supplies & Services Utilities	4,700,000	4,650,000	50,000	Increase is mainly due to increases in the cost of utilities
Cleaning & Operating	1,217,500	785,500	432,000	Increase is mainly due to the reallocation of supplies & services from the Plant Maintenance Department
Sites & Grounds Maintenance	1,135,000	1,025,000	110,000	Increase is mainly due to increases in the cost of site maintenance
Computers	1,500	40,000	(38,500)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of computers
Furniture & Equipment	70,000	155,000	(85,000)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of equipment
Fees & Contracts	515,000	515,000	0	
Total Plant Operations Expenditures	17,536,179	16,963,205	572,974	

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET

Analysis of Expenditures by Department
Plant Maintenance Expenditures

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments on Major Changes
Salary & Wages	1,075,075	1,064,688	10,387	Increase is mainly due to increases in the salary grids
Employee Benefits	255,219	251,326	3,893	Increase is mainly due to changes in benefit rates
Professional Development	7,500	7,500	0	
Supplies & Services Department Operation	196,000	196,000	0	
Mechanical & Electrical	545,000	545,000	0	
Building Maintenance	450,000	500,000	(50,000)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the cost of maintenance projects
Computers	1,500	8,500	(7,000)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of computers
Furniture & Equipment	30,000	30,000	0	
Fees & Contracts	50,000	475,000	(425,000)	Decrease is mainly due to the reallocation of plant fees & contracts to the Plant Operations Department
Total Plant Maintenance Expenditures	2,610,294	3,078,013	(467,719)	

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Expenditures by Department
Student Transportation Expenditures**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments on Major Changes
Salary & Wages	232,686	224,149	8,537	Increase is mainly due to increases in the salary grids
Employee Benefits	49,624	49,395	229	Increase is mainly due to changes in benefit rates
Professional Development	2,408	3,000	(592)	Decrease is mainly due to changes in the training of staff
Supplies & Services	56,195	39,800	16,395	Increase is mainly due to the purchase of additional supplies & services
Computers	11,185	14,700	(3,515)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the purchase of computers
Furniture & Equipment	0	0	0	
Fees & Contracts				
Bus Transportation	8,978,235	9,123,817	(145,582)	Decrease is mainly due to changes in the transportation routes and fuel cost
Taxi & Minivan	512,015	475,000	37,015	Increase is mainly due to changes in the transportation by taxi and minivan
Other Transportation	850,000	850,000	0	
Total Student Transportation Exp.	10,692,348	10,779,861	(87,513)	

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Expenditures by Department
Facility Renewal Expenditures**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	
				Comments on Major Changes

The Facility Renewal Expenditures include the following projects:				
Functional Improvement of Schools				
Replacement of Roofs				
Replacement of Windows				
Electrical & Wiring				
Heating & Ventilation				
Improved Accessibility				
Environmental & Remediation				
Pavement & Grounds				
Engineering Studies & Investigations & Building Condition Management				
Other Projects				
	2,568,391	1,860,784	707,607	Increase is mainly due to the availability of additional funding
Other Upgrading Projects	0	0	0	
Total Facility Renewal Expenditures	2,568,391	1,860,784	707,607	

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Expenditures by Department
Approved Capital & Debt Charges Expenditures**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments on Major Changes
Approved Capital Expenditures				
Improved Accessibility Expenditures	0	0	0	
Approved Debt Charges Expenditures				
Under the New Funding Model, the Board will receive grants to support the payment of principal and interest payable on Debentures and Capital Loans Outstanding on May 18, 1998				
Principal Payments	612,000	612,000	0	
Interest Payments	478,431	530,970	(52,539)	
	1,090,431	1,142,970	(52,539)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the principal of the capital loans
Total Approved Debt Charges	1,207,918	1,260,457	(52,539)	

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Expenditures by Department
New Pupil Places Expenditures**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	
Debt Charges on 25 year Capital Loans				
During the year the Board will incur costs relating to principal and interest payments on debentures and capital loans established to support the construction of new schools, additions and renovation:	5,284,587	5,470,060	(185,473)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the funding of capital loans
Furniture & Equipment & Leases				
During the year the Board will incur costs to purchase new Furniture & Equipment and to lease portable classrooms	803,486	815,966	(12,480)	Decrease is mainly due to a reduction in the lease of portable classrooms
Total New Pupil Places Expenditures	6,088,073	6,286,026	(197,953)	

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2009-10 ANNUAL BUDGET**

**Analysis of Expenditures by Department
Provision for Reserves**

	Annual Budget 2009-10	Revised Budget 2008-09	Increase (Decrease)	Comments on Major Changes
Reserve for Working Funds	0	0	0	
Reserve for Special Education	0	0	0	
Reserve for Pupil Accommodation	0	0	0	
Reserve for Classroom Expenditures	0	0	0	
Reserve for Ed. Dev. Charges	0	0	0	
Reserve for Strike Savings	0	0	0	
Reserve for Other Non-Capital Exp.	0	0	0	
Reserve for Proceeds of Disposition	0	0	0	
Reserve for Improved Access	0	0	0	
Total Provision for Reserves	0	0	0	

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: IMPLICATIONS OF A PHASED-IN BAN
ON THE SALE OF BOTTLED WATER**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve that Administrative Council be provided with additional time to collect further data and information to address implications of a phased-in ban on the sale of bottled water in Niagara Catholic. A consultation process with community stakeholders and partners is recommended, with information shared in a future report during the 2009-2010 school year.

Prepared by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
Robert DiPersio, Administrator of Special Projects

Presented by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
Robert DiPersio, Administrator of Special Projects

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: May 26, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MAY 12, 2009

IMPLICATIONS OF A PHASED-IN BAN ON THE SALE OF BOTTLED WATER

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At the October 28th, 2008, meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Board approved the following Notice of Motion;

Moved by Trustee Fera

WHEREBY the use of bottled water is becoming a public issue and whereas a number of municipalities are studying banning bottled water,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Niagara Catholic District School Board direct staff to report the implications of a phased-in ban on the sale of bottled water in all schools in the jurisdiction of the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

Carried

Recently, there has been widespread provincial and national publicity over the banning of the sale and distribution of bottled water by local and regional governments and school boards. The debate on the continued sale of bottled water centres on several reasons that include:

- Environmental Impact
- Water Safety Standards/Health
- Water as a commodity

Literature Review

The following section of the report provides information from selected literature sources regarding the topic of bottled water.

Environmental Impact

The production of bottled water can have a significant impact on the environment. The single-use plastic water bottles, also known as PET (Polyethylene-terphtalate), are produced from petroleum. According to the Polaris Institute, a leading proponent in the banning of single-use plastic water bottles, the United States consumes 31.2 billion litres of bottled water and it takes over 17 million barrels of crude oil to produce them. This figure translates to approximately one litre of crude oil to produce 12 litres of bottled water (*From Cradle to Grave, Inside the Bottle*).

The November 18, 2008 report, *Safe Water Program – Bottled Water*, from the Niagara Public Health, states that the City of London, Ontario banned the sale of bottled water at all city-run facilities. City officials in London had emphasized that “the production of bottled water generated up to 150 times more greenhouse gases than the collection, processing, and distribution of a comparable quantity of municipal tap water.”

With single-use water bottles, the empty bottles end up in either a recycling program or in landfill/waste program. In the Niagara Region, 80% of plastic bottles make their way into the recycling program. Taking this figure into account, it still remains that 20% of single-use plastic water bottles end up in the residual waste stream (i.e. landfill and incineration). The financial costs of plastic bottles that are landfilled or become

street litter are fully borne by the Niagara tax payer. (*Plastic Water Bottle Update, City of Niagara Falls, February 23, 2009*). There have been estimates that it may take up to 1000 years for plastic bottles to breakdown.

Aramark, the current food services vendor in our Board's school cafeterias, provides the following information in its *Bottled Water in Foodservices* literature. PET plastic water bottles (the preferred packaging choice for bottled water and other beverages) are 100% recyclable. PET bottles do not contain Bisphenol A, and are the most recycled plastic worldwide. Behind newspapers and aluminum, plastic bottles are the third most recycled product in Canada. Recycled plastic can be used to make playground equipment, shoes, luggage, automobile parts, carpeting, fleece clothing, sleeping bags and other plastic containers, and more. (*Stewardship Ontario, 2007*) Recycling plastic bottles into new products saves 50% to 60% of the energy that would be required to make the same product from raw materials. ([The Benefits of Plastic Bottles, Environment and Plastics Industry Council](#))

According to information posted on the *Canadian Bottled Water Association* website, "plastic food and beverage containers, including polycarbonate plastic made with Bisphenol A are below the levels set by Health Canada. Bisphenol A is not an ingredient used in making PET plastic. The typical water bottles sizes ranging from 250ml to 1.5L are made with PET and can be identified with a recycling number 1 on the bottom of the bottle." (www.cbwa.ca, *Frequently asked questions*)

Nestle Waters Canada, Canada's largest manufacturer and distributor of bottled water, and conducts commerce in our community, provides the following information in its *In the Know* publication. Commercial bottled water production in Ontario accounts for less than 0.00014% of all water used by other permitted users including commercial, agricultural, industrial and recreational. (*Ontario Ministry of the Environment, 2007*) Bottled water containers, generally, use less plastic than carbonated soft drinks or other plastic beverage containers. To produce its brand of bottled water, Nestle Waters Canada uses only 1.5 litres of water to produce 1 litre of bottled water. Other products, such as a slice of brown bread, a can of fruit or vegetables, a kilogram of paper, a new car, and a ton of steel require significantly more water in the manufacturing process. (*Environment Canada, Freshwater Website: Did you know?*)

Water Safety Standards/Health

The November 18, 2008 report, *Safe Water Program – Bottled Water*, from the Niagara Public Health contains the following information regarding tap water and bottled water.

- "Niagara Region provides a reliable supply of safe, high-quality, drinking water through the operation of six water treatment plants. The quality of municipal water in Niagara Region is assured through rigorous sampling and testing as prescribed under the Safe Drinking Water Act and its regulations."
- "Bottled water in Canada is treated as food and therefore is regulated under the Food and Drug Act and regulations made thereunder. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is responsible for the inspection of domestic and foreign bottled water products sold in Canada to ensure that they meet the requirements of the Food and Drug Regulations."
- "While hydrating beverages include milk, juice, soft drinks, etc., Canada's Food Guide features encouragement to "drink water regularly" as "it's a calorie-free way to quench your thirst."

Correspondence sent from Nestle Waters Canada to the Niagara Catholic District School Board provides the following points of information.

- "Bottled water is proving to be particularly helpful in a time when the incidence of obesity and diabetes are on a significant increase amongst young Canadians born after 2000. More than 60 percent of Canadians consume bottled water each and every day because it is a portable, accessible and healthy choice. They are not choosing bottled water over municipal tap water. They are choosing bottled water over unhealthy alternatives. Not one of those other products offers the health benefits to Niagara school children that bottled water does."

Aramark's *Bottled Water in Foodservices* literature provides the following points of information.

- “Removing bottled water as a choice can often have unwanted impacts, such as diverting consumers to purchase pop and juice products with added sugars and artificial sweeteners, rather than hydrating to the nearest fountain or refilling a reusable bottle at a tap.”
- “According to a May 2008 study by independent Canadian research firm Probe Research Inc., about 70% of Canadians said if bottled water wasn't available, they'd consume less healthy alternatives, primarily pop.”

Niagara Catholic District School Board – Plant Procedures

The Niagara Catholic District School Board Plant Operation procedures comply with Ontario Regulation 243/07 – Schools, Private Schools and Day Nurseries, which require all school, private school and day nurseries in Ontario to perform regular flushing of the plumbing. Routine flushing also ensures that adequate chlorine residuals levels are also maintained in the water lines. For elementary, secondary, adult and continuing education centres, administration facilities, day cares and Ontario Early Year Centres, every morning prior to the commencement of the school/work day, the caretaker and/or designate will ensure that the following steps are completed in order.

STEPS

1. The cold water must be turned on for at least 10 minutes at the last tap on each branch or each run of pipe in the plumbing.
2. After completing Step 1, the cold water must be turned on for at least 10 seconds at every drinking water fountain and every tap that is commonly used to provide water for human consumption.
3. If a tap or drinking water fountain that is turned on has an aerator, the aerator must not be removed.
4. A record is made (log sheets provided) of the date and time of every flushing, and the name of the person who performed the flushing (records must be kept for 6 years).

Water as a commodity

According to the website “Inside the Bottle” (A Polaris Institute Campaign), the bottled water industry is a \$50-billion industry worldwide and approximately 20% of Canadians use bottled water. Almost 1.5 billion litres of bottles water were produced for Canadians in 2003, the latest figure available, compared to 820 million in 2000. (www.insidethebottle.org)

Statistics Canada claims that this percentage is even higher in a June 2008 report that suggests approximately three out of every ten households consumed bottled water in 2006. This report went on to state that the use of bottled water increased with increasing income level. Thirty three percent of the highest income group used bottled water. However, twenty five percent of those who had a university education used bottled water. (*Statistics Canada, June 2008*)

The November 18, 2008 report, *Safe Water Program – Bottled Water*, from the Niagara Public Health states that “bottled water is expensive in comparison with tap water”.

Correspondence sent from Nestle Waters Canada to the Niagara Catholic District School Board states that “bottled water makes up about 40 percent of all beverages sold in plastic containers in Niagara.”

Aramark's *Bottled Water in Foodservices* literature states that “63% of Canadians say that they are trying to increase their water consumption as part of a healthy lifestyle. Over 90% of the movement to bottled water has been due to a shift from other beverages – primarily soft drinks, tea and milk.” “Currently, bottled water typically ranks in the “top ten” most purchased products within foodservices.”

Catholic Social Teachings

Social teachings promote water accessibility as a fundamental, life-sustaining resource for all persons. In his message marking U.N. World Water Day 2007, Pope Benedict XVI called water an “inalienable right”. “A message sent on behalf of the Pope by Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican Secretary of State, recalls that there is a “shared responsibility” in managing this precious resource, “enabling access by all, especially those living in conditions of poverty.” “We are all called to modify our way of life in an educational effort capable of returning the worth and respect merited by this common resource for humanity.” (ZENTIT.org, Vatican City, March 22, 2007)

The Catholic New Times, November 6, 2005 article, *Water is not for profit*, states the following information.

