



Tuesday, September 3rd, 2013

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As you are aware from previous letters, meetings or information provided through the school and Board, that on February 6th, 2013 an announcement was made at St. James Catholic Elementary School that funding had been approved by the Government of Ontario to consolidate the Michael J. Brennan Catholic Elementary and St. James Catholic Elementary school communities at the St. James Catholic Elementary School site by September 2014. As announced in previous community meetings, potential adjustments to school attendance area boundaries for September 2014 would be required.

In the spring of last year, the Niagara Catholic District School Board approved a motion *“that the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee review the attendance boundaries of the following St. Catharines Catholic Elementary Schools, Assumption Catholic Elementary School, St. Alfred Catholic Elementary School, St. Ann Catholic Elementary School, Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary School, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School and the consolidated St. James Catholic Elementary School/Michael J. Brennan Catholic Elementary School and that a report be submitted to the Committee of the Whole no later than December 2013.”* This motion confirmed the elementary schools within the attendance area review process which will continue this fall.

As part of our open and transparent process, this letter serves to continue to inform you that the St. Catharines Elementary and Secondary Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee of the Board will resume its discussions to review the attendance boundaries of the schools identified above towards a recommendation to the December 2013 Committee of the Whole. The next meeting of the Attendance Area Review Committee will take place on Tuesday, September 10th, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. in the Father Burns csc Board Room at the Catholic Education Centre. This meeting will elect a Chair of the Committee, confirm the Terms of Reference, review draft potential attendance area options and confirm the public consultation process with the Catholic communities identified in the Board motion. As a reminder, all meetings of the Committee are open to members of our Catholic school community.

Throughout the Attendance Area Review process, the Committee will continue to engage members of our Catholic school communities for feedback and recommendations on draft attendance area options. This will be achieved by posting meeting schedules, agendas, minutes and invitations to attend the various public consultation and town hall meetings on our Board website at www.niagaracatholic.ca. Prior to a final recommendation by the Attendance Area Review Committee to the December Committee of the Whole, a Town Hall Meeting will take place at Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School to share the recommendations and provide further opportunity for feedback. The Board and staff recognize how difficult these decisions can be and continue to invite your full participation throughout the discussions.

Please access the Board website for updated information throughout this process. We look forward to your participation in this important process and we thank you for your continued support of Catholic education in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

Sincerely,

Yolanda Baldasaro
Superintendent of Education
Blessed Trinity and Saint Francis Family of Schools

Mario Ciccarelli
Superintendent of Education
Denis Morris and Holy Cross Family of Schools

c.c. Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee
John Crocco, Director of Education

427 Rice Road, Welland, Ontario L3C 7C1
Telephone 905-735-0240 Facsimile 905-734-8828 Email: info@ncdsb.com
www.niagaracatholic.ca

John Crocco, Director of Education / Secretary Treasurer