

AGENDA AND MATERIAL

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2009 7:00 P.M.

DENIS MORRIS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO

Α.	ROUTINE MATTERS	Reference
	1. Opening Prayer - Ed Nieuwesteeg	-
	2. Roll Call	-
	3. Approval of the Agenda	-
	4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest	-
	5. Overview of Special Board Meeting Procedures	-
В.	COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS	
	 Pupil Accommodation Review Highlights and Recommendation <i>John Crocco, Director of Education</i> 	-
C.	DELEGATIONS	
	 PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS Tom Urlocker - St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School Alanna Howell, Leslie Landolt, Lee Page, Cathy Sonier, Yvonne Wowk St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School Phyllis Bonomi - St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School Heather Foss - St. Catharines Downtown Development and Revitalization Committee Tom Baker, Norm Herbert - Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School 	C1 C2 C3 C4 C5
D.	TRUSTEE ITEMS & OTHER BUSINESS	
	 Correspondence 1.1 Robert Schmidt - Michael J. Brennan Catholic Elementary School 1.2 Mags Purcha - Elementary Schools in St. Catharines 1.3 Dagmar Thoms - St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School 1.4 Mags Purcha - St. James Catholic Elementary School 	D1.1 D1.2 D1.3 D1.4
E.	FUTURE MEETINGS & EVENTS	
	 Special Board Meeting - Pupil Accommodation Review - St. Catharines Secondary Monday, February 23, 2009 - 7:00 p.m. Denis Morris Catholic High School 	

F. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

G. ADJOURNMENT

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board

Special Board Meeting

Public Session February 17, 2009

TOPIC: PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

TOM URLOCKER - ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



January 20, 2009

Mr. Crocco

I am applying, as an individual, to appear and to make a presentation regarding the future of St. Nicholas School at the special board meeting being held February 18th at Denis Morris Catholic High School.

Please inform me if my request has been granted.

Thank you. Tom Urlocker

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I am a life long resident of St. Catharines and a firm believer in the importance of Catholic Education.

I have resided within the boundaries of St. Nicholas School for my entire life. My formal education began in St. Nicholas and my five children attended St. Nicholas.

I even had the privilege of being principal of this wonderful school.

When I started my teaching career with the St. Catharines Catholic School Board at Christ the King School on Glenridge Ave., there were 6 more Catholic schools in full operation with the 8th one being built. (St. Mary's, St. Nicholas, St. Catherine, St. John, St. Denis, St. Joseph,) Basically these schools were between the QE highway and the train tracks on Glenridge. Ave.

Today Christ the King is an orthodox church, St. Mary's has been torn down to make way for a housing development. St. John's and St. Thomas house adult education, St. Catherine's is a parking lot, and St. Joseph's closed. St. Denis still exists but St. Nicholas is the only Catholic School in the downtown. This beacon of Catholic Education has been shining brightly for over 150 years.

We would not be here tonight if downtown St. Catharines had not been sliding into a coma for the past 30 years. Unfortunately the city councils of the past saw no need to invest in their downtown and as a result, people moved out. Naturally their children went with them and the businesses followed.

However, in 2008 it began to show signs of waking up. The prognosis is that downtown will fully waken and become a very vibrant destination over the next few years.

Projects are under way which will provide housing in the core of the city. Presently, older commercial buildings are being converted to residences as seen on King St. in the former handball facility. New construction of 40-45 townhouses is taking place on the parking lot of the former Hotel Dieu Hospital. When the new hospital is complete the former Hotel Dieu site will

be transformed into hundreds of residential units. People living in an area bring life, vitality and children with them. New businesses have already sprung up in anticipation of this renewal.

Over the past few years we have seen downtown transforming into an Arts Centre with several theatre groups as well as a number of visual arts establishments. Some of these venues not only display art but provide studio space for artists.

Brock University is moving its School of Fine and Performing Arts to downtown. There are over 500 students in that program and it is growing. In conjunction with the school, a Performing Arts center will be constructed adjacent to the school. It will host music, dance, film, photography, dramatic displays and performances. It will also double as a convention center.

It was reported in; the St. Catharines Standard on Dec. 20, 2008 that "Catholic School Board Staff recommended closing the downtown's only faith based school if it doesn't gain 100 more students by 2011

THAT STATEMENT SCARED ME! If I was a parent of school age children I would be looking now for another school. Kids and parents have enough stresses in their lives without the added threat of their school closing.

I would therefore request that the board state loudly and clearly that St. Nicholas School will Not close in 2011 but will be reviewed again in 5 years. This would provide immediate security for the current parents and students as well as giving the staff time to work on my next suggestions.

I would also ask the board to direct the staff to find ways to keep Catholic Education alive in downtown St. Catharines and I will now speak to this possibility.

As a result of working together, I learned that when Mr. Crocco was given a task to do, he did it with enthusiasm, with focus, with energy and, if it was meant to be, with success. If given the challenge, and, if it is meant to be, Mr. Crocco will find a way to keep St. Nicholas School open,

To that end, I also have a couple of suggestions.

- A) The board has been running a pilot program in Intensive French. Perhaps a program in Intensive French could be started in St. Catharines and housed at St. Nicholas. Proximity to Immaculate Conception could be a bonus.
- B) Make St. Nicholas a centre for Special Interest Programs in the Arts. Programs could be developed for students in grades 6,7 & 8 to have a more in depth exposure to the arts than they can receive in the regular school setting.

For example: Bring to St. Nicholas the students from the various schools for a half day a week for a semester. Creative, energetic and talented teachers will provide innovative programs that will enrich the current arts curriculum.

The McGuinty government says, and I quote, "Arts education is critical to our kid's intellectual, physical and emotional growth. By studying dance, drama, media arts, music and visual arts, students learn to think more creatively and critically, and further develop the ability to work with others."

- C) Enter into a partnership or co-operative arrangement with Brock's School of Fine and Performing Arts, the Niagara Artists Centre (NAC) and other theatre groups such as the Carousel Players which would be extremely enriching and rewarding experiences for our students
- D) The downtown location of St. Nicholas with its proximity to the Cathedral, library, police station, city hall, market, etc. provides many alternate learning opportunities.

I am asking the board to seriously consider my proposal which will result in more of our students selecting art courses in our high schools. This in turn will result in more of our high school students selecting arts at Brock and all of this will provide employment opportunities that will allow our youth to stay in the area.

To briefly summarize, I have two requests.

Do not close St. Nicholas in 2011,

Direct the staff to find a creative viable solution to this problem.

This would confirm that the Catholic School board of Niagara has the courage and creative energy to be innovative Catholic leaders who can look to the future needs of their community.

Thank you



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Ministry of Education

McGuinty Government Boosts Arts Education

Ontario Students Will Benefit From Investments In New Resources Including Musical Instruments And Art Supplies

TORONTO, Jan. 18 /CNW/ - Students in Grades 1 through 12 will benefit from new arts education resources and professional development for teachers, thanks to nearly \$5 million in provincial funding, Education Minister Kathleen Wynne announced today.

"Arts education is critical to our kids' intellectual, physical and emotional growth," said Wynne. "By studying dance, drama, media arts, music and visual arts, students learn to think more creatively and critically, and further develop the ability to work with others."

Public school boards across Ontario will receive more than \$4 million to buy musical instruments, art supplies and other resources to support dance, drama, music and media arts in elementary and high schools. In addition, arts education associations and community organizations will share almost \$800,000 to develop resources and host artists, performances and workshops in schools.

The outcomes of arts education - creativity, imagination, innovation and originality - are among the most important resources for economic prosperity in the 21st century. Ontario's entertainment and creative industries contribute nearly \$9.9 billion to the provincial economy and generate approximately 185,000 jobs. Over the next two decades, job growth in this sector is expected to surpass most of Ontario's other thriving employment sectors.

The investment is part of the McGuinty government's commitment to improving Ontario's public education system. Students are already benefitting from government initiatives intended to help more students succeed, including:

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- Providing a more well-rounded education, with funding to hire 1,600 elementary specialist teachers in areas such as music, the arts, as well as phys-ed
- Providing every school in the province with more textbooks, learning resources and library books with funding of \$535 million
- Funding to hire 3,600 teachers to reduce the number of students in JK to Grade 3 classes to a maximum of 20 students in 90 per cent of classes
- Transforming the Ontario high school experience with six innovative programs to keep kids learning until age 18, including Grade 8-9 transition teams, expanded co-op education and specialist high skills majors that allow students to focus on the career path that matches their unique skills and interests
- Introducing character building initiatives in schools to inspire students to become caring and contributing citizens.

"Reaching every student and helping them achieve their full potential

means providing them with a well-rounded education," said Wynne. "Ontario has a terrific arts education curriculum and we want to support schools in delivering that program."