- “The value of the world's freshwater to the common good should take priority over any possible commercial value, said the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (D&P) and KAIROS Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives.”
- The Water: Life Before Profit is a “joint project [that] supports global communities' right to protect local water resources from multi-national companies. Their work includes education, advocacy and fund-raising work in Canada and abroad.”
- ““Water is the most important element of life. Because it's necessary for survival, everyone on Earth should have access to it,” said Danny Gillis, D&P's national education co-ordinator. “Although it should be a right, it’s defined as an economic good instead.””
- “D&P's regional animator, Siobhan Rowan, maintained that water is a “shared legacy” and not a commodity: “Water is a sacred gift, and therefore, all people irrespective of their income and ability to pay should be able to have it,” she said.”

Municipal and School Districts Bans

The following is an excerpt from a memorandum from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario to City Clerks and Councils of Ontario Municipalities (*Municipal Action on Bottled Water, AMO Memo February 2009*):

Municipal councils across Canada, including 13 Ontario municipalities have taken action in recent months to limit the use of bottled water in municipal facilities, where appropriate, and to support the use of municipal tap water by residents and visitors. AMO understands that a number of other Ontario municipalities are also considering such initiatives.

Ontario councils taking action in this area include the cities of Sault Ste. Marie, London, Windsor, the Regional Municipality of Waterloo and the Town of Blue Mountains, amongst others. Across Canada, other municipalities such as St. John’s, Newfoundland, Charlottetown, PEI, Altona, Manitoba, Toronto and the Region of Metro Vancouver have also taken action.

In some cases these actions have been supported through public education to increase awareness of the safety of municipal tap water.

Known municipalities that have imposed a ban on bottled water at city-run facilities include London Ontario, Niagara Falls Ontario, The Region of Waterloo (Waterloo, Cambridge and Kitchener), Nelson British Columbia and St. John’s Newfoundland. Municipal water use could potentially increase with a reduction in the sale of bottled water.

School boards that have imposed a ban on bottled water include the following:

- Waterloo Region District School Board – Board staff to prepare “a report on how to eliminate sales of bottled water in its schools and buildings by September 2009.” (www.thestar.com – *Board bans sale of bottled water at its schools*)

- Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board – Board staff “to develop a strategy to eliminate the purchase and sale of bottled water in all administration buildings and elementary schools by September 2009 and in secondary schools by September 2010.” (www.hwdsb.on.ca – Media Release – *Trustees Vote to Ban the Sale of Bottled Water in Schools*)

Implications of a Ban on the Sale of Bottled Water

Through survey, discussion and information from staff in our elementary and secondary schools, Catholic Education Centre staff, cafeteria and cold drink vendors, the following implications surfaced regarding the Board Notice of Motion. This is by no means an exhaustive list, but it does highlight areas for consideration.

- 1) *Nutrition Policy expectations and Purchasing Behaviour of Buyers*
The Niagara Catholic District School Board Nutrition Policy, No. 302.7, outlines the following Administrative Guideline regarding ***Beverage and Food Vending Machines in our Schools***: Elementary, Secondary Schools and other Board sites where students are educated (i.e. Continuing Education, S.C.O.E.P.) shall offer only 100% fruit or vegetable juice, water or milk (white or flavoured, 2% MF or less). Though water is not considered a moderate or maximum value food group, it is widely accepted as an important hydration substance for overall health and its life-sustaining qualities, and is calorie-free. Potential exists that students may switch from purchasing water to purchasing beverages with a higher caloric value or higher sugar content.
- 2) *Nutrition Policy Implementation*
As per the Niagara Catholic District School Board Nutrition Policy No. 302.7:
“Beginning September 2008, staff will implement procedures which will diminish the availability of minimum value food and drinks, with the final elimination being achieved by September 2009. This policy applies to Elementary Schools, Secondary Schools and other Board sites where students of all ages are educated.”
The implementation of the Nutrition Policy in itself may have an impact on the financial model of service delivery from cafeteria and cold drink vendors. Banning the sale of bottled water has the potential for additional stress on the financial model for vendors.
- 3) *Impact on fundraising opportunities that target social justice projects.*
Schools raise funds for the “Wells of Hope” to support social justice projects. “Wells of Hope Bottled Water” is a line of bottled water sold in some of our schools. Profits from this fundraiser finance new water wells in Guatemala.
- 4) *Potential loss of revenue from cafeteria and vending machine sales.*
Bottled water is a popular beverage choice. Bottled water is also less expensive than the alternatives currently provided, e.g. milk, juice, soft drinks, coffee. Removing bottled water as an option will have an impact on the vendor’s financial model if its sales are not replaced. This potential loss of revenue translates to a potential loss of revenue for schools. Potential exists for students purchasing an item off school property due to its unavailability at the school. Schools use revenue received from cafeteria and vending machine sales to supplement many school related activities, particularly student-focused co-curricular activities and the resources to support them.
- 5) *Changes to contractual agreements with commercial vendors.*
Vendors may require some leeway to implement proposed changes to product offerings. Vendors interested in providing cold drink beverages for schools within the Board are required to go through an RFP process. If a ban is placed on the sale of bottled water products, provisions in the successful Vendor contract will need to be considered to provide the Vendor with a reasonable timeline to comply.
- 6) *Packaging of alternative beverages.*
Water is not the only beverage that is packaged in disposable polyethylene terephthalate (PET) plastic containers. If environmental impact is a concern, i.e. manufacturing process and waste disposal, then other beverages packaged in plastic drinking bottles should also be considered in a ban.
- 7) *Sanitation concerns of current water fountains/stations in schools.*
Does the design of current water fountains/stations lead to the potential of unsanitary conditions for water consumption?

- 8) *Availability of appropriate number of water fountains or filling stations to handle the demand of a self-service model of refillable containers.*
Currently, water fountains in schools are not equipped to dispense water easily into refillable containers. Options to address this problem include retrofitting current water fountains with longer spigots or installing “Hydration Stations”, a “touch-free hygienic design” that dispenses filtered water. Additional costs would be incurred to provide these dispensing alternatives. The supply of containers is also a consideration.
- 9) *Emergency Preparedness.*
Emergency situations occur when water is not available to Board sites due to water main breaks or hydro outages. In short term situations, students and staff may be in need of potable water. Bottled water provides an alternative supply when the main source is unavailable.
- 10) *Impact on Community Use of Facilities permits.*
Will outside groups who use our facilities be held to the same standard with regard to the sale of bottled water?
- 11) *Promoting an environmentally preferable alternative.*
Promoting the hydration alternative of drinking municipal tap water from refillable containers supports our Board’s Eco-Schools initiatives to reduce our environmental footprint. This alternative provides the opportunity to reduce the use of disposable containers to lessen the environmental impact that results in the manufacturing, production and recycling/waste management of plastic water bottles. The Ministry of Children and Youth Services, *Student Nutrition Program Guidelines* encourages providers to have “tap water always available” when preparing snacks and meals. The Guidelines also encourage providers to “be environmentally conscious”, i.e. “provide tap water at all times, purchase and use reusable dishes and utensils when possible and minimize waste from food, food packaging and disposable dishes and utensils”.
- 12) *The commoditization of water.*
Access to potable water is considered a universal human right. As a Catholic school district, we continue to encourage our students, staff and communities to be aware of social justice issues in our own communities and around the world. The commercialization of water, an essential component to human survival, questions if the sale of water aligns with our social teachings.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Niagara Catholic District School Board that Administrative Council be provided with additional time to collect further data and information to address implications of a phased-in ban on the sale of bottled water in Niagara Catholic. A consultation process with community stakeholders and partners is recommended, with information shared in a future report during the 2009-2010 school year.

Prepared by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
Robert DiPersio, Administrator of Special Projects

Presented by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
Robert DiPersio, Administrator of Special Projects

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: May 12, 2009

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: FINANCIAL REPORTS
MONTHLY BANKING TRANSACTIONS
APRIL 2009**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the report on the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of April 2009, as presented for information.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: May 26, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MAY 12, 2009**

**MONTHLY BANKING TRANSACTIONS
FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2009**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In accordance with the Monthly Financial Reports Policy Statement, we are pleased to enclose the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of April, 2009 for the Niagara Catholic District School Board. (See Appendix A)

As required by the Policy, a monthly list of payments is available in the Trustee Lounge for the trustees to review at their convenience.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Report on the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of April, 2009 as presented.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: May 12, 2009

Appendix A

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD REPORT ON BANKING TRANSACTIONS	
SUMMARY OF BANK TRANSACTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF:	APRIL, 2009
DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS	BANK ACCOUNT
CASH BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF MONTH	(A) 44,402,005
OPERATING CASH RECEIPTS FOR THE MONTH	14,628,331
1. GENERAL LEGISLATIVE GRANTS	139,298
2. OTHER GRANTS (EPO, O.E.Y.C.)	17,291
3. INTEREST REVENUE	0
4. MUNICIPAL TAXES	31,100
5. TUITION FEES REVENUE - A.C.E. & OTHER	7,690
6. CHARITABLE DONATIONS	0
7. GOVERNMENT REBATES (GST 68% REBATE ON TAXABLE PURCHASES)	277,376
8. RECOVERY OF COSTS (LTD, WCB, BENEFITS, OTHER REIMBURSEMENTS)	0
9. OTHER CASH RECEIPTS	14,631
- Reimbursements of Employee Benefits	0
- Green Shield Refund	0
10. PROCEEDS FROM DEBENTURE ISSUE (NET)	0
11. CAPITAL LOAN PRINCIPAL ADVANCES	0
TOTAL OPERATING CASH RECEIPTS AND LOAN ADVANCE	(B) 15,115,717
OPERATING CASH DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE MONTH	(17,864,544)
1. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (NET OF CANCELLED CHEQUES AND DEBT REPAYMENTS)	(1,387,705)
2. TEACHER PENSION DEDUCTIONS	(315,112)
3. O.M.E.R.S. PENSION DEDUCTIONS	(148,017)
4. CANADA SAVINGS BONDS DEDUCTIONS	(64,933)
5. TRANSFER TO 4 OVER 5 TRUST ACCOUNTS	(35,826)
6. OTHER DEBITS	(1,039,522)
7. INTEREST PAYMENTS ON CAPITAL DEBT	(299,136)
8. PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS ON CAPITAL DEBT	0
TOTAL OPERATING CASH DISBURSEMENTS	(C) (21,154,796)
CASH BALANCE AT END OF MONTH	(D) 38,362,926
	A + B - C = D

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD REPORT ON LOAN BALANCES				
SUMMARY OF LOAN BALANCES AS AT : APRIL, 2009				
The Debentures & Capital Loans are made up as follows:				
Loan Description	Opening Balance	Loan Advances	Loan Repayments	Ending Balance
1. GPL1 Loan 25 YR.	(13,366,968.34)			(13,366,968.34)
2. GPL2 Loan 25 YR.	(10,241,490.45)			(10,241,490.45)
3. Capital Loan 20 YR.	(4,683,110.00)			(4,683,110.00)
4. Capital Loan 25 YR.	0.00			0.00
5. Debenture (Niagara Region)	0.00			0.00
6. Debenture (Niagara Region)	(2,373,000.00)			(2,373,000.00)
7. Capital Projects - Completed 2001	(3,910,000.00)			(3,910,000.00)
8. Capital Projects - Completed 2002/03	(21,421,419.59)		232,572.60	(21,188,846.99)
9. Capital Projects - Completed 2004/05	(22,632,733.02)			(22,632,733.02)
10. Capital Projects - Completed 2005/06	(9,151,289.65)		66,563.67	(9,084,725.98)
11. Capital Projects - Completed 2005/06	(8,284,057.99)			(8,284,057.99)
Total Debentures & Capital Loans	(96,064,069.04)	0.00	299,136.27	(95,764,932.77)

PREPARED BY: William Turnath
PRESENTED BY: Larry Reich

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: FINANCIAL REPORTS
STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
APRIL 30, 2009**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at April 30, 2009, as presented for information.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: May 26, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MAY 12, 2009**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
AS AT APRIL 30, 2009**

In accordance with the Monthly Financial Reports Policy Statement, we are pleased to enclose the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at April 30, 2009 for the Niagara Catholic District School Board. (See Appendix A)

As required by the Policy, a copy of the Financial Statements is available in the Trustee Lounge for the trustees to review at their convenience.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Report on the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at April 30, 2009 as presented.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: May 12, 2009

Appendix A

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
AS AT APRIL 30, 2009**

ACCOUNT DISCRIPTION	THIS YEAR					LAST YEAR		
	<u>EXPENDED</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>% AVAIL</u>	<u>\$ AVAIL</u>	<u>COMMITTED</u>	<u>EXPENDED</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>% AVAIL</u>
REVENUE								
REVENUE	-152,226,087	-221,457,181	31.3%	-69,231,094	0	-148,568,051	-212,646,964	30.1%
TOTAL REVENUE	-152,226,087	-221,457,181	31.3%	-69,231,094	0	-148,568,051	-212,646,964	30.1%
EXPENDITURES								
BOARD ADMINISTRATION	4,900,423	7,168,736	31.6%	2,268,313	251,941	4,501,657	6,606,215	31.9%
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	72,040,267	103,557,494	30.4%	31,517,227	232,661	63,140,631	97,928,567	35.5%
SECONDARY SCHOOLS	43,116,687	62,845,816	31.4%	19,729,129	272,669	38,272,518	58,818,923	34.9%
CONTINUING EDUCATION	3,551,781	5,986,817	40.7%	2,435,036	44,526	3,273,607	5,362,378	39.0%
PLANT OPERATIONS	11,335,754	16,683,203	32.1%	5,347,449	159,733	11,277,496	16,408,479	31.3%
PLANT MAINTENANCE	2,202,522	3,358,014	34.4%	1,155,492	51,512	2,185,204	3,034,096	28.0%
TRANSPORTATION	7,425,388	10,779,861	31.1%	3,354,473	3	5,783,297	9,177,427	37.0%
CAPITAL AND OTHER EXPENDITURES	6,214,664	11,077,240	43.9%	4,862,576	177,877	9,368,063	15,310,879	38.8%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	150,787,486	221,457,181	31.9%	70,669,695	1,190,922	137,802,473	212,646,964	35.2%

PREPARED BY : William Tumath
Finance Department

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF MAY 26, 2009**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 26, 2009, as presented.

The following recommendations are being presented for the Board's consideration from the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 26, 2009.

**3.1 *Cardinal Newman Elementary School Addition And Alterations
Award Of Construction Contract***

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the award of a construction contract for the addition and alterations to Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School to Kenmore Management Inc.

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School approve the project budget of \$3,047,460 funded from the source as presented, for the addition and alterations to Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2009

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, May 26, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Vice-Chairperson Fera.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Belcastro.

2. Roll Call

Trustee	Present	Excused
John Belcastro	✓	
Kathy Burtnik	✓	
Maurice Charbonneau	✓	
Gary Crole	✓	
John Dekker	✓	
Frank Fera	✓	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓	
Tony Scalzi	✓	
Student Trustees		
Ashley McGuire	✓	
Christina Volpini		✓

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Rob Ciarlo**, **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, Superintendents of Education; **Larry Reich**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Board Services and Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Belcastro

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 26, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Interest

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

B. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

**1. Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School
Addition and Alterations - Award of Construction Contract**

Director Crocco presented the Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School Addition and Alterations - Award of Construction Contract.

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the award of a construction contract for the addition and alterations to Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School to Kenmore Management Inc.

CARRIED

Moved by Trustee Scalzi

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the project budget of \$3,047,460 funded from the source as presented, for the addition and alterations to Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School.

CARRIED

C. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Crole

THAT the May 26, 2009 Special Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **May 26, 2009**.

Approved on the **16th** day of **June 2009**.

Frank Fera
Vice-Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: CARDINAL NEWMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ADDITION AND ALTERATIONS
AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the award of a construction contract for the addition and alterations to Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School to Kenmore Management Inc.

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School approve the project budget of \$3,047,460 funded from the source as presented, for the addition and alterations to Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School.

Prepared by: James Woods, Controller of Plant
Presented by: James Woods, Controller of Plant
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: May 26, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MAY 26, 2009

CARDINAL NEWMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ADDITION AND ALTERATIONS - AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Tenders were opened on Thursday May 14, 2009 for the Addition and Alterations to Cardinal Newman Elementary School, as per the drawings and specifications prepared by Venerino V. P. Panici Architect Inc., and reviewed at the Committee of the Whole meeting of April 14, 2009. The results of the tender were as follows:

Contractor	Bid Price
1. Kenmore Management Inc.	\$2,529,000
2. Aldor Builders	\$2,546,800
3. Brouwer Construction (1981) Ltd.	\$2,570,700
4. T. R. Hinan Contractors	\$2,587,000
5. Merit Contractors Niagara	\$2,631,000
6. Reid & Deleye Contractors Ltd.	\$2,697,957
7. Charter Building Company	Disqualified
8. Martin-Stewart Contracting Ltd.	Declined

TOTAL PROJECT COST

The Architects have analyzed the bids and have recommended the award of a construction contract to Kenmore Management Inc. (Appendix A). Given the indicated Contract Price of \$2,518,460, including identified credits and applicable taxes, the total project cost would be calculated as follows:

Construction Contract	\$ 2,518,460
Consultant Fees	\$ 300,000
Disbursements	\$ 30,000
Inspection and Testing	\$ 8,000
Permits	\$ 20,000
CATV	\$ 7,000
Data Cabling	\$ 22,000
Security & Surveillance	\$ 20,000
Telephone and PA	\$ 10,000
Furniture	\$ 50,000
Moving	\$ 2,000
Contingency	\$ 60,000
	<u>\$ 3,047,460</u>

FUNDING

Funding for the project would be from the following sources:

Primary Class Size (5 classrooms)	\$ 1,796,485
Reserve for Working Funds	\$ 60,000
Facilities Renewal	\$ 800,000
Good Places to Learn	\$ 390,975
	<u>\$ 3,047,460</u>

The Committee of the Whole will receive updates on Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School as part of the Monthly Capital Projects Progress Report.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the award of a construction contract for the addition and alterations to Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School to Kenmore Management Inc.

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School approve the project budget of \$3,047,460 funded from the source as presented, for the addition and alterations to Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School.

Prepared by: James Woods, Controller of Plant
 Presented by: James Woods, Controller of Plant
 Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
 Date: May 26, 2009

ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix A: Tender Analysis and Recommendation, May 19, 2009
 Venerino V. P. Panici Architect Inc.



VENERINO V.P. PANICI
ARCHITECT
I N C

Venerino V.P. Panici Architect Inc.

146 James Street, P.O. Box 386
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 6T7
Tel. (905) 688-6087
Fax. (905) 688-1778

May 19, 2009

Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road
Welland, ON L3C 7C1

Attention: Mr. James Woods,
Controller of Plant Services

Re: Tender Analysis, Project Costs Summary for the Tender of
The Addition and Alterations of the Cardinal Newman
Catholic Elementary School, Niagara Falls
8120 Beaverdams Road, Niagara Falls, Ontario

Dear Mr. Woods,

The following is a summary of the tendering for the Addition and Alterations of The Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School.

1. Eight General Contractors, Eight Mechanical SubContractors, Nine Electrical Sub Contractors and Five Masonry SubContractors were Prequalified by the Niagara Catholic District School Board.
2. Eight Prequalified General Contractors picked-up drawings and specifications from the office of the Architect.
3. Drawings and Specifications were on display at the Hamilton, Niagara Construction Associations for sub-trade take-off.
4. A mandatory pre-tender site meeting was held April 28, 2009 at 3:30 pm at the School. Seven of the eight prequalified General Contractors attended along with a number of Mechanical and Electrical Sub-Contractors. The urgency of organization and construction timing was stressed.
5. The Tenders closed May 14, 2009 at 3:00 pm and were opened at 3:15 pm at the Board office.
6. The following are the tenders received from the low to the high, base bid only and excluding G.S.T.
 - i) Kenmore Management Inc. \$ 2,529,000.00
 - ii) Aldor Builders \$ 2,546,800.00



Niagara Catholic District School Board
Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School

May 19, 2009
Page 2 of 2

iii)	Brouwer Construction (1981) Ltd.	\$ 2,570,700.00
iv)	T. R. Hinan Contractors	\$ 2,587,000.00
v)	Merit Contractors Niagara	\$ 2,631,000.00
vi)	Reid & Deleye Contractors Ltd.	\$ 2,697,957.20
vii)	Charter Building Company	Did Not Close
viii)	Martin-Stewart Contracting Ltd.	Formally Declined to Bid (May 04, 2009)

The attached Tender Information Form, Summary of Construction costs factoring in the separate price and the Voluntary Alternate.

We recommend the award of this contract to Kenmore Management Inc. of St. Catharines. The Contract amount to be subject to the Separate Price and the Voluntary Alternate as selected by the Board.

This office has worked with Kenmore Management Inc. on Institutional, and Commercial work for the District School Board of Niagara and the Region, and have found them to be professional, organized and co-operative, both in the office and field, bringing the projects to a successful completions.

Yours very truly,

Venerino V.P. Panici, Architect
VENERINO V. P. PANICI ARCHITECT INC

VVPP/bbb/jr

Enclosure



VENERINO V.P. PANIC
ARCHITECT

Venerino V.P. Panic Architect Inc.
146 James Street, P.O. Box 386
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 6T7
Tel: (905) 488-6087
Fax: (905) 488-1778

TENDER INFORMATION FORM

Addition and Alterations to
Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School
for the



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

May 19, 2009

CONTRACTOR	BID BOND	AGREEMENT TO BOND	APPENDIX 'A'	APPENDIX 'B'	APPENDIX 'C'	APPENDIX 'D'	APPENDIX 'E'	STIPULATED PRICE	G.S.T.
Aldor Builders	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 2,546,800.00	\$ 127,340.00
Brouwer Construction (1981) Ltd.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 2,570,700.00	\$ 128,535.00
Kenmore Management Inc.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 2,529,000.00	\$ 126,450.00
Merit Contractors Niagara	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 2,631,000.00	\$ 131,550.00
Reid & Deleye	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 2,697,957.20	\$ 134,897.86
T.R. Hinan Contractors	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$ 2,587,000.00	\$ 129,350.00
Charter Building Company									
Not Closing									
Martin-Stewart Contracting Ltd.									
Formally Declined to Bid (May 04/09)									



CARDINAL NEWMAN CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SUMMARY OF CONSTRUCTION COSTS

Showing Voluntary Alternate and Separate Price

	KENMORE MANAGEMENT INC.	ALDOR BUILDERS	BROUWER CONSTRUCTION (1981) LTD.	T. R. HINAN CONTRACTORS	MERIT CONTRACTORS NIAGARA	REID & DELEYE CONTRACTORS LTD.
A) Tender Price (Base Bid)	\$ 2,529,000.00	\$ 2,546,800.00	\$ 2,570,700.00	\$ 2,587,000.00	\$ 2,631,000.00	\$ 2,697,957.20
B) Appendix 'B' Voluntary Alternates Window Finish Duracron Standard Finish inlieu to Specified Finish Duranar XL	(\$10,200.00)	(\$9,000.00)	(\$9,500.00)	No Credit Given	No Credit Given	No Credit Given
C) Appendix 'D' Separate Prices						
Hard surface Children's Play Yard						
Water Absorbing Asphalt Pavement (base bid) plus base	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 78,300.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 69,000.00	\$ 59,311.00
Heavy Duty asphalt Pavement (not base bid) plus base	- \$ 20,000.00	- \$ 33,300.00	- \$ 20,000.00	- \$ 34,000.00	- \$ 31,500.00	- \$ 16,500.00
Difference (Credit)	(\$ 40,000.00)	(\$ 45,000.00)	(\$ 40,000.00)	(\$ 36,000.00)	(\$ 37,500.00)	(\$ 42,811.00)
Tender Price (Base Bid)	\$ 2,529,000.00	\$ 2,546,800.00	\$ 2,570,700.00	\$ 2,587,000.00	\$ 2,631,800.00	\$ 2,697,957.20
If Appendix 'B' and 'D' are Accepted	- (50,200.00)	- (54,000.00)	- (49,500.00)	- (36,000.00)	- (37,500.00)	- (42,811.00)
The Contract Price will be	\$ 2,478,800.00	\$ 2,492,800.00	\$ 2,521,200.00	\$ 2,551,000.00	\$ 2,593,500.00	\$ 2,655,146.20
G.S.T. @ 5%	123,940.00	124,640.00	126,060.00	127,550.00	129,675.00	132,757.31
Minus 68% of G.S.T.	\$ 2,602,740.00	\$ 2,617,440.00	\$ 2,647,260.00	\$ 2,678,550.00	\$ 2,723,175.00	\$ 2,787,903.51
The Contract Price	- 84,279.20	- 84,755.20	- 85,720.80	- 86,734.00	- 88,179.00	- 90,274.97
	\$ 2,518,460.80	\$ 2,532,684.80	\$ 2,561,539.20	\$ 2,591,816.00	\$ 2,634,996.00	\$ 2,697,628.54

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING OF APRIL 1, 2009**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of April 1, 2009, as presented for information.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING OF APRIL 1, 2009
CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Anna Racine	The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario
Mike Gowan	Autism Ontario
Connie Parry	Association for Bright Children
Sarina Labonte	Community Living-Grimsby, Lincoln & West Lincoln
Kim Rosati	VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children
Heather Schneider	Community Living – Welland/Pelham
Gary Crole	Trustee

ADMINISTRATION/RESOURCE PRESENT:

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells	Superintendent of Education
Marcel Jacques	Program Officer – Student Support Services
Amanda Cybula	Vice-Principal - Student Support Services – North Team
Carla Bianco	Vice-Principal - Student Support Services – South Team
Theresa Murphy	Principal – Elementary

REGRETS:

Carole Fuhrer	Learning Disabilities Association
Frank Fera	Trustee
Ken Griepsma	Vice Principal - Secondary
Lilly Iuliano	Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara)

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Tina DiFrancesco	Recording Secretary
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1. CALL TO ORDER

Anna Racine, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order and Connie Parry led the members in prayer.

2. ROLL CALL

Members, who had sent regrets or were absent, were noted.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 1, 2009.

Moved by Connie Parry
Seconded by Kim Rosati

That the Agenda at the Meeting of April 1, 2009 be approved.

Carried

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 1, 2009 MOVING THE PRESENTATIONS FIRST ON THE AGENDA

Moved by Sarina Labonte
Seconded by Connie Parry

That the Agenda at the Meeting of April 1, 2009 be approved moving the presentations first on the Agenda.

Carried

4. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil.

5. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 4, 2009.

Moved by Connie Parry
Seconded by Heather Schneider

That the Minutes of the Meeting of March 4, 2009 be approved.

Carried

6. VISIONING

6.1 Goals and Vision for 2009

Kim Rosati suggested a standard insert from the SEAC to be submitted in the school newsletters. She handed out the proposed insert and asked the members of the SEAC to review it for the May meeting. Marcel Jacques recommended a quarterly insert starting in September 2009. See attached report.

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 4, 2009

7.1 Learner Advocacy – Motions Update

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells informed the members of the SEAC that no Boards have a policy on inclusion and she recommended that the motion be rescinded. In regards to the motion about the Special Education classes, Marcel Jacques explained that this motion is already embedded in the Niagara Catholic District School Board's Special Education Plan. Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells also suggested that this motion be rescinded. Anna Racine suggested deferring a decision about the motions until the Chair returns at the May meeting.

7.2 Parent Outreach – Parent Survey 2009

Marcel Jacques informed members of the SEAC that the surveys are slowly coming in and in May we will start tallying the results.

7.3 Program and Service Recommendations

7.4 Special Education Budget

7.5 Annual Review – Special Education Plan – Feedback Update

Marcel Jacques informed members of the SEAC that Student Support Services met on March 31st and will meet again on April 2nd from 9:00am – 11:00am and April 7th from 1:00pm-3:00pm to continue reviewing the Special Education Plan. Marcel Jacques invited the SEAC to join the meetings as the plan will be presented at the May meeting, followed by approval at the Board meeting of June 2nd, 2009. A decision was made to print a copy showing the tracked changes for each member of the SEAC to be mailed out with the agenda for May.