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Backgrounder

TEACHING THE ARTS IN ONTARIO

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The McGuinty government has invested nearly \$30 million in arts education across the province, including almost \$5 million announced today for new resources.

Arts education contributes to student success across the curriculum, supports higher academic achievement, and improves student motivation and attendance. It enhances student engagement, fosters tolerance and respect for diversity, and builds self-confidence. Arts education has been shown to be a particular benefit to at-risk youth and hard to reach learners.

At the secondary school level, students must earn one arts credit and may add a second one toward their compulsory credit requirements.

In addition, through the Specialist High Skills Major announced in December, students will now be able to complete a minimum bundle of courses in specific high skills areas, such as the arts.

The government has provided funding for school boards to hire an additional 1,300 teachers to support high school students, as well as funding to hire 1,600 elementary specialist teachers in areas such as music, the arts, as well as phys-ed.

Students at the elementary level receive a strong foundation in music, visual arts, drama and dance to ensure they acquire essential knowledge and skills. Teachers are also encouraged to integrate arts education with other subjects in the curriculum such as math, reading and social sciences.

The outcomes of arts education - creativity, imagination, innovation, and originality - are among the most important resources for economic prosperity in the 21st century.

\$5 Million Investment In Arts Curriculum Resources And Training

To support the Grade 1-12 arts curriculum, public school boards across Ontario will receive more than \$4 million to buy musical instruments and other supplies and resources, and provide professional development opportunities for teachers.

As well, 11 arts education organizations will share \$775,000 to develop resources and host artists, performances and workshops in schools. They are:

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- Council of Drama and Dance in Education
- Ontario Music Educators' Association
- Ontario Society of Education Through Art
- Association francophone pour l'éducation artistique en Ontario
- Arts Smarts Ontario
- Mariposa in the Schools
- Prologue for the Performing Arts
- MASC (Multicultural Arts for Schools and Communities)

- + Théâtre Action
- Echo d'un people
- Réseau Ontario

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For further information: Michelle Despault, Minister's Office, (416) 212-3747; Patricia MacNeil, Communications Branch, (416) 325-2676; Public Inquiries: (416) 325-2929 or 1-800-387-5514, TTY: 1-800-263-2892

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TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board

Special Board Meeting

Public Session February 17, 2009

TOPIC: PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

ALANNA HOWELL, LESLIE LANDOLT, LEE PAGE, CATHY SONIER, YVONNE WOWK - ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Good evening, Mr. John Crocco, Secretary/Treasure, Mrs. Cathy Burtnik, Chair, Mr. Frank Fera, Vice-Chair, Trustees of the Niagara Catholic; Parents, Principals and Guests.

My name is Cathy Sonier and I am proud to be a parent at St. Nicholas School.

As a child, I was very lucky to attend the same school growing up. My husband's family had to move around for work and he was always changing schools, sometimes twice a year. When Paul and I talked about our experiences, it was extremely clear what we wanted and what we felt was important for Bazil and Dexter. We made a very deliberate decision to stay where we live so that our boys could feel the same sense of security that I experienced.

Now hearing what Senior Staff believes is a good solution, makes me resent this

Catholic Board of Education very much. I resent the fact that <u>you</u> could take such an important decision away from <u>us</u> as parents.

Clearly there is no regard at all for our children and their feelings. How can you feel right about closing down the school they know and love, separate them from the friends and teachers they know and love, and just plop them wherever.

For those of you who think that closing St. Nicholas school down is the right decision, I'd be willing to bet that you have never had a conversation with any of our children in the school to find out what they would like to see happen with their lives.

RECEIVED FEB 0 9 2009 MRECTOR'S OFFICE

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Good evening Mr. Crocco, Secretary/Treasurer, Mrs. Kathy Burtnik, Chair, Mr. Frank Fera, Vice-Chair, Trustees of the Niagara Catholic, Parents, Prinipals and Guests, Hello my name is Leslie Landolt and I am a member of the St. Nicholas Parent Council. Presently, I have two children in attendance at St. Nicks, in grade three and five respectively. I had the duty as past chair of our council to participate as a member on the Accommodation Review Committee. The process required dedication, care and concern from all members, not just for individual schools but for the benefit of Catholic education in Niagara. Often the process was full of emotion, yet due to the structure outlined by the Ministry of Education we were forced to clearly look at the health of our system as a whole. On a personal note, I came into the review thinking about cost, numbers and logical steps that needed to be taken in order for a bottom line to be maintained. By the end of the entire process I began to view the outcome in a totally different way.

I began to ponder what being a Catholic was.

I pondered what living in a community was all about.

I pondered the entire concept of Christian Ministry, fellowship

I pondered the entire concept of Christian Ministry, fellowship within a community of Catholic families and how that influences the parents and children who are unfamiliar with Catholicism.

In the transient life that makes up any downtown, the tiny heartbeat of all that Catholic education strives for is evident in St. Nicholas School. Yes, it is a tiny speck of a school in the center of a downtown struggling to revitalize itself. Let us all remember that it is the only school that serves the residence of downtown. We all know that our School Board's mandate does not include downtown revitalization, yet I hope that it does include values of Christian ministry to the most vulnerable among us. By and large St. Nicholas is made up of inner city kids whose stability depends upon the safe haven of a historical community that for 150 plus years has always served them.

As past Chair of our council, I had the extreme pleasure of attending our Catholic Conferences put on by our board. They are both wonderful and

inspiring. They clearly affirm the devotion of this board to promote the concept of Triad: School, Church and Home.

The Triad is both visible and spiritual. I am reminded of it every time my children walk home from school and attend Mass at the Cathedral on Sundays. As a parent, the concept of "Triad" was brought to life because of the core values explained to me through the Niagara Catholic District School Board. In the case of St. Nicholas, where stability within a community is needed, why is the Board ready to dismantle the connection between the Cathedral, School and Home? Yes, you can, as you have, make the recommendation to send our St. Nicholas children to many different schools and be content with a Cathedral that no longer has the life blood of children. But how does this truly fit with the Board's proclaimed concept of "TRIAD"? I will leave this question for everyone here to ponder: Is it our responsibility to care for the communities that we serve no matter how transient or vulnerable? Is it our business to treat our school communities that are vulnerable and weak as centers of Catholic Ministry? Personally, I feel that this is what our faith calls us to do.

Please consider this fundamental and spirit filled reason to keep a 152 year old school community open.

Thank you for hearing my message and may God bless this whole decision making process.

Yours, in Catholic Education, Leslie Landolt

7 Gerrard Street, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 5S8

(905) 684-9862 home (905) 651-4309 Good Evening:
Mr. John Crocco, Secretary/Treasurer
Mrs. Kathy Burtnik, Chair
Mr. Frank Fera, Vice-Chair
Trustees of Niagara Catholic District School Board
Parents, Principals, and Guests:

My name is Yvonne Wowk and I am a parent at St. Nicholas Catholic School. Tonight I would like to make a few comments and suggestions and to ask some important questions concerning the possible closure of St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary.

First, our student enrolment has gone from 130 students up to 145 students since the Accommodation Review Committee survey was done in 2007. According to the Senior Staff Recommendations from Dec. 2, 2008, St. Nicholas School could stay open if a minimum of 230 students are registered by Sept. 2011. I received information from our School Superintendent stating that there are 87 students who are within our school boundary, who could be going to St. Nicholas, but are allowed to go to other schools for various reasons. 87 students!!! That is a very high number of out of boundary students for a school that is struggling to remain open. Almost half of our student population!! Why are so many students allowed to leave? If you do the math, 145 students plus 87 students equals 232. My question is: why the number 230, when there are other schools allowed to remain open with lower enrolment? I feel that our school is being targeted. A comment made during an Accommodation Review Working Committee Meeting re-affirms my thoughts on this. It was suggested to take a brick from St. Nicholas and to place it in the library of St. Denis Catholic Elementary School as a remembrance of the school. This gives me the impression that the decision about our school has already been made before the community input has been presented.

According to Senior Staff Recommendations once again, it is stated that if the school is closed, the St. Nicholas students would be relocated to either Mother Theresa, which has by the way, minus 26 student spaces available, or to St. Anthony's, which has minus 9 student spaces available, or to St. Christopher's, which has minus 24 student spaces available or to St. Denis which has only 64 available student spaces but with a proposed renewal need cost of \$863,608.00. Right now there is a proposal from the school board to build a minimum of 4 additional classrooms to St. Anthony's with

the project cost to be announced. 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? How much money will the school board actually save by closing the school? If each student generates approximately, \$8,000.00 the real question is: what is the potential loss of revenue if all of the current students at St. Nicholas opted to attend Memorial Public School or Alexander Public School, two public schools within walking distance of St. Nicholas?