7.6 Other related items

8. PRESENTATIONS

8.1 VOICE for Hearing Impaired – Anita Bernstein

Anita Bernstein from VOICE for the Hearing Impaired presented information to the SEAC on the mentorship program in the Auditory-Verbal Approach. She explained the program, the need, the goals and the outcome expectations. Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells will submit a letter making a recommendation that Babette Bailey, Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will begin training for the AV-Approach in January 2010.

8.2 Budget Presentation – Larry Reich

Superintendent Reich presented information to the members of the SEAC on the 2008-2009 Niagara Catholic District School Boards' Annual Budget. He reviewed the breakdown of categories focusing on Special Education with respect to revenue and expenditures. Members were provided with a copy of the 2008-2009 NCDSB Budget book, 2008-2009 annual budget, 2008-2009 revised budget and the Special Education expenditure statement for the 7 month period ending March 31, 2009. See attached reports. Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells stated that the process is underway to approve the 2009-2010 budget. She advised the SEAC that if they had any recommendations to bring them to her attention. Gary Crole informed the members that trustees continue to lobby for special education funding.

9. AGENCY REPORTS

9.1 VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children – Kim Rosati

- Kim Rosati stated that the VOICE annual conference is in Guelph on May 2nd, 2009. Marcel Jacques was asked to present the flyer information specifically to families with hearing impaired students.

9.2 Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara) – Lilly Iuliano

- No Report

9.3 Community Living – Welland/Pelham – Heather Schneider

- A Home show is taking place on Saturday, April 4th, 2009 from 10:00am to 3:00pm at Community Living on 535 Sutherland Avenue in Welland.
- BBQ fundraiser at M&M Meats at the corner of Thorold Stone and Rice Rd on Saturday, May 2nd, 2009 starting at 11:00am.
- Employers in the community, such as McDonalds, Boston Pizza and the Chamber of Commerce have been hiring staff through Community Living. The employers are very happy with the employees and there has been a lot of positive feedback.
- Community Living Ontario has put out a book entitled “Kirby’s Lane, A Well Travelled Path”. The book tells the story of many people with intellectual disabilities. For more information call Community Living Ontario at 1-800-278-8025 or e-mail: info@communitylivingontario.ca
- The last residents of Huronia and Rideau Regional Centre have now been relocated to community living residences.
- In recognition of all institutions in Ontario being closed, on March 31st, 2009 everyone was invited to join Community Living Ontario in a province wide reflection to remember the lives lived in institutions and to celebrate the move to community living. Community Living Welland/Pelham celebrated with approximately 200 people in attendance.

9.4 Association for Bright Children – Connie Parry

- August 3rd -7th, 2009 is the 18th World Conference on gifted and talented children. Information is included in the Association for Bright Children March 2009 newsletter. See attached report.
- Connie Parry asked if the Niagara Catholic District School Board offers dual credit courses. Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells confirmed that the board does offer dual credit courses. See attached report.
- Connie Parry made a suggestion to contact the Niagara Falls chapter of HOPE (Helping Others Parent Effectively) as a possible member of the SEAC.

9.5 Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara – Carole Fuhrer

- No Report

9.6 Community Living – Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln(G/L/WL) – Sarina Labonte

- March 31, 2009 marked the end of an era of institutionalization for children and adults with intellectual disabilities in Ontario. The remaining institutions in Ontario have closed. Many service provider agencies hosted a celebration of this event;
- A review of the funding for families requesting or in receipt of Special Services At Home funding is currently underway. The regional office has overcommitted their funding in this program and is looking at possible reductions in funding in the upcoming year.
- The regional children's respite program for children and adolescents with intellectual disabilities and/or mental health challenges under the age of 18 have received a small increase in funding for the 2009/2010 fiscal year. In Niagara, Niagara Support Services and Community Living-Grimsby, Lincoln & West Lincoln are the two providers funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

9.7 Autism Ontario – Mike Gowan

- Mike Gowan reported that their new facility is still under construction with the hope to be opened on June 1st, 2009. The facility is located on Paige Street in St. Catharines.
- Karen Stoner of Autism Ontario is holding several Realized Community Potential (RCP) workshops and events. More information is posted on the website at www.autismontario.com.

9.8 The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario – Anna Racine

- This month there was a presentation on the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP). Information was provided on ways for parents to save money for their children's future, offering a tax free option for children with disabilities.

10. STAFF REPORTS

10.1 Amanda Cybula – Vice-Principal Student Support Services –Team North

- Amanda Cybula spoke about the March 30th, 2009 Red Cross Training provided to the Child and Youth workers.

10.2 Carla Bianco – Vice-Principal Student Support Services-Team South

- On May 7th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm Student Support Services will be hosting its annual Community Pathways Night at the CEC. The focus this year will be in the elementary panel. This event focuses on giving parents a place to meet with our local service providers to discuss supports available in their community and how to access them. We will have guest speakers from four agencies present to our guests, along with our own PowerPoint presentation. Carla Bianco asked members of the SEAC if they would like to attend the evening. Sarina Labonte and Kim Rosati agreed to participate.

10.3 Theresa Murphy – Principal, Elementary

- Schools will be involved in special Holy Week activities and in a variety of Earth Day/Week activities.
- Saturday, April 18th, 2009 is the Niagara District School Board's Regional Catholic School Council convention at Lakeshore Catholic High School.
- Administrative Professionals Day is on Wednesday, April 22nd, 2009.

10.4 Ken Griepsma – Vice-Principal, Secondary

- Grade 10 students are preparing for the April 2nd OSSLT test. Many students on Individual Education Plans have been practicing during school and also after school utilizing any accommodations they will be allowed to use during the actual test.
- The Holy Cross Invitational Beach Volleyball tournament for Special Needs will take place on April 3rd, 2009.

10.5 Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells – Superintendent of Education

- Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells stated that next week is Holy Week and also wished members of the SEAC a Happy Easter.

10.6 Marcel Jacques – Program Officer

- Marcel Jacques informed the members that a new Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) Supervisor has been hired.
- On April 3rd, 2009, there is Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) training being provided to Elementary Educational Resource Teachers and Teachers at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel and Convention Centre, located at 3530 Schmon Parkway in Thorold.

11. TRUSTEE REPORTS

11.1 Gary Crole

- Gary Crole advised members of the SEAC that the revised start date for the 2009-2010 school year calendar is September 8th, 2009.

11.2 Frank Fera

- No Report

12. NEW BUSINESS

12.1 Learner Advocacy

12.2 Parent Outreach – Regional Catholic School Council Event

- Amanda Cybula and Anna Racine presented the SEAC PowerPoint presentation at the Regional Catholic School Council Event on March 5th, 2009. They said that the information was well received and gave a better understanding of what the SEAC is all about.

12.3 Program and Service Recommendations – School Activities Selection Protocol

- Heather Schneider inquired about how school activities are selected. Marcel Jacques stated that Principals and teachers consider all students before activities are decided. If activities are not suitable for a student, alternative activities are arranged. Parents are encouraged to speak to the Principal if they have any concerns.

12.4 Special Education Budget – Letter to Ministry of Education from SEAC – Deferred to May meeting

12.5 Annual Review, Special Education Plan

12.6 Other Related Items – ONSIS Report Update

- Marcel Jacques handed out and explained the Elementary and Secondary ONSIS reports to members of the SEAC. See attached reports.

Letter from SEAC to the LIHNS – Deferred to the May meeting

13. AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION for FUTURE MEETINGS

14. INFORMATION ITEMS

- a) Sarina Labonte suggested that the Brain Injury Association could be a possible member on the SEAC and asked the procedure for membership. Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells stated that a letter is to be sent to the Director of Education for board approval. Tina DiFrancesco will forward a template letter to Sarina Labonte.
- b) Connie Parry suggested a display for the Spring Convention. Anna Racine will find out more information.

15. ITEMS DISTRIBUTED

- a) VOICE Training and Mentoring Program in the Auditory-Verbal Approach
- b) 2008-2009 Budget Book, 2008-2009 Annual Budget, 2008-2009 Revised Budget, NCDSB Special Education Expenditure Statement
- c) Elementary and Secondary ONSIS Reports

16. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the SEAC will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Heather Schneider
Seconded by Kim Rosati

That the meeting adjourn at 9:40pm

Carried

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: ANNUAL NIAGARA CATHOLIC
GRADUATION CELEBRATION 2009;
PARTNERS IN EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM;
SYSTEM FAITH DAY 2009**

The report on the Annual Niagara Catholic
Graduation Celebration 2009;
Partners in Education Symposium;
System Faith Day 2009
is presented for information.

Prepared by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education
Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
John Crocco, Director of Education

Presented by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education
Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
John Crocco, Director of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: May 26, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE BOARD MAY 26, 2009

ANNUAL NIAGARA CATHOLIC GRADUATION CELEBRATION 2009; PARTNERS IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM; SYSTEM FAITH DAY 2009

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Graduation Celebration 2009

In May of 2001, under the leadership of the Student Senate, all upcoming graduates of the Class of 2001 gathered for mass at St. Alfred Catholic Church with His Excellency Bishop John O'Mara celebrating a special Mass for the graduates. This celebration was repeated in May of 2002 at St. Alfred Catholic Church with His Excellency Bishop James Wingle.

In consultation with Bishop Wingle and the Office of Religious Education along with discussions with Secondary Principals, Program Chairs of Religion, Chaplaincy Leaders and Board staff, it was decided that we would continue the celebration as an annual event under the combined leadership of student and staff members associated with the Student Senate, Chaplaincy Leaders and the Office of Religious Education for the Diocese.

Following discussions, it was decided that the format of the annual celebration would include;

- a) An Opening Celebration for the graduates from each Catholic secondary school
- b) An address to the graduates by the Chair of the Board and the Director of Education
- c) A Prayer Service lead by the Bishop with a special message to the graduates
- d) A musical celebration of Catholic education
- e) An address to the graduates by a prominent keynote speaker
- f) A video montage of the graduating class from all Catholic secondary schools
- g) A special gift for the graduates blessed by the Bishop
- h) A message from the Holy Father to all graduates
- i) A final Blessing for all graduates by the Bishop

Each year our keynote speakers provide inspirational messages to our graduates as they celebrate a culmination of a Kindergarten to Grade 12 Catholic education, what our students have become as graduates from a Catholic system and the important role they must play as Catholic leaders in society. Our keynote speakers have been;

2003 – Buffy Alexander
2004 – Romeo Dallaire
2005 – Terrence Eta
2006 – Sandra Pupatello
2007 – Justin Trudeau
2008 – Roch Carrier
2009 – Father Tony Ricard

As the annual event continues to develop, with approximately 2,000 students annually graduating from our Niagara Catholic secondary schools, the celebration has been held at Brock University and the past four years at the Niagara Regional Exhibition Grounds in Welland.

Partners in Catholic Education Symposium

Most recently we have linked the Graduation Celebration with our Partners in Catholic Education Symposium. On the evening of May 14th, 2009 Father Tony Ricard addressed over 350 of our community members at the Partners in Catholic Education held at Club Roma. Our Bishop, James Wingle, as well as our parish priests, Catholic School Council members, administrators and trustees came together for an informative evening. Father Tony Ricard once again challenged those in attendance to become Ambassadors for Christ.

System Faith Day 2009

On Friday, May 15th, 2009, approximately 3,000 administrative, academic and support staff joined as a Niagara Catholic family at the Niagara Regional Exhibition Grounds as part of our System Faith Day. Director Crocco began the day by addressing all staff on our mission as a Catholic school system, paying tribute to staff who died during this school year and launched the new theme “We Are Ambassadors for Christ”. The new theme was a common thread throughout the gathering of students and members of our Catholic School Councils over the preceding two days. Bishop Wingle and Father Ricard concelebrated an inspirational mass with a powerful homily by Bishop Wingle on our theme “We Are Ambassadors for Christ”. Following a nutrition break, all staff were spiritually enriched and motivated by the extraordinary keynote address by Father Tony Ricard. The day concluded with a standing ovation celebrating the impact the System Faith Day had on all present.

This information report will be highlighted through a brief videography of the Graduation Celebration 2009, Partners in Catholic Education Symposium, and System Faith Day 2009 as prepared by Sergio Borghesi, Technology Consultant and the students and staff in the Communication Technology program at Saint Michael Catholic High School.

The report on Annual Niagara Catholic Graduation Celebration 2009; Partners in Catholic Education Symposium; System Faith Day 2009 is presented for information.

Prepared by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education
Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
John Crocco, Director of Education

Presented by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education
Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
John Crocco, Director of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: May 26, 2009

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW - SENIOR STAFF
FOLLOW-UP REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board in accordance with the Board approved Niagara Catholic Pupil Accommodation Review Schedule for 2008-2009 the *Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations on Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls Elementary, St. Catharines Elementary and St. Catharines Secondary*, be received.

THAT the following recommendations by Senior Staff as provided in the *Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations on Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls Elementary, St. Catharines Elementary and St. Catharines Secondary* be received and considered for approval at the May 26th, 2009 Board Meeting;

1. **THAT**, St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School be closed by September 2010 with St. Joseph students relocated through the Attendance Area process to St. Mary, St. Patrick and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary Schools.
2. **THAT**, no sooner than September 2012 and subject to Ministry of Education funding and approval for a new school in the Warren Woods Estate and for an addition and renovations to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School, the closure of St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary School with the students relocated to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.
3. **THAT**, over the next five years Senior Staff will monitor student population growth, projections, location and accommodation data in the southern portion of the City of Niagara Falls and if required, apply to the Ministry of Education for capital funding for a new elementary school in the Warren Woods Estate of Niagara Falls.
4. **THAT**, a Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board be established in September 2009 to review the attendance boundaries for all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls. According to the Board's Attendance Area Policy 301.3, the mandate of the committee will be to recommend to the Board stability within all attendance areas while maximizing facility utilization of all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls.
5. **THAT**, Senior Staff will continue to monitor the possibility of closing Michael J. Brennan Catholic Elementary School and that Senior Staff will bring a report to the Board no later than September 2012.

6. **THAT**, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School not be consolidated at this time subject to the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review process and recommendations and that Senior Staff continues to monitor enrolment and report back to the Board no later than September 2012.
7. **THAT**, no sooner than September 2012, the closure of St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School with students relocated through the Attendance Area process to Mother Teresa, St. Alfred, St. Anthony, St. Christopher and St. Denis Catholic Elementary Schools unless an approved joint venture is confirmed between the Niagara Catholic District School Board and a coterminous District School Board, with community partners to provide appropriate property in the downtown core, and the Ministry of Education to provide confirmed funding and approval for a new downtown elementary school.
8. **THAT**, a St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board be established in September 2009 to review the attendance boundaries for all elementary and secondary schools in St. Catharines. According to the Board's Attendance Area Policy 301.3, the mandate of the committee will be to recommend to the Board stability within all attendance areas while maximizing facility utilization of all elementary and secondary schools in St. Catharines.
9. **THAT**, the Board maintains all three Catholic secondary schools in St. Catharines and monitors the accommodation and utilization of all three Catholic secondary school facilities over the next five years.
10. **THAT**, Senior Staff will continue to apply to the Ministry of Education for additional funding and to identify other sources of funding in order to provide facility plant upgrades to St. Francis Catholic Secondary School.
11. **THAT**, Catholic Secondary Schools in St. Catharines will continue to have the opportunity to implement specialized programs providing sufficient student enrolment and Ministry of Education funding and approval.

Prepared by: Administrative Council
Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: May 26, 2009



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MAY 26, 2009**

**SENIOR STAFF FOLLOW-UP REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS
ON THE
PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW FOR NIAGARA FALLS ELEMENTARY,
ST. CATHARINES ELEMENTARY AND ST. CATHARINES SECONDARY**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In compliance with the Ministry of Education *Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines*, the Niagara Catholic District School Board Policy 701.2 – *Closure of Schools / Accommodation Review Policy*, the October 28th, 2008 Board approved *Niagara Catholic Pupil Accommodation Review Schedule for 2008-2009* and the *Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines for Public Input*, this Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations is submitted to the Committee of the Whole with recommendations to the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

Appendices to this Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations include the following:

- Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines
- Niagara Catholic Policy 701.2 – Closure of Schools / Accommodation Review Policy
- Niagara Catholic Pupil Accommodation Review Schedule for 2008-2009
- Niagara Catholic Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines for Public Input
- Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls Elementary, St. Catharines Elementary and St. Catharines Secondary Report
- Student Enrolment, School Utilization, Operating Costs and Projected Enrolment
- Copies of Presentations made by the Public at the Special Board Meetings (Provided to the Board on February 10th, 2009 under separate bound cover)
- Copies of Correspondence received as of February 10th, 2009 (Provided to the Board on February 10th, 2009 under separate bound cover)
- Copies of Correspondence received between February 10th, 2009 and March 6th, 2009
- Copies of the Board Approved Minutes for the three Special Board Meetings

Following the December 2nd, 2008 submission of the Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls Elementary, St. Catharines Elementary, and St. Catharines Secondary Report, Senior Staff continued to discuss and review accommodation data, information received through correspondence and delegation requests, along with subsequent meetings with Bishop Wingle and various community stakeholders. As presented to the Committee of the Whole on December 2nd, 2008 and received by the Board on December 16th, 2008, Senior Staff recommended the following:

Niagara Falls Elementary

1. THAT, St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School be closed by September 2010 and with the revision of St. Mary and Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School boundaries the students be relocated to St. Mary, St. Patrick and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary Schools.

Niagara Falls Elementary - continued

2. THAT, no sooner than September 2011 and subject to Ministry of Education funding and approval for a new school in the Warren Woods Estate and for an addition and renovations to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School, the closure of St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary School with the students relocated to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.
3. THAT, over the next five years Senior Staff will monitor student population growth, projections, location and accommodation data in the southern portion of the City of Niagara Falls.
4. THAT, a Niagara Falls Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board be established to review the attendance boundaries as recommended by Senior Staff for all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls, including the potential new school in the Warren Woods Estate, to maximize facility utilization of elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls. (Appendix K and L)

St. Catharines Elementary

1. THAT, Senior Staff will continue to monitor the possibility of closing Michael J. Brennan Catholic Elementary School and that Senior Staff will bring a report to the Board no later than September 2012.
2. THAT, Senior Staff will continue to monitor the possibility of closing Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School and that Senior Staff will bring a report to the Board no later than September 2011.
3. THAT, no later than September 2011, the closure of St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School with students relocated to Mother Teresa, St. Anthony, St. Christopher and St. Denis Catholic Elementary Schools unless, a) based on the current attendance catchment area the enrolment at St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School increases to a minimum of 230 full time registered students, and b) Ministry of Education funding and approval be received for a new downtown elementary school.
4. THAT, a St. Catharines Elementary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board be established to review the attendance boundaries as recommended by Senior Staff for all elementary schools in St. Catharines to maximize facility utilization of elementary schools in St Catharines.

St. Catharines Secondary

1. THAT, the Board maintains all three Catholic secondary schools in St. Catharines and monitor the accommodation and utilization of all three Catholic secondary school facilities over the next five years.
2. THAT, Senior Staff will continue to apply to the Ministry of Education for additional funding to provide facility plant upgrades to St. Francis Catholic Secondary School.

St. Catharines Secondary - continued

3. THAT, Catholic Secondary Schools in St. Catharines will continue to have the opportunity to implement specialized programs providing sufficient student enrolment and Ministry of Education funding and approval.
4. THAT, a St. Catharines Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee be established to review the attendance boundaries for all three Catholic secondary schools in St. Catharines to maximize facility utilization of secondary schools in St. Catharines.

Niagara Catholic District School Board - Special Board Meetings for Public Input

As part of an open, transparent, and process based format, three Special Board Meetings of the Niagara Catholic District School Board were held in February 2009. The Special Board meeting locations and format were approved by the Board on October 28th, 2008 and communicated to the accommodation review identified school communities, past Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) members, current Catholic School Council Chairs and placed on the Board's website under Board Meetings and Pupil Accommodation Review. The three Special Board Meetings for Public Input were held on:

- Niagara Falls Elementary - February 17th, 2009 – Saint Michael Catholic High School
- St. Catharines Elementary - February 18th, 2009 – Denis Morris Catholic High School
- St. Catharines Secondary - February 23rd, 2009 – Denis Morris Catholic High School

Individuals or groups requesting permission to delegate to the corresponding Special Board Meeting were invited to submit a presentation to the Office of the Director of Education by 4.00 p.m. on February 10th, 2009. All presentations and other written correspondence received by the Office of the Director of Education were provided to all Trustees and members of Senior Staff on February 10th, 2009 for review in preparation for the Special Board Meetings and the Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations to the Board. In addition, all presentations and written correspondence have been placed on the Board's website under the Pupil Accommodation Review tab.

As provided in the Board approved Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines for Public Input, "the public may provide a written report to the Director of Education at any time." A copy of all correspondence received by the Director of Education related to the Pupil Accommodation Review process following the February 10th, 2009 report will be provided to Trustees and Senior Staff as part of monthly Board Meeting agendas under the Correspondence item and placed on the Board's website under the Pupil Accommodation Review tab.

The three Niagara Catholic Special Board Meetings for Public Input were held in accordance with Board By-Laws and the approved Board Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines for Public Input. The agenda and approved Board minutes from the three meetings have been placed on the Board's website under Board Meetings and the Public Accommodation Review tab.

Niagara Falls Elementary Special Board Meeting – February 17th, 2009

The Niagara Falls Elementary Special Board Meeting had four (4) delegations present to the Board with forty-nine (49) individuals in attendance. Trustees and Senior Staff listened to the four presentations with Chair of the Board Kathy Burnnik requesting clarification on questions presented as part of the St. Mary Catholic Elementary School presentation by Mrs. Hesse. Director Crocco provided the following information for clarification as noted in the approved minutes of the February 17th, 2009 Special Board meeting.

Q. Warren Woods is still on the table for the new subdivision. Has property been purchased by the School Board or serviced by a developer?

A. The School Board has not purchased property in the Warren Woods Subdivision, and it currently is being serviced by a developer.

Q. St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School in Niagara Falls received money in the form of grants from the Ontario Government. What happens to that money if St. Joseph closes?

A. The approximately \$250,000 in Ministry of Education grants received by St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School in Niagara Falls purchased resources for students, books, professional development for staff etc. If St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School closes the resources would be shared amongst other schools.

Q. When does the Niagara Falls Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review meet? The whole city should have been included. Has there not been a city wide review before?

A. The Niagara Falls Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee held its last major review in the 2003-2004 school year and reviewed boundaries for 11 elementary schools. An Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee could be formed as a result of the Pupil Accommodation Review recommendations to begin in September 2009.

Q. Part of St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School's recommended boundary is now within the Saint Paul Catholic Secondary School boundary. For children living in Coronation Park Area, will they be forced to leave Saint Michael Catholic High School?

A. The potential change in boundaries may result in a shift within population of the schools and a decision will be made based on complete information at the time.

Q. The City of Niagara Falls has requested that the Region expand the urban boundary for the north-west area, making St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School within that boundary of an already crowded school. Is the trend toward Big Box Schools? We live in an area where this isn't necessary, due to population numbers.

A. We have been informed that the Region denied the City's request. The Niagara Catholic District School Board has most recently approved two new smaller elementary schools in Grimsby. St. Joseph and Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary Schools of approximately 230 and 350 students rather than one school of 500 plus students.

Niagara Falls Elementary Special Board Meeting – February 17th, 2009 - continued

In addition, the following information is provided as clarification in response to the presentations made by the following delegations.

Anna Racine – St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary School Presentation

Statement - “The reality is that there are already two top notch schools in St. Thomas More and Our Lady of Mount Carmel that can accommodate the future Warren Woods children, in an atmosphere that is unique to other schools.”

Senior Staff Response - Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary Schools will not be able to accommodate the students from the Warren Woods development. According to projections, even with both schools fully occupied, the Warren Woods area when fully developed will yield an additional 300 to 400 students.

Statement - “...the money received by the school to purchase the reading materials is divided only between 5 grades instead of 10 grades...”

Senior Staff Response - Funding is provided on a per pupil basis and would be the same total for a combined JK - Grade 8 facility as for the total of both facilities.

Anna Racine – Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School Presentation

Statements – “It is obvious that construction would be required in the drop off area ...Our students should not be forced to give up their music room and have to take music in their regular classroom...our school has a very large Cyberquest teaching area which accommodates not only our students, but all other Grade 7 and 8 classes within the Board...Our students should not have to be bused to another school for Cyberquest...The current library space and computer lab are inadequate to... The current staff room barely accommodates the teachers and staff of Our Lady of Mount Carmel...The current ERT room at Our Lady of Mount Carmel is very small...Our parents will strongly resist the addition of portables...Not only is this a safety issue but it would be very disruptive...”

Senior Staff Response - Should consolidation occur, modifications to Our Lady of Mount Carmel would be planned with community input to ensure a fully functional Kindergarten to Grade 8 school which would be constructed with minimal disruption and student, staff and public safety.

Construction would likely occur at the north-side of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The music and Cyberquest rooms would remain in its current configuration. Cyberquest at Our Lady of Mount Carmel provides programs for (14) Catholic elementary school students from Niagara Falls, Fort Erie and Niagara-on-the-Lake only. It is one of four (4) Cyberquest sites in the Board. Internal specialized rooms for the ERT, Library-Information Centre, Staff Room and Administration Office would be modified to suit the new school enrolment and sufficient internal classrooms would be constructed negating the need for portables upon completion of the project.

Niagara Falls Elementary Special Board Meeting – February 17th, 2009 - continued

Melissa Hesse – St. Mary Catholic Elementary School Presentation

Statement - “Revising the boundary would result in removing 52 St Mary students from a potential growth area (ie. Burdette-Cropp) and leaving an already saturated area with no growth potential.”

Senior Staff Response - Our projections indicate that the school age populations of both areas are forecast to be stable into the distant future and there is no growth planned for the area north of the feeder canal. Revised boundary options could increase the utilization of St. Mary over the next five years from approximately 80% utilization to approximately 95% utilization. Notre Dame utilization could increase over the same period from a declining utilization of approximately 70% to approximately 93% utilization over the next five years without the need for an addition to Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School.

Q. According to Appendix J of the Senior Staff recommendations, money will be spent to accommodate students from St. Mary at Notre Dame with an addition. How much will this cost ? What is the extra cost of bussing these 52 children ?

Senior Staff Response - The comment in the Cost of Implementation column in Appendix J for Notre Dame states that there is No Renovation / Addition needed. For clarity in future reports, it has been modified to read, No Renovation / No Addition needed. According to Niagara Student Transportation Services, the cost of bussing the 52 students to Notre Dame would be approximately the same as the current cost to bus these students to St. Mary, or potentially less based on improved efficiency of bus route design.

Q. Is the closure of St. Joe’s and the boundary change effective September 2009?

Senior Staff Response - The proposed closure of St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School is September 2010 and any boundary changes would be recommended by the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee to the Board effective September 2010.

Q. Where is the study that shows that students from St. Joe’s will even go to St. Mary ?

Senior Staff Response - Based on dialogue with St. Joseph staff and parents, through an effective transition program for the consolidated schools, students and families from St. Joseph will be integrated into the school life as new students to St. Mary, St. Patrick and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary Schools.

Q. Since a city-wide boundary review is going to be done by 2011, why can’t St. Mary’s boundary be left alone ?

Senior Staff Response - The recommendation is for an Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee to be established in September 2009 to review the attendance boundaries for all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls. The mandate of the committee will be to recommend to the Board stability within all attendance areas while maximizing the facility utilization of all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls according to the Board’s Attendance Area Policy 301.3.

Niagara Falls Elementary Special Board Meeting – February 17th, 2009 - continued

Q. What happens to the out of boundary kids that have been in our school? Are they in or out?

Senior Staff Response - The recommendation is for an Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee to be established in September 2009 to review the attendance boundaries for all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls. The mandate of the committee will be to recommend to the Board stability within all attendance areas while maximizing facility utilization of all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls according to the Board's Attendance Area Policy 301.3.

St. Catharines Elementary Special Board Meeting – February 18th, 2009

The St. Catharines Elementary Special Board Meeting had five (5) delegations present to the Board with seventy-two (72) individuals in attendance. Trustees and Senior Staff listened to the five presentations with Trustee Charbonneau requesting clarification on a statement made by Ms. Foss in the St. Catharines Downtown Development and Revitalization Committee presentation. Ms. Foss provided the following information as electronically recorded at the February 18th, 2009 Special Board meeting.

Q. Trustee Charbonneau asked - "Has there been any contact with the provincial government and if so, who would the provincial rep be that the urban renewal group would be working with?"