This question was to put to me personally: "If you can get your numbers up to 230 students, not including the out of boundary students, then we can see about getting funding for a new downtown elementary school." Why is it up to the parents to increase enrolment? We already have our jobs, family responsibilities, kids in sports, volunteering on school councils and the many other school activities we provide for our students. This is your job, your responsibility. What has Senior Staff done to meet their recommendation that there WILL be 230 students registered at St. Nicholas by 2011 and that we WILL receive funding for a new school? The school board has the resources, the tools and options to make St. Nicholas more attractive and viable. Why doesn't the board:

- 1. restrict the out of boundary attendance
- 2. change the attendance area boundaries by redistributing student enrolment across the city to eliminate the need for additions.
- 3. establish a day care centre at St. Nicholas to accommodate the families who need child care after school. This would eliminate the need to go to an alternate school because day care if offered there.
- 4. regain and return ownership of St. Nicholas school property back to the English Catholic School Board, ie. Niagara Catholic, or to obtain permission from the French Catholic School Board to do renovations or additions as needed to improve St. Nicholas if/when funding becomes available.

For those present this evening, St. Nicholas and Immaculate Conception School's buildings and sites were both lost to the Catholic French Board in the 1998 amalgamation of the District School Boards.

All of these options will benefit our school and would avoid the travesty of closing the oldest catholic school in the Niagara Region and the only english speaking catholic elementary school that serves the downtown community of St. Catharines.

Thank you.

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

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February 4, 2009

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

Good evening Mr. John Crocco, Secretary/Treasurer, Mrs. Kathy Burtnik, Chair, Mr. Frank Fera, Vice-Chair, Trustees of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, Parents, Principals and Guests.

My name is Mrs. Lee Page and as a long time supporter of St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School I would like to address the Board on behalf of the 551 concerned citizens who signed a petition when the possibility of closing St. Nicholas arose.

As a direct result of the Provincial Government's Places to Grow Act of 2005, St. Catharines has seen an increase in residential construction in the downtown area. These developments include the building of 40 units at Welland Ave. and Ontario Sts., 197 units at 583 Welland Ave. and 228 units that will house as many as 500 people on Herrick Ave.

These developments and the influx of families in the area along with the building of a performing arts centre will have a dramatic effect on the downtown core. We believe strongly that a Catholic Elementary School is essential to this overall growth and respectfully ask that a decision to close St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School be deferred until 2012 when further population statistics will be available and the very real possibility that 230 students could continue the tradition that is St. Nicholas.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lee Page

Dear Board members. Trustees, Teachers, Parents and fellow community members my names is Alanna Howell and I am a grade 8 student at St Nicholas School I have no brothers or sisters and it is my last year at St Nicks. So why would I care if St Nickolas closes? It does not affect me right? But then again it does.

St Nicholas is 152 years old. So obviously it has a lot of history behind it, Can you imagine how many students have went there? How many have been educated and have enjoyed their childhood at St Nicholas? And to take that away from us, to take away a monument of St Catharines, you are taking away my legacy.

My mom went there, my aunt went there and I 'm going there, when I am older I want my kids to go there. Can you imagine how many other families are just like mine, maybe some people might have had there great grandparents go there.

St Nicholas is the only Catholic school downtown that is connected to the Cathedral. So if you take away St Nicholas, you will just not take it away from me, but you will take St Nicholas away from the children of the past, present and future including the Cathedral.

So please don't take away our little school which is a big chunk of St Catharines history; 152 years of it. Thank you for your time and God bless you for your decision.

Alanna Howell St Nicholas Grade 8 student. 56 Grantham Ave S. 905 685 7839



Name	Address	Signature
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Lea Saucel	41 Monarch Park D	Lea Samot
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Josephine Callaghan	264 Oakdalo apt 308 cm	+ Joseph Callahan
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Patrick Carter	66 Acadia Cres	Mark to
JOHN AFD,	203 Russell Ave	
Edith Evert.	49 Worth	Edillega-
Kelly Britt	2 Ferndalo Avenso	Kreen Rusel
Hailen Squie	30 Marmon St.	Marie
Charle Fitak	32 Cheny ST, StCuth	
Vanessa Bignahi-Gara		
Mighelle Miele	113 Queenston St.	MANAULE.
DAMAS	141 Church St.	Thambs
Bobby Charro	n 141 Church St	
LER PAGE	II HERRICK AUR	Page
CathySonier	120 Louisa St.	
Dagmar Thoms	292 Ockdale Ave	d) = /

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Hercedes Vondell	45 North St.	
Carmen Leonardo	1 Clark St. 617	
Doug Kyrr	122 Page 51.	hotes face
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Kathy Carter	da Terrona Hill	Klaster
Caren Tallon	34 Terraise Hill	CLallan
OMRISTINA CHESA	306-45 North St.	QE.
JeffBell	367 Geneva ST	15550
MARY Hulse	55 Albert St	marybulse
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Name	Address	, Signature
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DOWALD MCKINNOW		ilale _
BARRY WEMBUN	145 MAJELOGICA.	Dans
lan Marison	18 Hemlack St	Nam Myrmin-
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Bill WASH	656 NIDEMARDST	2011
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Alica Bos	4 LockwooddR	Collide Bos
Karen Jama	513 Mattheward	Chamber P.
Daward	YMZNORA ST	

Name	Address	Signature
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Thy Ilis Bonom	73 Wollon dAve	P. Bonom,
ERO DETA CRUZ	61 GALF CREST	Podel
Albert Settens Jerry GACIK	the 7 Marmac Dr.	Det Turlli
Jerry Greek	29. TAMES ST. ST.CAT.	1
Rollota GACIK	29 JAMES ST. ST.CAT.	Gant
Jacku Santa	IT matthews Out	/ Sanles
Adelaida T. Gili	18 Harvest Grove	Gely'
LORA MIANI	12 NORWOOD ST. STCATH	
Mrs J. Kanin	5-80 Line 3 10076	E Kane
Melissa Hendrits	1804 Third Street	Menduko
Jame Hadrik	1804 Third St.	Pleralik
Robert Hendrik.	1807 Third St St Cathanie	
Miccocoxi Family	Inputor St. Stocklo	Tireno Wicoproko
Leo Lehman	38 Northglan AVe.	
Louise Sneppard	(42 FOLL/11 CT	La Of

Name	Address	A Signature
Shelly Sheppard	79 Rochelle Drive	Theppard.
Nicole Sheppard	79 Rochelle Drive	Ahrpard.
Jessica Ward	11 Carluccio Cres.	lessed island
Loremunkowy	NOHITECCEST	Larink our
LINDA HOUX	9 CHARITAN CET	(fixa) forme
Gary Sheppard	79 Kochelletty.	
GEPRY BOITON	12 KEEFER RO.	. Ibry Bollon
bun belowere	102 Wood and to1-	
Bill Borton	12 KEEFER RO	
P. Accomp	30 MONTEBELLO	P. Boroznej
D. CHASSIE	102 Woodland	D.M. Chasail
(JReeds	29 Center	phosos
Sprisy Illel	1029 Shaw St	mendado
Simen Contan	14 Cente: 5.	Sin Fo
RICK Grean	30 Montagello R	1
Trish Nash	656 Nicorya St.	Mala
KICK PHISEX	NO FIF HOD.	Rill Penter
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	Cathone	sendor in the downtown of Stice	L
	Name	Address	Signature
_	PAUL SONIER	120 LOUISA ST	/com
-	Tagic Smith	38 kei St	The same of the sa
	Torraine Boerker	33 Brkley Etind	Jones Buches
	Tony prhaneay	33 Barkley St	Tony Richesmonie
,	telly Mayle	3 Cross SH	Of e
	Parot Richard Dunanty	12/Cearge F	Dan Dunielle
	Sharriage	4 Grantham S. 165 Ontaria St	Sarah Barriage
	Manushage Avillia		the s
	Glona Auullija	165 Ontaria St	A.S.
	Radelle Kroeter	te ellies y	Decele
,a	Bylica beceper	to the	Policy
Ì	Jona Bhoza	33 EDHUND 575	Ma Bosa
	Cathy Moundy	44 1/2 Division st	Perton Munch
	brus Slary	20 Russell Ave	Furkas
(Ja Ja	ic c	TOE SAUDIA
	Dill Jules	117 WELLAND AVE	BILLY NEWHAWDS
	IN JULY A GE	11 A ERRICH AUE	Howard .