A. Ms. Foss responded - "Provincial contact as far as...I mean certainly on many fronts there are partnerships, with for example Brock University and the school for fine performing arts and on different levels there are a lot of initiatives, yes."

Q. Trustee Charbonneau asked - "But in terms of the provincial government is there a local rep, would it be Jim Bradley, or is there somebody that is facilitating communication or contact with the urban renewal?"

A. Ms. Foss responded – "Well depending upon what front it is going forth on, so there is a \$250,000 study that was funded by the Provincial government because we were the only named urban growth centre that gave us the community clusters master plan which has laid the plans for the entire revitalization of downtown. So, for the past 30 years there have been studies and reports that were shelved because they were piecemeal bits and ideas but we have a comprehensive plan of all of the elements to make a successful downtown; the core of it being culture. So the support is there from the province because the province has mandated that we intensify in downtown of St. Catharines. So absolutely, a specific name ...certainly Jim Bradley would help us but ...depending..."

Q. Trustee Charbonneau asked: "But certainly in your planning, looking at either a new school or revitalizing the present school, is that part of the urban growth plan and if so, or if not, will that become a major component now that you have made your presentation here this evening and you have and see the downtown support, can we count on the Downtown Association to continue to beat the drum in terms of provincial support?"

A. Ms. Foss responded – "Absolutely and the City as a whole is working hard. The DDRC makes recommendations to City Council and many stakeholders are represented there from the community and we are actually coming out with presentations to help say all the things we have been working on for the last two years. But certainly your point..."

St. Catharines Elementary Special Board Meeting – February 18th, 2009 – continued

Q. Trustee Charbonneau restated: “Continuing to promote that within the urban plan but the communications component is very important.”

A. Ms. Foss responded – “Yes, and so at the ARC level, that recommendation was one of the seven that was made by the ARC which was for - to encourage the Board to connect with...the Board will consult with other community partners and the City of St. Catharines. Actually, that is a question I have, in your presentation PowerPoint earlier, there was point eight saying that mentioned that there were other community stakeholders were engaged and so I would like to know who those community stakeholders were and how were they consulted...in what way were they consulted as well. So certainly the creative solution is the essence of what I see from the community; that you need to have a school just like you need to have, as I said, water and sewer connections in the downtown, you need it all. So, it is critical to have that presence.”

Q. Chair Burtnik asked “Heather at your closing you added some ad lib comments that were very valuable, is it possible that you could provide those in writing to the Board of Trustees...the closing comments that weren’t part of the letter...or was that off the cuff ?

A. Ms. Foss responded – “It is mostly there....I could pull it together”

Note – as recorded electronically by Kathy Levinski, Coordinator of Facilities Planning, the closing statement made by Ms. Foss, following the reading of her letter, as referenced by Chair Burtnik was as follows;

Ms. Foss – “I should emphasize the changing demographics; I think that is the essence of what you have heard tonight. The 2006 data that the ARC based its information on is 2006 projections whereas the downtown has and is changing.”

Ms. Foss finished the letter, and then added the following statement;

“Just to emphasize the last point in the DDRC letter, the downtown is the heart of the city and in order to be vibrant it requires the infrastructure, not only the roads and the sewers, but also of community; schools, playgrounds, residents, businesses, people, people. The fact the St. Nicholas is the only elementary school within the downtown core is a central consideration in your ultimate decision about a school which has had a presence in the downtown core for in excess of 150 years. I would be pleased to answer any questions that you might have.”

St. Catharines Elementary Special Board Meeting – February 18th, 2009 – continued

In addition, the following information is provided as clarification in response to the presentations made by the following delegations.

Cathy Sonier – St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School Presentation

Statement - “I resent the fact that you could take such an important decision away from us as parents.”

Senior Staff Response - Through multiple opportunities for public input during the Accommodation Review Committee process, the Special Board Meetings for Public Input, and opportunities to submit correspondence directly to the Board through the Office of the Director of Education, all information is reviewed and considered before a decision, which rests legislatively and by Board Policy to close a school, with the Board of Trustees.

Leslie Landolt – St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School Presentation

Statement - “...why is the Board ready to dismantle the connection between the Cathedral, School and Home?”

Senior Staff Response - Niagara Catholic is committed to maintaining the triad between home, school and Church. While we cherish the unique locations of a number of our schools in the Board that share close geographical proximity to a Catholic Church, we also cherish the effective triads that exist between a grouping of schools and a local Catholic Church regardless of its proximity to a school community. The connection between a school and a local Church is not solely dependent on geographic proximity, but rather the strong spiritual and interconnectedness between the Parish Priest and students, staff and parents.

Yvonne Wowk – St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School Presentation

Statement - “Why are so many students allowed to leave?”

Senior Staff Response - The total enrolment of St. Nicholas is 134 students, average daily enrolment which includes the half day Junior Kindergarten and Senior Kindergarten students. The out of boundary students are comprised of 87 outbound students and 19 inbound students. Both outbound and inbound students were given permission to attend by the school Principal and the Family of Schools’ Superintendent based on a variety of extenuating circumstances as provided by parents and guardians according to the Board’s Attendance Area Policy 301.3.

St. Catharines Elementary Special Board Meeting – February 18th, 2009 – continued

Yvonne Wowk – St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School Presentation – continued

Q. Why spend the money on these additions and upgrades when we already have a school right here to accommodate not just some, but all of our students ?

Senior Staff Response - The mentioning of other Catholic elementary schools in the Pupil Accommodation Review to accept potential students from St Nicholas, if it closed, was to illustrate that there is excess surplus space available in neighbouring Catholic elementary schools to accommodate students from St. Nicholas without the need for the expenditure of additional classrooms. The potentially revised attendance area boundaries would be confirmed through the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee for St. Catharines Elementary Schools.

Q. How much money will the school board actually save by closing the school ?

Senior Staff Response - The funding for school operations and future renewal needs of approximately \$300,000 per year for operating expenditures and \$3 million dollars for renewal needs would not be required.

Q. What is the potential loss of revenue if all current students at St. Nicholas opted to attend Memorial Public School or Alexander Public School, two public schools within walking distance of St. Nicholas ?

Senior Staff Response - While the Ministry of Education provides school boards with approximately \$8,000 per student per year, we are confident that students will relocate and remain within a Niagara Catholic elementary school to continue their Catholic education.

Q. Why is it up to the parents to increase enrolment ?

Senior Staff Response – Niagara Catholic staff would not direct parents to increase enrolment at a school. Niagara Catholic does continue to respond to the needs of all students through active investments in school programs and excellence in Catholic education. Students and parents are the best ambassadors of our Catholic schools as they share their experiences with other students and parents in the community. Working with our Catholic community, the goal of the Niagara Catholic District School Board is that all Catholic students attend a Catholic elementary or secondary school within the Board. Niagara Catholic Board Policy and practice is to have students attend their neighbourhood Catholic elementary or secondary school.

Q. Why doesn't the Board restrict the out of boundary attendance ?

Senior Staff Response - Current Board Policy on Attendance Areas does not contain a provision to restrict out of boundary applications.

St. Catharines Elementary Special Board Meeting – February 18th, 2009 – continued

Yvonne Wowk – St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School Presentation – continued

Q. Why doesn't the Board change attendance area boundaries by redistributing student enrolment across the city to eliminate the need for additions ?

Senior Staff Response - The recommendation is for an Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee to be established in September 2009 to review the attendance boundaries for all elementary and secondary schools in St. Catharines. The mandate of the committee will be to recommend to the Board stability within all attendance areas while maximizing facility utilization of all elementary and secondary schools in St. Catharines according to the Board's Attendance Area Policy 301.3.

Q. Why doesn't the Board establish a day care centre at St. Nicholas to accommodate the families who need child care after school ?

Senior Staff Response - A recent survey was conducted by a local daycare service provider which determined that there continues to be an insufficient number of children requiring daycare.

Q. Why doesn't the Board regain and return ownership of St. Nicholas school property back to the English Catholic School Board ?

Senior Staff Response - Based on the amalgamation of district school boards in 1998, Niagara Catholic does not have the ability to regain ownership of the property.

Heather Foss – St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School Presentation

Statement - "Within this area over the next 20 years it is anticipated that over 2,000 new residential units will be constructed".

Senior Staff Response - The new development plans have been discussed with the City of St. Catharines and have been taken into consideration.

Statement - "Actually, that is a question I have, in your presentation PowerPoint earlier, there was point eight saying that mentioned that there were other community stakeholders were engaged and so I would like to know who those community stakeholders were and how were they consulted...in what way where they consulted as well."

Senior Staff Response - With the submission of the ARC reports in September 2008, members of Senior Staff have had additional conversations and/or meetings with various members of the St. Catharines and Niagara Falls communities ranging from Bishop Wingle, Parish Priests, both Mayors, a Director of Education, City planning staff, the planning consultant for Niagara Catholic and Ministry of Education staff.

St. Catharines Elementary Special Board Meeting – February 18th, 2009 – continued

Phyllis Bonomi – St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School Presentation

Statement - “The diversity that makes up St. Nicholas school is not available elsewhere”.

Senior Staff Response - We are very proud that our elementary and secondary schools throughout Niagara Catholic are fully inclusive and are rich in cultural and ethnic diversity.

St. Catharines Secondary Special Board Meeting – February 23rd, 2009

The St. Catharines Secondary Special Board Meeting had two (2) delegations present to the Board with twenty-four (24) individuals in attendance. One of the two delegations, a presentation by Ms. Thoms for St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School, was approved by Chair Burtnik, Director Crocco and supported by all Trustees for presentation at the February 23rd, 2009 Special Board Meeting. Upon earlier clarification with the presenter, Ms. Thoms’ submitted letter was intended to be an elementary delegation for St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School on February 18th, 2009. Ms. Thoms letter, received by the Office of the Director of Education on January 27th, 2009 and provided to all Trustees as part of the February 18th, 2009 Special Board Meeting Agenda under Correspondence.

The Board heard both delegations with no requests for clarification.

Sue Hendriks and Patty Rempel – St. Francis Catholic Secondary School Presentation

Statement - “If the St. Francis boundaries are minimized then specialized programs currently offered at St. Francis could be at risk.”

Senior Staff Response - The reference to specialized programs currently being offered at St. Francis being at risk would need to be identified, as the ability to offer specialized programs are determined by student course selection. Identified specialized programs are currently offered at specific secondary schools throughout the system for students to access.

Senior Staff Follow-Up Review

In preparation for the Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations to the Board, Senior Staff reviewed and discussed the information and input presented by each delegation at the three (3) Special Board Meetings for Public Input, along with information and input received through correspondence by the Office of the Director of Education, as of 12:00 noon on March 6th, 2009.

In addition, further research, review and dialogue with community members was conducted by Senior Staff between December 2nd, 2008 and March 6th, 2009 on various accommodation options and the recommendations provided to the Board in the December 2nd, 2008 report.

In compliance with Niagara Catholic Board Policy 701.2 – *Closure of Schools / Accommodation Review*, Section 3.1, Senior Staff recommendations to the Board will be one or more of the following:

- To maintain the schools and to continue to monitor them;
- To reorganize the schools, their programs or their grade structures;
- To change the boundaries of the schools;
- To consolidate and/or close one or more of the schools.

Senior Staff's Follow-Up Report and Recommendations to the Board continue to be in general agreement with the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) and the initial Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR) - Senior Staff Recommendations. In some cases there are modifications to the recommendations based on the public input process and Senior Staff's additional review and discussions with community members and Ministry of Education staff.

It is important to note that within the subsequent reviews of the ARC and PAR recommendations, Senior Staff continues to agree with the merits of the following benefits and challenges as provided within the ARC and PAR reports and recommendations:

Benefits

- maximizes program opportunities and resources for students by reducing future requirements for multiple combined grades due to declining enrolment
- sufficient current enrolment to maintain viable programs and services
- addresses facility maintenance and renovation challenges for aging buildings and property
- addresses short and long term shifts in population migration and demographics
- maximizes available space at neighbouring schools while reducing overall surplus space
- maximizes close proximity to neighbouring Niagara Catholic schools which can accommodate student population with no or limited renovations required
- maximizes operating funds for schools
- maximizes limited facility renewal funds
- potential disposition of property
- potential use of property and/or facility for Board use

Senior Staff Follow-Up Review – continued

Challenges

- elimination of neighbourhood or community hub Catholic school
- elimination of neighbouring Parish school
- potential division of consolidated school communities within more than one school
- larger boundary catchment area for a school
- required Ministry of Education funding for additions, renovations and program enhancements
- potential increase in busing expenditures due to increased ridership
- surplus space in nearby Catholic schools resulting in students remaining in portable classrooms
- potential multiple

Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations

Given full consideration of:

- a) the Accommodation Review Committee Recommendations
- b) the December 2nd, 2008 Pupil Accommodation Review - Senior Staff Recommendations
- c) the information and input received through the three Special Board Meetings for Public Input
- d) the information and input received through Correspondence to the Office of the Director of Education; and,
- e) the subsequent review and research by Senior Staff,

Senior Staff is recommending to the Niagara Catholic District School Board for its consideration, the following recommendations as provided under the subtitle - Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations.

Niagara Falls Elementary

ARC Recommendations - September 8th, 2008

1. Not before September 2010, the consolidation of St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary School within an addition and renovation to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School; the consolidation of St. Joseph with St. Mary, St. Patrick and Father Hennepin; the revision of St. Mary and Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School Boundaries.
2. Not before September 2013-14, the consolidation of Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School with Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School and a New School located in the Warren Woods Estate; potential boundary revision to Loretto Catholic and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary Schools.

Pupil Accommodation Review - Senior Staff Recommendations - December 2nd, 2008

1. THAT, St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School be closed by September 2010 and with the revision of St. Mary and Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School boundaries the students be relocated to St. Mary, St. Patrick and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary Schools.
2. THAT, no sooner than September 2011 and subject to Ministry of Education funding and approval for a new school in the Warren Woods Estate and for an addition and renovations to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School, the closure of St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary School with the students relocated to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.

Niagara Falls Elementary – continued

Pupil Accommodation Review - Senior Staff Recommendations - December 2nd, 2008 - continued

3. THAT, over the next five years Senior Staff will monitor student population growth, projections, location and accommodation data in the southern portion of the City of Niagara Falls.
4. THAT, a Niagara Falls Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board be established to review the attendance boundaries as recommended by Senior Staff for all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls, including the potential new school in the Warren Woods Estate, to maximize facility utilization of elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls.

Senior Staff Follow-Up Report Recommendations - March 10th, 2009

1. THAT, St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School be closed by September 2010 with St. Joseph students relocated through the Attendance Area process to St. Mary, St. Patrick and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary Schools.
2. THAT, no sooner than September 2012 and subject to Ministry of Education funding and approval for a new school in the Warren Woods Estate and for an addition and renovations to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School, the closure of St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary School with the students relocated to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.
3. THAT, over the next five years Senior Staff will monitor student population growth, projections, location and accommodation data in the southern portion of the City of Niagara Falls and if required, apply to the Ministry of Education for capital funding for a new elementary school in the Warren Woods Estate of Niagara Falls.
4. THAT, a Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board be established in September 2009 to review the attendance boundaries for all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls. According to the Board's Attendance Area Policy 301.3, the mandate of the committee will be to recommend to the Board stability within all attendance areas while maximizing facility utilization of all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls.

St. Catharines Elementary

ARC Recommendations - September 12th, 2008

1. That the Board will consult with Bishop Wingle and the Diocese of St. Catharines in maintaining a home and school connection with the Cathedral of St. Catherine of St. Alexandria.
2. That the Board will consult with other community partners and with the City of St. Catharines, regarding school buildings and the Downtown St. Catharines Revitalization Plan, as it applies to St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School.
3. That the consolidation of Michael J. Brennan with St. James Catholic Elementary School takes place not prior to September 2010, and not prior to an addition/renovation and the completion of facility renewal needs to St. James to accommodate the enrolment.
4. That the consolidation of Our Lady of Fatima with St. Alfred takes place not prior to September 2010, and not prior to an addition/renovation and the completion of facility renewal needs to St. Alfred to accommodate the enrolment.
5. That the consolidation of St. Nicholas with St. Denis takes place not prior to September 2010, and not prior to an addition/renovation and the completion of facility renewal needs to St. Denis to accommodate the enrolment.
6. That if there is a consolidation of schools, the process of integration will be carried out with the parishes, Catholic School Councils, Principals, staff, parents, and community members.
7. That if there is a consolidation of schools, that action be taken to retain the historical and religious history of the consolidated schools in the newly formed school communities.

Pupil Accommodation Review - Senior Staff Recommendations - December 2nd, 2008

1. THAT, Senior Staff will continue to monitor the possibility of closing Michael J. Brennan Catholic Elementary School and that Senior Staff will bring a report to the Board no later than September 2012.
2. THAT, Senior Staff will continue to monitor the possibility of closing Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School and that Senior Staff will bring a report to the Board no later than September 2011.
3. THAT, no later than September 2011, the closure of St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School with students relocated to Mother Teresa, St. Anthony, St. Christopher and St. Denis Catholic Elementary Schools unless, a) based on the current attendance catchment area the enrolment at St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School increases to a minimum of 230 full time registered students, and b) Ministry of Education funding and approval be received for a new downtown elementary school.

St. Catharines Elementary – continued

Pupil Accommodation Review - Senior Staff Recommendations - December 2nd, 2008 - continued

4. THAT, a St. Catharines Elementary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board be established to review the attendance boundaries as recommended by Senior Staff for all elementary schools in St. Catharines to maximize facility utilization of elementary schools in St Catharines.

Senior Staff Follow-Up Report Recommendations - March 10th, 2009

1. THAT, Senior Staff will continue to monitor the possibility of closing Michael J. Brennan Catholic Elementary School and that Senior Staff will bring a report to the Board no later than September 2012.
2. THAT, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School not be consolidated at this time subject to the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review process and recommendations, and that Senior Staff continues to monitor enrolment and report back to the Board no later than September 2012.
3. THAT, no later than September 2012, the closure of St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School with students relocated through the Attendance Area process to Mother Teresa, St. Alfred, St. Anthony, St. Christopher and St. Denis Catholic Elementary Schools unless an approved joint venture is confirmed between the Niagara Catholic District School Board and a coterminous District School Board, with the City of St. Catharines to provide confirmed property in the downtown core, and the Ministry of Education to provide confirmed funding and approval for a new downtown elementary school.
4. THAT, a St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board be established in September 2009 to review the attendance boundaries for all elementary and secondary schools in St. Catharines. According to the Board's Attendance Area Policy 301.3, the mandate of the committee will be to recommend to the Board stability within all attendance areas while maximizing facility utilization of all elementary and secondary schools in St. Catharines.

St. Catharines Secondary

ARC Recommendation - September 12th, 2008

1. To maintain all three Catholic secondary school communities in St. Catharines, to request an Area Attendance Review Committee, and to explore the implementation of additional specialized academic programs such as French Immersion, Arts and Culture and Robotics.

Pupil Accommodation Review - Senior Staff Recommendations - December 2nd, 2008

1. THAT, the Board maintains all three Catholic secondary schools in St. Catharines and monitor the accommodation and utilization of all three Catholic secondary school facilities over the next five years.
2. THAT, Senior Staff will continue to apply to the Ministry of Education for additional funding to provide facility plant upgrades to St. Francis Catholic Secondary School.
3. THAT, Catholic Secondary Schools in St. Catharines will continue to have the opportunity to implement specialized programs providing sufficient student enrolment and Ministry of Education funding and approval.
4. THAT, a St. Catharines Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee be established to review the attendance boundaries for all three Catholic secondary schools in St. Catharines to maximize facility utilization of secondary schools in St. Catharines.

Senior Staff Follow-Up Report Recommendations - March 10th, 2009

1. THAT, the Board maintains all three Catholic secondary schools in St. Catharines and monitors the accommodation and utilization of all three Catholic secondary school facilities over the next five years.
2. THAT, Senior Staff will continue to apply to the Ministry of Education for additional funding and to identify other sources of funding in order to provide facility plant upgrades to St. Francis Catholic Secondary School.
3. THAT, Catholic Secondary Schools in St. Catharines will continue to have the opportunity to implement specialized programs providing sufficient student enrolment and Ministry of Education funding and approval.
4. THAT, a St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board be established in September 2009 to review the attendance boundaries for all elementary and secondary schools in St. Catharines. According to the Board's Attendance Area Policy 301.3, the mandate of the committee will be to recommend to the Board stability within all attendance areas while maximizing facility utilization of all elementary and secondary schools in St. Catharines.

Conclusion

This Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations continues to recognize that the projected trend of continued declining enrolment in our elementary and secondary schools, not only in Niagara Catholic, but throughout the Province of Ontario over the next fifteen to twenty years, presents challenges for all partners in Catholic education and our communities. (Appendix F – Student Enrolment, School Utilization, Operating Costs and Projected Enrolment)

In arriving at the final Senior Staff recommendations to the Board, Senior Staff continued to take into consideration:

- the multiple variables causing increased surplus space;
- the limited facility renewal, new pupil places and capital funds;
- the shifting demographics from neighbourhood schools;
- the increased potential of multiple combined grades;
- the importance of continuing to provide excellence in Catholic education; and
- the importance of being fiscally responsible and addressing long term accommodation needs in all schools in Niagara Catholic.

Above all, Niagara Catholic continues to recognize that we are affecting the lives of our students and their families as we address the challenges associated with declining enrolment and neighbourhood population shifts. The Board and affected communities can be assured that Senior Staff, together with Principals, school staff and members of the Catholic School Council will work together in designing and implementing a smooth transition program while retaining the historical and religious history of the consolidated schools.

This Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations is provided, in compliance with Ministry of Education Guidelines and Board Policy and Guidelines, to the March 2009 Committee of the Whole and to the Board for consideration at the May 26th, 2009 Board Meeting to decide school accommodations in Niagara Falls and St. Catharines.

A copy of this Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations, along with the accompanying appendices, has been placed on the Board's website under the March Committee of the Whole Meeting and the Public Accommodation Review tab. Copies of this Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations, once received by the Board will be e-mailed to all members of the three Accommodation Review Committees, current Catholic School Council Chairs and Principals.

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board in accordance with the Board approved Niagara Catholic Pupil Accommodation Review Schedule for 2008-2009 the *Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations on Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls Elementary, St. Catharines Elementary and St. Catharines Secondary*, be received.

THAT following recommendations by Senior Staff as provided in the *Senior Staff Follow-Up Report and Recommendations on Pupil Accommodation Review for Niagara Falls Elementary, St. Catharines Elementary and St. Catharines Secondary* be received and considered for approval at the May 26th, 2009 Board Meeting;

...continued

1. **THAT**, St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School be closed by September 2010 with St. Joseph students relocated through the Attendance Area process to St. Mary, St. Patrick and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary Schools.
2. **THAT**, no sooner than September 2012 and subject to Ministry of Education funding and approval for a new school in the Warren Woods Estate and for an addition and renovations to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School, the closure of St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary School with the students relocated to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.
3. **THAT**, over the next five years Senior Staff will monitor student population growth, projections, location and accommodation data in the southern portion of the City of Niagara Falls and if required, apply to the Ministry of Education for capital funding for a new elementary school in the Warren Woods Estate of Niagara Falls.
4. **THAT**, a Niagara Falls Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board be established in September 2009 to review the attendance boundaries for all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls. According to the Board's Attendance Area Policy 301.3, the mandate of the committee will be to recommend to the Board stability within all attendance areas while maximizing facility utilization of all elementary and secondary schools in Niagara Falls.
5. **THAT**, Senior Staff will continue to monitor the possibility of closing Michael J. Brennan Catholic Elementary School and that Senior Staff will bring a report to the Board no later than September 2012.
6. **THAT**, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School not be consolidated at this time subject to the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review process and recommendations and that Senior Staff continues to monitor enrolment and report back to the Board no later than September 2012.
7. **THAT**, no sooner than September 2012, the closure of St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School with students relocated through the Attendance Area process to Mother Teresa, St. Alfred, St. Anthony, St. Christopher and St. Denis Catholic Elementary Schools unless an approved joint venture is confirmed between the Niagara Catholic District School Board and a coterminous District School Board, with community partners to provide appropriate property in the downtown core, and the Ministry of Education to provide confirmed funding and approval for a new downtown elementary school.
8. **THAT**, a St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board be established in September 2009 to review the attendance boundaries for all elementary and secondary schools in St. Catharines. According to the Board's Attendance Area Policy 301.3, the mandate of the committee will be to recommend to the Board stability within all attendance areas while maximizing facility utilization of all elementary and secondary schools in St. Catharines.

...continued

9. **THAT**, the Board maintains all three Catholic secondary schools in St. Catharines and monitors the accommodation and utilization of all three Catholic secondary school facilities over the next five years.
10. **THAT**, Senior Staff will continue to apply to the Ministry of Education for additional funding and to identify other sources of funding in order to provide facility plant upgrades to St. Francis Catholic Secondary School.
11. **THAT**, Catholic Secondary Schools in St. Catharines will continue to have the opportunity to implement specialized programs providing sufficient student enrolment and Ministry of Education funding and approval.

PREPARED BY: Administrative Council

PRESENTED BY: John Crocco, Director of Education

APPROVED BY: John Crocco, Director of Education

DATE: May 26, 2009

Attachments

Appendix A – Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines

Appendix B – Niagara Catholic Policy 701.2 – Closure of Schools / Accommodation Review Policy

Appendix C – Niagara Catholic Pupil Accommodation Review Schedule 2008-2009

Appendix D – Niagara Catholic Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines for Public Input

Appendix E – Senior Staff Pupil Accommodation Review Report – December 2nd, 2008

Appendix F – Student Enrolment, School Utilization, Operating Costs and Projected Enrolment

Appendix G – Copies of Presentations made by the Public at the Special Board Meetings
(Provided to the Board on February 10th, 2009 under separate bound cover)

Appendix H – Copies of Correspondence received as of February 10th, 2009
(Provided to the Board on February 10th, 2009 under separate bound cover)

Appendix I – Copies of Correspondence received between February 10th, 2009 and March 6th, 2009

Appendix J – Copies of the Board Approved Minutes for the three Special Board Meetings for Public Input

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE RE PUPIL ACCOMMODATION
CITY OF ST. CATHARINES - MAYOR BRIAN MCMULLAN**



THE CORPORATION OF THE
CITY OF ST. CATHARINES

Box 3012, 50 Church Street,
St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada L2R 7C2
Tel: 905-688-5600 www.stcatharines.ca

BRIAN McMULLAN
MAYOR

May 5, 2009

John Crocco
Director of Education
Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road,
Welland, Ontario
L3C 7C1

Dear Mr. Crocco,

I have reviewed the March 10, 2009 report and recommendation put forward by staff of the Niagara Catholic District School Board regarding the future of St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School in St. Catharines.

While St. Catharines City Council and its staff remain committed to assisting the Board in maintaining the school in Downtown St. Catharines, I have concerns with the recommendation that will go before trustees at its May 26, 2009 board meeting. Specifically, I am concerned with the statement contained in Recommendation 7, which states "...with the City of St. Catharines to provide confirmed property in the downtown core."

Certainly the city supports the preservation of a downtown school as we believe it would be in keeping with our downtown revitalization efforts and will offer any assistance it can to secure a location. However the City has few available sites in the area and the site which most closely fits the needs of the Board was rejected because it was too small.

We recognize ultimately the decision to close St. Nicholas school and the construction of a replacement school, rests with the school board trustees and not City Council. Notwithstanding this, the City remains willing to consider other partnership opportunities which will allow the Niagara Catholic District School Board to maintain a downtown presence.

Best regards,

Brian McMullan
Mayor

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE
YVONNE WOK - CHAIR ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNCIL**

Crocco, John

From: Yvonne Wowk [yvonne.wowk@sympatico.ca]
Sent: Monday, May 25, 2009 8:59 PM
To: kburtnik@cogeco.ca
Cc: Belcastro, John; maurice charbonneau; gary crole; john dekker; Fera, Frank; Nieuwesteeg, Ed; Scalzi, Tony; Crocco, John
Subject: St. Nicholas Catholic School

Dear Ms. Burtnik,

As the May 26th deadline approaches to vote on the fate of St. Nicholas Catholic School, I am asking all trustees to reconsider extending or to put on hold the board recommendation closing date of September 2012.