Name	Address	Signature
Bob Romo	St. Cathornes	BI
Barbara Hardie	Grimshy.	13 Hardie
S. Balanon 8W	St-Cathaures	I Golawood
Smuheeles	101 Sparidge	mwheeler /
E. Phelan	101 Shuridge 50 Thomas St	Ey-
MARK HANLON	91 ELSE 87.	Wal tende
Pauline memme	137 martindale unit	D' Hamene
Toresa Ferrante	1385 Hullon Rd Stl	
Medhelboa	131 Georg &	My My der
Lew Migny		Sen Dr. Thing
Thamas Brann	19 Henry St. St. Cotharines	Thomas &
JEANBRADY	si Cath.	
al Beaton	ST Cathanis	allan Berlan
PATTI BAKER	St. Carperison	
Milram Conwall		1111 Conway
Joshua Thisten	St. Cathorines	Joshua Thierten
The Mol J. Silla	ChTA-EDRAC	7.m. Il Sond.

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Name	Address	Signature
Michael Machalog	292 oakdale	Marked War
Jinny Thoms	797 makdalp	Finny Thomp
FED SONDRUL	22 Monteola for	Ded Sendik
Villian Simozus		Owin Sindal
Biel naDage	47 Corlindo St	William mar mark
Colette Soronchus	180 King St Stl	lSgraneluh
PETER Shutwettate	180 KING ST.	Oxum
8. Rukovich		Pod Nalhouse
J. Reckoved		
J. Francis	#811 7-GALF CRESCENT	S. Francis
H. FRANCIS	4811 7 BALE CRESCENT	
R. HEBDEN	Rolando Hellon.	R Hedden
F. PAGE	27 DACOTAH	Floure Page
Ehichard	137 Church St	E. Richard
Hoy-Class Con	39 Flanney	Han-Garage
Gordansdan	3 Willows	1/1 Pales
July Zahank	99 Church	·· /

Name	Address	Signature
1 JSANDMOE	Address 365 Seneva St.	P
O olise Sand mon	363 Olneva ST.	L' Soudmoin
Jane Misland	494AlkenbureRd	Jan Michael
Vaturia Jenkins	12 Morning side	Parried Verl
MAUREEN BOKANS	20	Muser Odla
I Ferland	141 Church	Therland
a DASAWAVET	DE GRENADIEN ON	C. Cusmas
John Tilley (teacher)	660 ctober Drive	John Lilley
Sandra Chadalcevicz teher	A2-7 Gale Cr. City	Sandra Chodarewica
Than Vargas	438 Scott St. states	Copa !
Juan Varage M	11200	2/1/2
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Deacen Took	3 Lyman ST STO	LIMME
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Steve Kitter	HUMEN IN Mold	Rayler Bunh
STEVE KITTEL	8 TASYIN CRES	Christis
P. Fishel	8 Jasmin gran	Arthel,
Annette Urlocken	46 Albert	allock

Name	Address	Signature	
Metissa Lundry	174 Beech st.	helisa Landry	
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DON MIKULINSKI	83 WEST FARMINGTON DR	Dankelinski	
Jung Sun XI	110 SINJERCRES,		
Alkanska Selvina	IWATER St.	Antice 91	
Paula Nicgorska	IWATEST.	Tary.	
Klara Kross	28 Westland St.	Kikross	
Burtolle Fren	31 Tankfulled	Buthkun	
Danica Bucci	31 Towistock Pol	Remarkan	
MAURICE PRINDIVILLE	4 PINAER COART	mullow	_
Kelly Potro	NOTE SI	Helly Par	
Diana Saranhak	23 Oblate St Stoth	Dearnbuk.	

Name	Address	Signature
TomMoch	46 Albert ST	Tholow
Offary Chamber	72. Farris	5. Shorette
Ja Vaurle	4011 BrokdakD. NF	Le Lavre
Latricia Sempora	, 4132 Brookdole Dr.	P. Singran
ames Simpson	4132 BROOKDALE BP.	Thosan
N. PENNINGTON	129 Highland Qu	Mitalington
	y 99 Church St. ppf.40	O
DALE DAVID	7 GALE CRES	Maux
Alleita	32 Highland	Mokila
Stere Pettes,	54 RUNCURN	Stera Petty
Francis Princherly	4 Punen Lit	Faniliell
Joyce Di Angolo	23 Lowell Ave	Date Pola
Malina Kolleux	92 Pouge: St.	Ment
Mani Shorlf	Ste C. than aus	Man Bull
Lana Costerti	3 Colonial	Jonn Ent
6 Kanoth	42 haberhore	Bom L.

	Name	Address	Signature
	Charles Toye	7 RENFORTH SQ. ST. CATI	Charles Tage
,	Mitcheline Oakes	4 BrooklynCit. State	
	Tod Oakes	4 BROOKLYN CRT.	Led Oakes
	Carpon Vennia	1,139 Highland	6. Peaning to
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/	Ho Kalal	345 Glenera St	Ho Kalel
ے	Sua Ward	52 ALOUGH ST =	DINDERA!
	Carriny Tayla	50 St Patrick St	Carla.
	Carol Parterson	172 Louth St	(P) Palleron
	M Branny as	315 Cenera Si	MBranken
	Dreg Baker	214 main St	Green Ballow
	any Beheil	214 Thain It	ann Baker
	Cody Cloutier	21 East Unester Ave	(loutier
	Martina Bonomi	73 Welland Ave	y Ruan
	Lec Bonemi	//	Les Bracery

Name	Address	Signature
GREG WASHUTA	65Mc Caller Dr.	Della Wolson
STAN LESNIEWSKI	20 BARBICAN TRACC	Stan Seneral
CLAIRE Consupt	30 Mi John Dic	Callyga
Sanice Lesniewski	20 Barbizactrail	f gruenlini
Kathy Sintaik	65 mcalla pr. C	J. Stil.
Marlene Shechan	10 /2 George St	Marlene Sheehe
Greg Sheehan	67 York St	32
Clara Madsin	79 Mustuson Dr	
Ko seman Jengarigarian	84 Marting	Klemento
along Thenson	84 Martings 1 1813 Foleyet Cres.	Hemen Go
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Jant Maden	21 ST HELLIN	1 mosere
Alice McAus	29720akdale #305	The Williams
James Thoms	20 Mej Hent	1. P. Time
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Name	Address	Signature
Lin Slevens at	58 Shuthsone	4
16 SAMMINIAK,	ė(į	14 Shipph
SCHRIS LENSCHINSKI.	15 NESTFIELD De.	
Donna Mchase	131 George St.	Duchood
M	<i>0</i>	,
NETER MAHONET	183 ONTANIO ST.	
MARTIE TACINELLI	9. Norris PLACE. ST.C.	M. Tacinett.
Redden	102-76ale CV	1 / 1
ASh Bowlas	6865 Parkside Rd	L A Coly
Katvina Roules	6865 Paksido Ro	
Victoria Boules	6865 portsido R	d V. Goria Barles
Antonio Bodys	6365 Parkside	ed Antono. bould
Sendra Smith	7869 Petile Ne	East.
Brian Snith	7869 Petite Au	Barryh
Stene Mcful	39 Lizaid Du	
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Name	Address	Signature
David Loresel	312 Bester To	while Doncold
Maria Price	59 Woodrowst Stathar	Les Intui
Sienal armobal	11 Rollar St	Marmakel
Elizabeth Offans	413 Lunel Rd	ESHAN
Andres Quarkants	116 Oreanstons &	Andrew Charle cuged
Patte Foursen	38 adel Dr	Patto Fourse
Jan & Derus	38 Adel Dr.	Dams & Loud
Mary Starko	19 Easlikeder ave	Mary Stanko
Robert Spaan	76 Acadia Cres	Catal Jan
Louise TAYTI	32 Sherbournes	Precise abyl
CHRIS PYNAPPELS	INV BUNTING RA	Change 1

Name	Address	Signature
Sara Mancini	Address Thought Lause	56 San Man
Line James	65 alexandra Der	
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Linea Hennedly	50 Alexandra Bu	Hullatet
me & mex	an 47 Rosedale	1 m Lean
Brian a Dana Li Blanc	67 ALGYLE CR.	B. Scollere
	321 frante Ave	
Hu Walk	72 LINCAN AUT	/ lu NM
ATHY BERGES	76 Rockwood Ave	Cathing Barges
Penerterguson	122 Bunting Rd.	Jane Ferguso
Ber Diegailt	100 Royal Moson	Beothe exict of
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Relied marell	10: Royal Minus	In mark
Alced Ward	198 Scott St.	alice Ward.
TRICIA HOUGH	63 Cantarbury DR.	Mond
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Name	Address	Signature
Taxen West	208-1368 Late Shore Rd	Tulest
Jamor A Fame		Annew
Save Dulong	65 Jangle low Ave	Jane Dulong
Marily Laborate	126 Page St.	marilyn Laborite
J.D. Lelento	126 Page lo	In taleast
MICHAEL GLEASON	159 WELLAND AVE	(A DALO
EDGAR RESPICIO	8 THORNCHEF DR	er-
Mr. M. Slamka	1571 Linuxell Rd.	Milan Donker
Mar All	82 Church 5"207	MSe ARL
Thobr	55 Lasoye He	Jan Gordon
Bearge Schlang		
harry schlang		
CHARIES PRADA	986LMA ST.	2227
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/ Brank Berardi	2 FREDONA CR.	Herardi