Please keep in mind that there are ground breaking events occurring in the downtown area this year and St. Nicholas is a 152 year old landmark that deserves to remain open as it is too, an integral part of the downtown and is important to the social fabric of the downtown community. This weekend I happened to be reading the May issue of the Catholic Digest, and an article "Do Catholic Schools have a Future?" really hit home. In a report titled "Who Will Save America's Urban Catholic Schools", Scott Hamilton argues "that Catholic schools are a vital resource to inner-city neighborhoods. They have a long and recognized tradition of educating the poor and taking the poor seriously, and by that I mean they don't care where you're from or what your ethnicity is; they believe if you work hard and behave the right way and follow all the commandments, you'll be a success."

And later on in the article, "many U.S. churches began with poor immigrant populations, and that the church grew strong, not because it built nice churches, but because it built schools and educated generation after generation to be Catholic, and influenced other kids in the community because they were a presence." That is St. Nicholas to a T!!!

Our school population ranges from the very poor to the very professional wage earner-- and we need a Catholic school downtown to serve this wide range of people.

Please, please do not make a mistake that will be regretted in the future or that cannot be reversed. Please do not close our only Catholic downtown school.

Sincerely,
Yvonne Wowk
Chair, St. Nicholas Catholic School Council

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE
GAETANO DEBENEDETTI - ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, NIAGARA FALLS**

Gaetano De Benedetti
5795 Desson Avenue
Niagara Falls, Ontario
L2G 3T5
905-354-7404
gaetano_maria@sympatico.ca

May 26, 2009

Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road, Welland Ontario
L3C 7C1
905-735-0240

**RE: May 26, 2009-Board Meeting-
Possible Closure of St. Joseph Elementary School-Niagara Falls, Ontario 2011.**

To: Niagara Catholic District School Board, Senior Administration and Trustees.

Good Day,

I am a concerned parent writing to you about the possible closure of St. Joseph Elementary School in Niagara Falls, Ontario. At present, I have my six year old son Matteo enrolled in Senior Kindergarten. He loves going to St. Joseph School and adores his Senior Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Fran CuvIELLO. Matteo is also very enthusiastic about entering grade 1 at St. Joseph School in the fall. His brother Dante will be starting Junior Kindergarten in September 2009 and is looking forward to attending St. Joseph School with his older brother.

St. Joseph Elementary School can be best characterized as "the little school that could." This school has been recommended for closure yet it was recognized by the Fraser Institute for its Academic achievements and also awarded First Runner Up for the Garfield Weston Award for Excellence in Education in the category of "Improvement in Academics." St. Joseph Elementary School in Niagara Falls represents the top one percent of Ontario's elementary schools.

I feel that these academic achievements are in direct relation to St. Joseph's small school size. There is more one on one teacher student interaction which works in promoting student academic success. The teachers and administrative staff at St. Joseph's School are very supportive and truly care about their students. The students and their families also support the school's literacy and numeracy initiatives through their conscientious work at home.

St. Joseph may be small in size but is huge when it comes to school spirit. This was very prevalent during the two most recent family movie nights, which proved to be very successful. They were both well attended by the teachers, the students and their families.

We are looking forward to the next family event, "Fun Fair and Family Barbeque," to be held on June 3, 2009. I have no doubt that this too will be a success.

As a parent, I have observed how my son Matteo became caught up with the school spirit when he participated in the "Jump Rope for Heart" event that took place at St. Joseph School on May 8, 2009. He canvassed his neighborhood, friends and family telling everyone with great pride that the event was to take place at his school-"St. Joseph Elementary School in Niagara Falls." He was able to raise \$650.cdn for the Heart and Stoke Foundation.

My son also participated in the "Climb for Cancer" event on April 4, 2009 which was held at the Sklyon Tower in Niagara Falls. Matteo raised \$255.cdn in pledges. When asked what school he went to he proudly said, "I go to St. Joseph School in Niagara Falls."

My wife and I are very proud of our son at what he was able to accomplish during these two fundraisers. We feel that St. Joseph School has been a great influence on him in showing him what it means to have "spirit" and in encouraging him to help others in need.

The closure of St. Joseph School just won't effect the staff and students of St. Joseph's School it will also have a detrimental effect on St. Ann's Roman Catholic Church as well. St. Ann's Church serves as St. Joseph School's Church and spiritual centre. If St. Joseph School were to close St. Ann's Church will no longer have a school to draw from. The children of St. Joseph's School would have to go elsewhere, resulting in families moving away and the deterioration of St. Ann's Church congregation that would be a shame, especially with St. Ann's Church rich Italian heritage.

St. Joseph Elementary School-"the little school that could." Is the "little school that can." This school has a great teaching heritage and has been part of the community for many years. Please keep St. Joseph Elementary School open in Niagara Falls, This school will continue to obtain academic achievements and win Awards for Excellence in Education. The pride of these accomplishments will be a direct reflection on the teaching staff, the students, the parents, support and administrative staff and the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

Respectfully yours,

Gaetano De Benedetti
Gaetano De Benedetti

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
SPOTLIGHT ON NIAGARA CATHOLIC
MAY 12, 2009**



Spotlight

ON
NIAGARA CATHOLIC

www.niagaracatholic.ca

May 12, 2009

New Specialist High Skills Major Program

Niagara Catholic will offer one new Specialist High Skills Major Program (SHSM) for the 2009-2010 school year, with two more proposed programs awaiting Ministry of Education approval.

A new Hospitality and Tourism dual-credit program, in co-operation with the Tourism program at

Niagara College, has been approved for the new school year. The program will be a part of the Golden Horseshoe School-College-Work Initiative through the SHSM Program. Students who successfully complete the dual-credit program will receive a secondary and post-secondary credit.

The two programs currently awaiting Ministry approval are Niagara Catholic Arts, Communications and Theatre (Niagara Catholic ACT), which will focus on Performing Arts, Video and Radio Productions, and Niagara Catholic Physical Health and Sound-Living Education (Niagara Catholic PHASE).

Students who complete Niagara Catholic ACT will be prepared to take the next step toward careers on the stage and behind the scenes. The Fitness Focus pathway of Niagara Catholic PHASE will build on a strong Health and Physical Education Program. The Health and Wellness Focus will build on a strong Science department at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School where, if approved, the program will be run, and will enhance an existing Health Fair event at the school.

The new SHSM programs will be in addition to ones currently in place at Niagara Catholic: Construction, Transportation, Hospitality and Tourism and Horticulture and Landscaping. The SHSM program recognizes the current and future need for highly skilled individuals to work in a variety of fields and prepares students for these careers. It allows students to focus on a career path that fits their individual interests and skills.



Niagara Catholic District School Board Director of Education John Crocco sits behind the wheel of a race car designed by students in the Transportation Technology Specialist High Skills Major Program at Notre Dame College School. Looking on is Lakeshore Catholic High School student Kyle Tomaski. Students from each of Niagara Catholic's existing SHSM programs were at the May 12th Committee of the Whole meeting to celebrate the news about enhancements to the SHSM program.

Niagara Catholic Preliminary Budget Discussed

Niagara Catholic's 2009-2010 preliminary annual budget was presented to Trustees at the May 12th Committee of the Whole meeting.

The preliminary budget totals \$228,706,574, an increase of \$7.2 million over the 2008-2009 budget. Despite the increase, Niagara Catholic has seen its funding from the Province for textbooks and learning materials, computers, professional development and transportation cut by approximately \$1 million this year. If approved, the 2009-2010 annual budget will be balanced with a transfer of \$1.7 million from the Reserve for Working Funds.

The budget projects a decrease of 200 students in 2009-2010. Average class sizes in the preliminary budget remain unchanged for this year, with 23.5 students for every teacher in elementary schools and 22:1 in secondary schools. Previously approved capital projects will not be affected.

Committee of the Whole will receive the final version of the 2009-2010 Budget at the June Committee of the Whole meeting.

May is
Speech
& Hearing
Awareness
Month



Niagara Catholic Oral Medication Policy Currently Under Review

Niagara Catholic Senior Staff are currently reviewing the Board's Policy on the administration of oral prescription medication. This review is part of an ongoing, cyclical process of reviewing all Niagara Catholic Policies and Administrative Guidelines to ensure they continue to comply with current legislation and meet the needs of the system.

The existing Policy was issued in October, 1998. The new Policy is expected to be approved at the May 28th Board meeting. Renamed *Administration of Oral Medication to Students Under the Age of 18 During School Hours*, the policy updates language about the administration of prescription oral medication. It also sets in place guidelines for the administration of non-prescription medication.

The revised Policy also reinforces the rights of students to participate in Catholic educational programs at all Niagara Catholic schools regardless of their prescribed and non-prescribed oral medication needs.

Trustees Defer Decision on Water Bottle Ban

The Niagara Catholic District School Board accepted a Senior Staff recommendation to defer a decision on a proposal to ban bottled water sales at Niagara Catholic sites until the 2009-2010 school year.

During the May 12th Committee of the Whole Meeting, Trustees accepted the recommendation to defer a decision on a phased-in ban, which would prevent selling bottled water in Niagara Catholic schools, until the new school year to allow staff to further examine the issue.

The issue goes back to the October 28th, 2008 Board meeting, when Trustees approved a Notice of Motion directing staff to report the implications of a phased-in water bottle ban.

For the past decade, bottled water has been seen as a healthier, more hygienic choice for students. It is also available in an emergency.

However, there is a shift in thinking about bottled water. Environmentalists are concerned about the cost of producing bottled water, to the consumer and the environment. Many question the ethics of viewing water as a commodity.

Staff must balance these concerns with the needs of Niagara Catholic. Money raised through bottled water sales is used to fund school-based projects and social justice organizations. Banning bottled water sales would mean a loss of that revenue. Staff must also consider the potential health impacts of no longer providing bottled water to students. Without available water, students may turn to sugar-filled drinks throughout the day.

2009-2010 Calendar Approved

The Ministry of Education has approved Niagara Catholic's 2009-2010 school year calendar.

Students will head back to class on September 8, 2009. The final day for classes before the Christmas break is December 18, 2009. Students will return to class on Monday, January 4, 2010.

Secondary school exams will run from January 28-29, 2010 and June 22-28, 2010.

The last day of school for secondary students will be June 28, 2010. Elementary students will finish the year a day later.

Eco Award for Niagara Catholic

Niagara Catholic's leadership in embracing green technology has been recognized with an InfoWorld Green 15 Award for sustainability.

Each year nominees are submitted for their efforts boost to energy efficiency and trim waste through new technology. Niagara Catholic was nominated by Xerox for turning to e-docs to cut the use of paper and reduce transportation costs.

Niagara Catholic joined GlaxoSmithKline, Aramark, Intel, Proctor&Gamble, Burt's Bees, the United States Navy and the U.S. Postal Service in receiving the award.

A+++

- + Congratulations to Tyler Plyley, Kevin Gryp and Julia Falvo, who will represent Niagara Catholic as a part of Team Ontario at the Skills Canada Competition in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, from May 20th - 23rd. The students each won gold medals during the Ontario Skills Challenge Competition, held at RIM Park in Kitchener earlier this month. Tyler, a student at Saint Michael Catholic High School in Niagara Falls, will compete in the Electronics division, Kevin, a student at St. Francis Catholic Secondary School in St. Catharines, will compete in the Website Development category and Julia Falvo, a student at Notre Dame College School in Welland, will compete in the hairstyling competition. Tatsiana Shynkevich, a student at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School in St. Catharines, won a silver medal in the Desktop Publishing competition in Kitchener, and was named an alternate to the team.

- + Congratulations to the Niagara Catholic students who received Catch The Spirit Awards during the annual ceremony, which was held at Blessed Trinity Catholic High School in Grimsby on May 4th, as a part of Catholic Education Week. The list of recipients can be found at www.niagarcatholic.ca.

Congratulations!

**Nurturing Souls
&
Building Minds**

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
MAY 26, 2009**

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

June 2009

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

1
Canadian Environment Week
May 31 - June 6, 2009
 The week coincides each year with World Environment Day (5 June).

2
 CW Mtg
 7:00 pm
 CEC

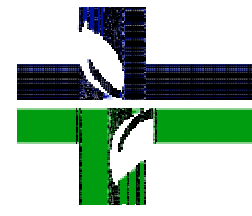
3
 SEAC Mtg
 7:00 pm
 CEC

4
 Young Artists
 Gallery Opening
 CEC
 7:00 to 9:00 pm

5
 Loretto
 Sisters
 Anniversary
 Dinner

6

7



7

8

9

10
 Service
 Recognition
 Celebration

11
 Niagara
 Catholic
 Administrative
 Leadership
 Symposium

12

13

14

15

16
 Special
 Policy Mtg
 Board Mtg
 7:00 pm

17
 OECTA
 Secondary
 Retirement
 Party

18

19
 Secondary
 Exams
 Jun 19/09
 to
 Jun 25/09

20
 OECTA
 Elementary
 Retirement
 Party

21

22
 Father's
 Day
 Summer
 Solstice

23
 Graduation
 -Denis Morris

24
 Graduation
 -Holy Cross
 -Notre Dame
 -St. Francis
 -Saint Paul

25
 Graduation
 -Saint Michael
 -Blessed Trinity

26
 Graduation
 -Lakeshore
 Catholic
 Secondary
 PA Day

27

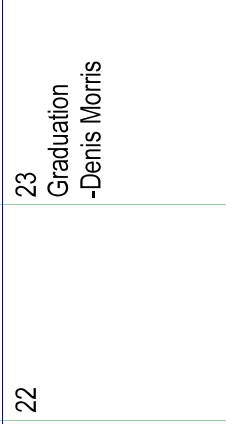
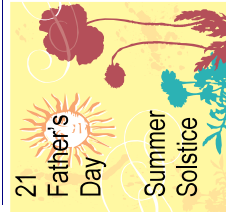
28

29
 Elementary &
 Secondary
 PA Day

30
 School's out for
 summer!



**Niagara Catholic
 District School Board**
Events posted at
www.niagaracatholic.ca





**Celebrate Canada is an eleven-day
 celebration which takes place from
 June 21st to Canada Day, July 1st.**

Note:
 The Catholic Education Centre will be operating on Summer Hours beginning July 2nd.
 Mon -Thurs 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
 Fri 8:30 am - 1:00 pm