Name	Address	Signature
Frank Cura	540 Ontaro St.	J. C.
Jeft West	1363 lakeshor Ro Bring	, AQ
heseie handolt	7 GERRARD ST	
Gracie landolt	1 GETTard St	G
Katherna Sittle	1 FETTARD ST 27 Arbour Gu	KB
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Joseph Bonomi	15 Sale Com	OAD)
Berk & Warner Shyrand	13 Shore Blud.	E. Shepard
Block & Warner Shyard Elewa Slunka	15/2 Linwell Rd.	E Slave La
M.L. Scholl	67 Louth St	M.L. Scholl
R. GUERTIN:	Apt 601, 37 Ontaño St	
J Colli	11 Keistan	Ofolli
A. Potric		analytic
PAULA NIZAN	ST. CATH. ONT.	1 ^ / / 1
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DOROTHY GAGOLA	34 GRENRUDGEST CATH	Delagola +
Clarissa Szakacs	87 Owen St St Cath	1 a(/
Callb SZakacs	87 pueen st stc	th God
B.J.C.b.k	146 Caffee S-L	Blille
Stephane Young	5401 Beaver Valley	A Young
Mally OHearn	& Simese &	Th. Ohears
marie Hallott	174 Lighland	In Hallet.
MAKTHA BONOMI	1 Clark	mb 1
MARY MACCORNICK	29 - Hew the ST	They Mere Count
Antonio Resent.	(Clark S)	
Cormen Resendiz	1 Clark st	(Jew)
Frank urran	540 Contrib Street	790
Mary Vanscery	99 Church St.	Mary Vansas
Desir Becare		Bendi
Ellaw Kinagmer	75 Loraine LR.	Eleanor Donay hul
SAMUEL DONACHUE	75 LURAINE DR.	Samel Donaghie
Lourder Melinz	61 Gale Cre.	Grand o

Name	Address	Signature 0.4
David Landolt	7 bellard St.	Deil Bandet
)-Wood	& Noglane Dr	Lehi W Want
& Horeay	Id. Catharnes	Juacaj.
Mando Dela Cruz	Cel Gale Cres	JAKS .
S/min	6 Linhara Cost	Dun
Josothy Kyp jeki	3. Ernestst	D. Kunende
acqueline Magpayo	23 Wilson St.	Regard & N
Vermier Sarcin	271 brantham are	V. Sr
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Name	Address	Signature
Reena Besa	18 Keefer Rd. Thoraid, ON LDV 444	Reena Beser
Regnator Besa	. 18 Keefer Rd. Thon	OliPej raldo Bla
Maria Ruby Be	ea is Keefer Rd Thou	eld mRBisa
JOHN LARKIN	8 BLDIN PLOCE	John P-Lin
n' Desarti	23 Westland	
a O Breni		
Sixto ONGCANGCO	29 Willem Dr.	Sixto of Ogenge
Bola Hoinwinn		Kels
Edward Alongwar		Edmed
Amanda Berardi	2 Fredoniu	Bent
Jenny . Treva ande	so 141 Church Pr) andrin
July .	115 Que - 17	ther
Marylener	165 Ontarnot 3-88 Welland Ave	Marylenel
Pamela Musinguini	3-88 Welland Ave	Musind
J .		J

Name	Address	Signature
RJEVINE.	FOUR HEARING, Eller	00
	5748 HEMCOCK NFO 2351 CENTRE ST ALLANOUS	
1 1 1 1	338 Clare Ave Well	lad offbegan
Katherine Gaio	. /	· NOTE L. Galo
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	gr. Ber	n,

As a parent/guardian and St. Nicholas School Supporter of St. Nicholas Catholic School, I am opposed to any decision made by the Niagara Catholic District School Board and Board of Trustees to close St. Nicholas Elementary School. I feel strongly that it is important to retain the oldest Catholic School in the Niagara Region and maintain the presence of a Catholic School in the downtown of St. Catharines.

E

Name	Address	Signature
Alexandra Villalobos	3 Vintage Cresent	Addalaba
Alexandra Villalobos	117 WELLANDAVE	
deri Marcella	6361 MorettaDr. DFO.	almaice les
Lyllicen Corbin	a Elmwood Ave	Lyllian C
Preside Pretra		Dakely.
Simona Skaredy.	313 Queonston 8t	Sharedy Sil.
Stepa Balloot	SC	(
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Name	Address	Signature
Megan Ingram	14 marmia st	Megen horsem
Alonso Loaiza	6 Lincoln Ave	Sult,
Jenniar Muph	24 Bluegrass Cres.	JAZ H.
Josus Hendricks	93 ANDUASI.	Cong Jano A
DANT ROTZIK	409 VINE ST	May July
South	•	/ w
Rondin Kathani		
Ananda Coppola		X Sporta
Jaurens Link	372 Grantham Ave.	Hamou Ko
AFordivar Duramos.	103 Vine st south	Tromence of lesection
Steph Whalen.	136 Page St.	Siles
Lympardan Break	0	
Hamiliti		·
Vanesa Gavaia	ig Wiley St	A
Jodi Crarg	7 Fallingbrook CA	ge
	19 lorne St	colin Mingray
Rocio Centeno	20 Dundonald St.	RHEIR

Name	Address	Signature
GARY COOPER	158 ONTALIO ET SACAMALO	0 2
GHALLY COOPER		3 Co Course
Skaupy	7 TEWSKACESTATA	Shin
J. CHERUSHENKO	7 TEWSKACESTATA 60 CHAPLIN AUC	Jos Chernsheylo
Lynne Cunningham	48 8 KW 2+8-	Inelent Co
KACHY KARAIM	90 Spring Garden Blud	L () N , 1 /
ADAM. AZZODARDI	34 Keswick St	A.A.
DOWN Kennedy	1 Inglis circle	Mureay
DAUE CHAUBBLIAN	16 TRAPNEL ST.	Sug Can
T. KITCHIDG	33 JEFFERSON Dr.	
JASON MOORS	7/01 00 LPHIN ST	You Aler !
Shannon hawrence	192 Wellbrook	Adamence
PETER BENNER	3848 SUMMIT	
T-DUNCAN	531211AIR DK	- Jun
Sherl McRoberts	7 Shaver Crt	S. Markey
Loruna RESTORI	-6056 (RMS on DR	L'helorg
Craig Mustard	21 A Page St. 3 macTomball Dr.	450
LORI-A-W Secthol.	3 Mac tomboul Dr.	

Name	Address	Signature
SHMON Couts	4 Pintenerdow	Shan Caelts
LEONE PETTIT	APT 410 321 GENEVA ST	Line Petter
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Victor Demkowitz	12 Barnsdale Lane	Weter Combound
Carolyn Helstrom	9 midland St Cath.	Carolyn Helstrom &
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Aprolle Salur	, 423 Gunting	pt Srahum.
GETE MORRO	16 CLEN PARKS RD	Minous
a-Grazer	55- 122 Lakeshore	Af. Cath.
I Kafate	1012-81 Scott	FRANCES LA PORT
I. His Canja	367 Geneva St.	L. The Comie
M. Lawatsky	165 Antario ;	Marlene Sawatske
Julie Gill	107 Rykert	9 Siel
PETER HOWARD	ZZ NICKERSON	PC Loward
LYNN HOWARD	22 NICKERSON	Sym Howard
Source Spencer	Morris Pla	
Sein you	Wilborno Cres-	Dorthy Legy
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	Name	Address	Signature 1
	5 Appleon	20 Cospu	I are Milliam
	M Robbin	124 March Slad	May Roles
,	P Moccio	53 Huntley Cres	Freel Morcies
	MB Murping	28 GREYSTONIEC	3 6 Murpay
	& Novak	120 Page St.	& Morale
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	TOM ONEN	12 ROEAPHATE DUE	716
	Mille	321 GRANTHAM AND	Thethe

Name	Address	Signature
Norma Wacker	35 Dunblane	nouma Harker
MICHAEL WALKER	35 Dunkine	michael Naker
Nora Dupuis	·Allanburg	Dora Augueis
Rosanne Gung	St. Catharines	Repair
Pharten Moceio	ST. CATH.	maureen Mocife
MRS My Marphe	57 Call	greept one Cois
Don Hauent.	St Carle.	In Phil
John M. PIECH	ST. CATH,	John Plant
Ken MISTA	ST-CATH.	Mangeto
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C. Mar Lacklan		E. May Sonkla
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Paula Suhr	14 Banulya.	D. Lunc VIC
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marie Folital		Millettel

Name	Address	Signature
STEVE KITTEL.	f TURNW CRES.	Ou Sutt
Al Guggi	111 Queen St.	
DAVE SUTH	27 CHURCH	Ry Suggi.
nancy Haworth	158 Onlatio	Many Hawst
Joan Mac Keil	13 Marks Con.	Joan Wackeil
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FREDA MAUNDER	34 Shapepeare 20 Hellicew Rd. N.	Jed of Jagendee
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KATIE SIMKO	·	Ketin Sindo
4	59 Longsa St.	R. Mary Shaver
LORRAINE CHIVERS	75 LAKEPORT RD	Schien
Most-Nagy	17 Spring bonde Des = 137 CHURCH S1	The May
PAULETTE LUCINE	= 137 CHURCH S1	Hilkan Get
SANDY SHOWATTER	10 Bood STEAM BC	M. Arwalter
JEAN HULL		Dean Jack
SWEAHNEKLOLKK	/ /	Karlik
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Name	Address	Signature
God, Mocero	53 Hudley CresStyak	
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ote M non mark	272 ensides	Homm Reto
Woris Konst	59 Longfellow Ave	W. Konst
Donna La sola	38 Huskiar	D. Lozzala
Moon Warne Kinkpatrick	3 Lyman Street	Wayne Kikpatnik
a wackay	272 Glerridge	I My leas
Cl Fraga Not	a commism (1 ANONO
IX Hardie	77 Bellave	March
Sidende Limen	2837454	S, Zemoman
maily Jenace Te	35 Village Gren	merchanic
le Labante	65 steeling st.	les Lalande
Rob Bran	65 steeling St.	Rd- Dr
Mary Kuly	3185 - 19 th Juch	holon
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EMILLY Thurston	27 Henry Street	Guilly Muriston

Name	Address	Signature
Maria Helditch	0 00 0	ath Molditah
	3996 13th St Fordan	C Xro H
Lives Charashyl	220-196 Scott	RRP houseles
Stud Sheel.		Fulllil
Teres Romer	34 Victorio SI	Yerry Romes
KARED HENDLE	321 hunton De	Solo
Lan Hauba	-33 Albert.St	exam Ho
Michelene Hauber	33 Albert St.	Michelenethauber
lacqueline h Jasu	non St. Catharines	S.J. messinger
P. Chumans	43 kuntemount & d.	P. Chumano
Donnell Demers	43 Thomas St	Demens
Jister Patricia Comong	124 Ruhmard &	Sister Patrice Conway
Dister Kartleer Cone	May,	Sister Karham Com
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minda Parday	37 Keney St. 99 Church S.#30k. 5785 Eldorado Ovenue, NFI	Manday
Magie Respicio	s Thorndiff Dr. St. Go	Main Aux
Stille Forrenback	5985 Eldnado Aug N.J	- Angenetic
FE EDRALIN	GO WESTGATE PARKO	e frank
Cirilo Respino	& Throndill Dive	Cinila langui
Poch Robles	8216 SPRING BLASSON DR	02-
FELY WATFIELD	ISGALE CRESCET	
L'indakraune	475 Bunting Rd	Lindakraus
Mercedes Demkritz	12 Bounsdale	Mercedes Demkrutz
Mary White	8 Wedgewood Cot	,
CIP TABIES	311-25 BARNARY Br.	Thin
Liz Purser	62 Saling Garden	
Tom Turser	62 Spring Golder	

Name	Address	Signature
	2 EE1.10 -L	
Michael Cext	27 BARTONST	Deader
BRENT LHOMAS.	63 ACADIA Cres!	Al
Jacob Chode	8 Princess Amcir	am De
GH PAWCETT	28 BLURGRASS CR	
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- Andrew Company		
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	Name	Address	Signature
Louise	GLENFIGLT	1 0 N	L. Herfield
Veral	Berezuk	85-35 westland St.	Hera Lacour
510	Glenfield	30 Parkagen	Jes ()
John	Justyle	99 Burbican Tr	
Alle	in flexible	89 Noch beall In the	Solan / Carl
) Jacqu	Jakuron.	39 Rockview (Joseph Tackerson
Jean	Jawell -	26-BLUEGIZASS CRES (UNIT 28-ST. CATH, 047	A. Fange to.
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000	Jers Ft	27 Bastas	Kantt Broke
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TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board

Special Board Meeting

Public Session February 17, 2009

TOPIC: PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

PHYLLIS BONOMI - ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

John Crocco, Director of Education Kathy Burtnik, Secretary Treasurer 427 Rice Road Welland, ON L3C 7C1



Dear Sir/Madam:

I request permission to make the enclosed presentation at Denis Morris High School on the evening of February 18, 2009. Thank you for your consideration.

Phyllis Bonomi

73 Welland Ave.

St. Catharines, ON

L2R 2M8

905-641-0877

History of St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas has a 150 year old history. Our first Catholic School was opened in 1857 in downtown St. Catharines. The reason the school opened was to meet the needs of new immigrants to the area. That need is still present in the downtown. We were there for the early newcomers to our city and we must be here for the newcomers today. Our immigrant families still need accessible Catholic education. Downtowns tend to be gathering points for newcomers; they arrive here and live here. Without St. Nicholas, new families in the area may resort to sending their children to one of the two public schools located near by, rather than sending their children by bus to a Catholic school further away. St. Nicholas has a positive impact on the surrounding community.

My personal history at St. Nicholas is one that is very close to my heart.

My husband Leo Bonomi attended St. Nicholas as did all of our 4 children. Our children received an excellent education at St. Nicholas that prepared them for High School at Denis Morris as well as post-secondary education. Our eldest is a graduate of University of Western Ontario, our 2nd daughter is in 3rd year at Western and our two youngest are still attending Denis Morris. We truly believe that the education our children received at St. Nicholas exceeded the academic requirement. It prepared them for the real world. The unique blend of staff and students form a cross-section of backgrounds at St. Nicholas school. The diversity that makes up St. Nicholas school is not available elsewhere. Students become exposed to different cultures, ethnic backgrounds, and socio-economic conditions. This has proved to be invaluable to my children in making sound judgements that affected their lives in a very real way.

If you close St. Nicholas School you will never be able to build downtown again, as there is no available land. Although urban sprawl has affected all city centres, it is still extremely important to have a Catholic elementary school in our downtown for our downtown residents. It is important for these young people to have a school in *their* neighbourhood. This school is one that they can call their own, and that is a privilege that all students deserve.

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board

Special Board Meeting

Public Session February 17, 2009

TOPIC: PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

HEATHER FOSS - ST. CATHARINES DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AND

REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE

PRESENTER INFORMATION

RECEIVED FEB 0 6 2009 DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Councillor Heather Foss
Co-Chair, St. Catharines Downtown Development and Revitalization Committee
134 Geneva Street
St. Catharines, ON
L2R 4N6

Home: 905-641-6251 hfoss@stcatharines.ca

PRESENTATION CONCERNING POSSIBLE CLOSURE OF ST. NICHOLAS SCHOOL BY

THE ST. CATHARINES DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

PRESENTER:

COUNCILLOR HEATHER FOSS, CO-CHAIR,

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AND REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE

CITY OF ST. CATHARINES

CITY HALL 50 CHURCH STREET P.O. BOX 3012 ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO L2R 7C2



TEL. 905-688-5601

January 15, 2009

Presentation Re: Consideration of Closure of St. Nicholas School

St. Catharines

The St. Catharines Downtown Development and Revitalization Committee (DDRC) was established by St. Catharines City Council to advise on matters related to the revitalization of the downtown area. On November 27th, 2008, the DDRC received a presentation by a concerned resident about the possible closure of St. Nicholas School.

As you know, Downtown St. Catharines has been designated by the Provincial Government as the only Urban Growth Centre in the Niagara Region through the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. This designation requires a minimum density of 150 residents/jobs per acre for all new development in this area. City Council has adopted the proposed Growth Centre boundaries to include the area south of Welland Avenue to the Highway 406, to Ontario Street on the west, and out to the intersection of Queenston Street and Church Street to the east (see map attached). The site where the current school is located is within this area. Within this area over the next 20 years, it is anticipated that over 2,000 new residential units will be constructed. The future of the downtown is based on a combination of concentrated commercial core with residential development to the east in and around the existing school site.

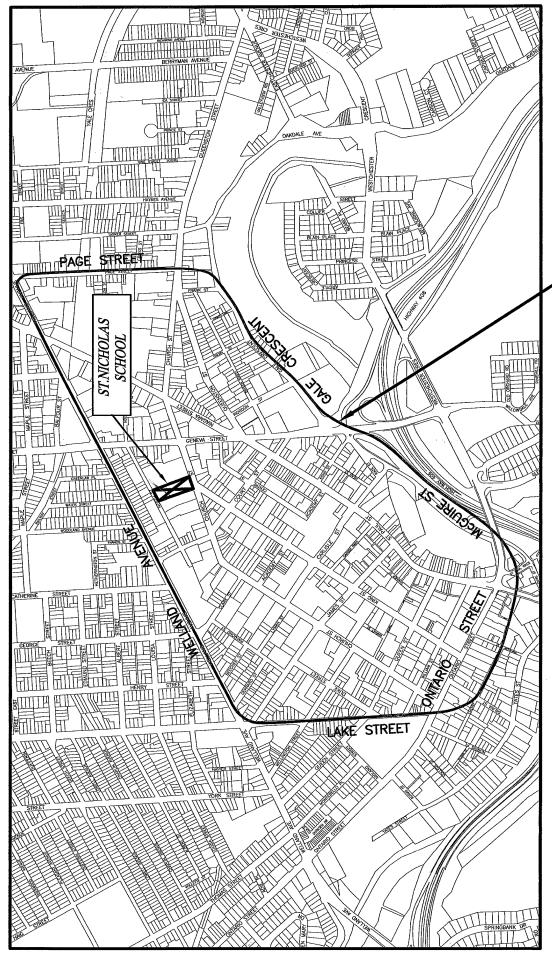
A school is an important component of any residential area. It is an important facility that particularly younger families look for in making housing choice. As such, the continuation of the presence of an elementary school is considered very important in helping the City to achieve the longer term provincial targets.

The DDRC recognizes that school boards are faced with difficult decisions concerning school capacity based on changing demographics. DDRC requests that Board give serious consideration to all options that would allow the continuation of a school presence within the Urban Growth Centre designation including partnering with different community groups and other public agencies to keep the school open before making a decision to close this school.

If you require additional information please contact Paul Chapman, Director of Planning Services, City of St. Catharines by email at <u>pchapman@stcatharines.ca</u> or (905) 688-5601 Ext. 1713.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Submitted on behalf of St. Catharines Downtown Development and Revitalization Committee



URBAN GROWTH CENTRE BOUNDARY-

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board

Special Board Meeting

Public Session February 17, 2009

TOPIC: PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

TOM BAKER, NORM HERBERT - OUR LADY OF FATIMA CATHOLIC

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Our Lady of Fatima Parent Committee

c/o Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School 439 Vine St N St Catharines, Ontario L2M 3S6

(905) 935-4343 (905) 935-3943 (Fax)

February 9th, 2009

To: Director of Education

Niagara Catholic District School Board

427 Rice Road Welland, Ontario L3C 7C1

Re: Public Input Presentation Application for Our Lady of Fatima School

Please accept the following written presentation as the Our Lady of Fatima School's Parent Committee Members application, requesting the opportunity to appear as a delegation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Parent's Committee of Our Lady of Fatima School St. Catharines



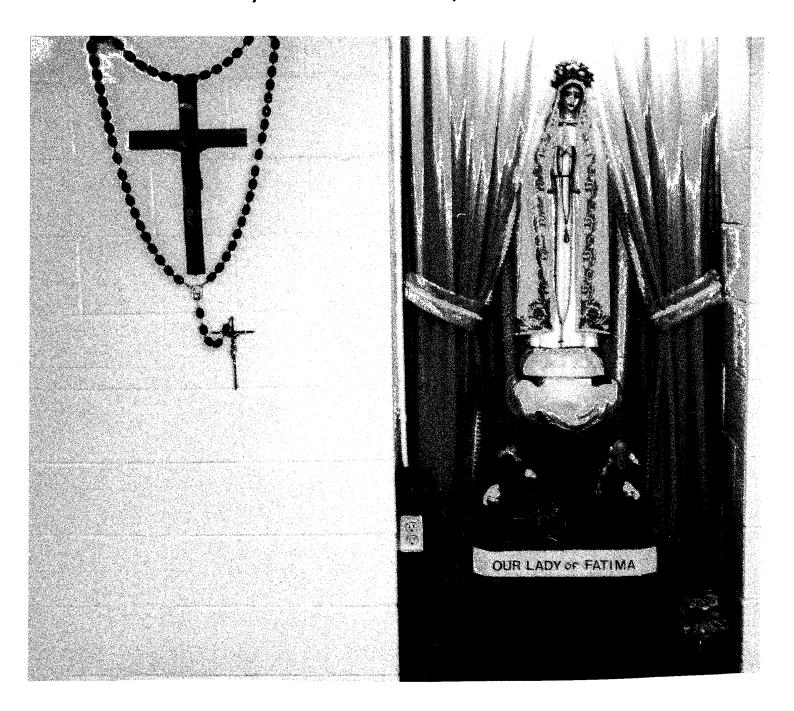
Pupil Accommodation Review Process

- a) This is the written presentation that was requested.
- b) The following are the two individuals who will be presenting at the Public Input Meeting:

i)	Names of Presenters				
		Tom Baker	Norm Herbert		
ii)	Not Applicable				
iii)	Address	28 Old Coach Road St. Catharines, Ontario L2N 2P5	21 Arran Drive St. Catharines, Ontario L2N 1L6		
iv)	v) Daytime Phone Number				
	·	(905)-562-7321	(905) 501-7971		
v)	After business hours phone number				
-		(905) 937-0955	(905) 984-9995		
vi)	Fax Number				
		(905) 562-0955	NA		
vii)	E-mail address				
-		tom@bayviewflowers.com	Nherbert@niagara.com		
viii)	Formal presentation, as follows.				

c) Formal presentation, will be received on time

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School, Parent Presentation



Mission Statement:

"As a community of believers and life-long learners, we answer God's call to be the best we can be in all that we do."

Introduction

As a committee of concerned parents of Our Lady of Fatima School, we would like to keep our school open, allowing the families in our community to make the best decision for their children, and keeping Catholic education strong in our neighbourhood.

School Motto

"Falcons - Soaring Towards Excellence"

History of our school

Our Lady of Fatima is a warm inviting school facility located in the north end of St. Catharines. It opened in 1952 with four classrooms and held 148 students as an annex of St. Alfred Catholic School.

Our Lady of Fatima officially opened in 1954 at the current site and has recently celebrated its 50th anniversary of Catholic education.

In 1962 Our Lady of Fatima became a K-6 school. Additional classrooms were built in 1958 and 1960. In final addition, including a gym and change rooms, five classrooms and a library, were completed in 1983. In 1984 Our Lady of Fatima became a K-8 school.

Total enrolment as of September 2008: 195

Introduction

As a committee of concerned parents of Our Lady of Fatima School, we would like to keep our school open, allowing the families in our community to make the best decision for their children, and keeping Catholic education strong in our neighbourhood.

Table of Contents

- 1. Value to the Student
- 2. Value to the School Board
- 3. Value to the Community
- 4. Value to the Local Economy
- 5. Letters from present and past students.
- 6. Additional actions to consider and Closing

1. Value to the Student

- Quality time is taken between teachers and students.
- A full range of standard activities are offered to our students including new and innovative programs such as Chess Club, Curling, Scientist in the Classroom, You Are the Chef and Scrabble.
- Our building adequately houses a full JK to Grade 8 school, and could include a full day JK/SK program.
- A full size gym and an abundance of green space offer our students opportunity for physical activities. We include 2 playground areas, 4 soccer fields, and 1 baseball field.
- Our school is completely handicap accessibility including a private washroom.
- Our school meets all the criteria for Health, Safety and Security.
- Due to the location of our school, many of our students, walk or bike to school regularly. This provides the regular opportunity for physical activity for our students.
- Our parish priest is involved in our school community regularly, whether it be at St. Alfred's Church or at our school.
- There is a proven social fabric that this school brings to both the community and the students. We have significant number of alumni who have chosen to have their children attend this school and have intentional relocated to this area, and have also made the decision to relocate "back to their roots" for purposes of raising and educating their young families.

2. Value to the School Board

- Capacity to house specialized teaching spaces, such as ESL, JK/SK full day.
- Ready well-kept building of capital asset.
- Due to the location of Our Lady of Fatima, we are situated in a warm and lovely area, perfectly
 positioned for young families. There is a current trend for people to relocate to our area due to
 economic downsizing, returning to their roots, and/or to live in a more affordable area
 especially for those downsizing their residences or purchasing their first homes.
- By extending the school boundaries outside of their current structure, we have the physical
 assets within our school to accommodate the increase in enrolment of new and transferred
 students and incorporate new programs offered by the Board and thus reduce the overall need
 of the Board to invest in capital expenditures that other options may require.
- The capacity potential of our school will also address the fact that a significant number of home owners in our area are the original home owners and as they move out due to health reasons, aging, etc these supply of homes it is proven that these homes are consistently bought by the young families as noted in the previous point.

3. Value to the Community

- Value to the faith community, our school is an important part of the largest diocese of St. Catharines.
- Our school community financially supports local businesses through internal programs.
- Business community partnership volunteers support student literacy in primary grades through programs such as Costco Reading.
- Our facilities (both inside and outside) are well utilized by outside groups in the local community. In door hockey, Youth Action, Soccer Field and YMCA Daycare.

4. Value to the local economy

- Our school community uses local businesses as much as possible, please refer to the notes provided on Value to the Community.
- We work hand in hand with the students in the co-operative education program at Holy Cross Secondary School in conjunction with our local fundraisers.

5. Letters from Students (Past and Present)

To whomever it may concern,

When I was asked to write this letter concerning Our Lady of Fatima, I accepted immediately. Never mind that I have a million different things on my to do list, or that it is the start of second semester. Taking a few short minutes out of my day to write this letter is nothing compared to the years of memories that I've obtained at Our Lady of Fatima, so it is the least I could do for a school that has done so much for me.

When I arrived at Our Lady of Fatima, I actually despised it. Not that it was the schools fault, I simply hated the idea of change-I had gone to another school for the first few years of my education- and I had no patience for anything the school had to offer. But after a short-time I began to make friends with my tight-nit class and had a close bond with my teachers. I didn't know it then, but the school's, and it's inhabitants, charm won me over for life.

It is the simple things about the school that has me, looking at it now I believe that it's small size is charming, it's classrooms were a great place to learn and those soccer fields hold a large portion of my memories. Though I haven't been able to visit the school for about a year now, I have yearned to stand on the black top waiting for the familiar bell to ring, and the kids to rush out, the teacher's waving them away and directing them to the bus. In my older years I have found that schools these days can be somewhat institutional-like, but I still see Fatima like a friendly neighbour I can count on.

Not only have I made life-long friends there, but I also have developed bonds with past teachers. Though Fatima is small, that is what makes it a great school! Students get individual help, there is hardly a rush and teachers seem to be treated very well. Overall, its size makes it an easier environment to learn in and from.

I spoke to a fellow Falcon today, and told her about this letter and its purpose, she then told me something I had long forgotten. She told me that her little sister attends that school, as well as she and same with her mother. She also told me that she intends for her future children to attend Our Lady Of Fatima. Not just to carry on the legacy, but to share with her children the amazing and heart-warming experience's that she experienced at Fatima. While she told me this, I had also decided that I would also enjoy seeing my children attend Our Lady Of Fatima, so they also could experience the warmth and love towards the school that I do now.

In the end, it would be a shame to close down Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School, not just because of my statements above, but because it would be wrong to end something so great. Closing the school would not ruin my memories of it, but it would in fact disable other children from making new ones at a school that has been around for so many generations and holds many beautiful memories for many people. So, I repeat, it would truly be a shame to put an end to such a glorious place.

Sincerely,

Brynn Downey Grade 10

5. Letters from Students (Past and Present)

Date: Saturday February 7, 2009

Dear Our Lady of Fatima School,

My friend and I have written this letter to you to inform you on why the school shouldn't close. Our Lady of Fatima School is a welcoming and caring school that provides individual attention to all students because of it's small but academically smart students and staff!

The first reason why we don't want this school to close is because Our Lady of Fatima is a great school that provides a good education and cares about all students. The second reason is because of its great perseverance towards the students. It may be a small school but it has the ability to win overall. We students who choose to go to a Catholic school have the right to have a Catholic school in our neighbourhood. A Catholic school in your neighbourhood gives you a sense of belonging. Our Lady of Fatima has a great quality of education. No matter how big or small this school is, it is filled with caring and respectful teachers, students and staff. If you would close this school think, about how many students and staff would be disappointed. If you would close the school, most cherished memories would be lost as well as the actual building. Our family members have come and gone at this school and now it is our turn! We have enjoyed seeing our family members and friend's graduation pictures up on the wall and their memories would be lost as well as ours if the school would close. If you were to close the school the teachers would not only lose their jobs, but they wouldn't see the kids anymore! The students enjoy having their teachers and the students always feel comfortable around them. The teachers know the students very well and are able to have fun with them. If you are going to close this school think about the memories of the staff and students and its pass staff and students because all people that come to Our Lady of Fatima School are charmed by not only its size but its perseverance. If you think that the school should close because it doesn't have enough students, then consider changing the boundaries so that those who choose to come to our school can and also students will have fond memories of a good quality school and we have enough students to keep the school open! We hope that you change your mind after this letter!

On behalf of the Grade 6 students of Our Lady Of Fatima

Olivia Dim and Palmina Conversano

6. Additional actions to consider:

 All aspect of growth needs to be revisited specifically with respect to the neighbourhood surrounding Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School in the near future continuing into 2023.
2. With nominal investment, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School could house the Y-Daycare Program to accommodate the ½ day SK and JK classes. This would, in turn, increase our numbers significantly as currently we do not meet the standards required.
Thank you for reviewing our presentation, we look forward to formally presenting at the Pupil Accommodation Review Process Public Input Meeting on February 18 th , 2009
Respectfully submitted,
The Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School Parent Committee Group



PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC INPUT

As required by the Closure of Schools/ Accommodation Review Policy of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Board will hold a special Board meeting for public input regarding the School Valuation Report filed by the Accommodation Review Committee and the Director's Report. These special Board meetings are scheduled as follows:

Niagara Falls Elementary - 7:00 p.m. February 17th, 2009, at Saint Michael Catholic High School

St. Catharines Elementary - 7:00 p.m. February 18th, 2009, at Denis Morris Catholic High School

St. Catharines Secondary - 7:00 p.m. February 23rd, 2009, at Denis Morris Catholic High School

The public may provide a written report to the Director of Education at any time.

The following Guidelines describe the public meeting process.

Delegation Application Process

The public meeting will follow the By-law of the Board for public delegations in modified form, as set out below. The modifications are intended to facilitate public participation.

- (a) Written application requesting the opportunity to appear as a delegation must be submitted to the Director of Education no later than 4:00 p.m. on February 10th, 2009.
- (b) The following information should be included with this application:
 - (i) The name of the organization/individuals(s) or party(ies) who will be making the presentation;
 - (ii) Their authority/title/position with the organization (if applicable);
 - (iii) A complete mailing address;
 - (iv) A day time telephone number;
 - (v) A number where they can be reached after business hours;
 - (vi) A fax number (if available);
 - (vii) An e-mail address (if available);
 - (viii) The complete presentation in written format

(c) Delegations are encouraged to send the Presentation in as soon as possible so that it can be provided to and reviewed by Trustees prior to the meeting. Presentations that are received on a timely basis will be considered and addressed in the Director's follow-up report to the Board required by the Pupil Accommodation Review Policy in which the Director will report on and respond to the presentations made by the public. A presentation that is submitted late may not be addressed in the Director's follow-up report although it will be made available to the Trustees.

Delegation Presentation

Minutes of the Special Board Meetings including references to the presentations will be posted on the Board's website.

- (a) The identified spokespersons will address the Trustees from the podium.
- (b) The spokespersons are expected to provide comments that are relevant to the subject matter of the meeting. If a previous delegation has already addressed the matter and the delegate is being repetitive, the Chairperson of the Board may request the delegate to express support for an earlier presentation and may reduce the following speaking times available to the delegate accordingly.
- (c) The time for each public delegation to speak, excluding the question and answer period, is not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes, with normally a five (5) minute question period following.
- (d) Delegates who have a similar perspective are encouraged to co-operate in appointing spokespersons in addressing the Board.
- (e) Delegations from the same school community on the same point of view shall be limited to a combined total of fifteen (15) minutes.
- (f) Delegations who are unrelated to a particular school community but who are speaking on a common issue shall be limited to a combined total of fifteen (15) minutes.
- (g) Trustees may ask questions of the delegation for clarification only, for a period of time which shall be at the discretion of the Chairperson.
- (h) The Chairperson will apply the normal Board practices in respect of decorum and order at the meeting.
- (i) The Board will not permit delegations respecting the Pupil Accommodation Review Policy at other Board meetings.
- (j) In accordance with Board By-law 7.5 the Board shall not remain in session later than 11:00 p.m. unless so determined by a 2/3 majority of the members present.

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board

Special Board Meeting

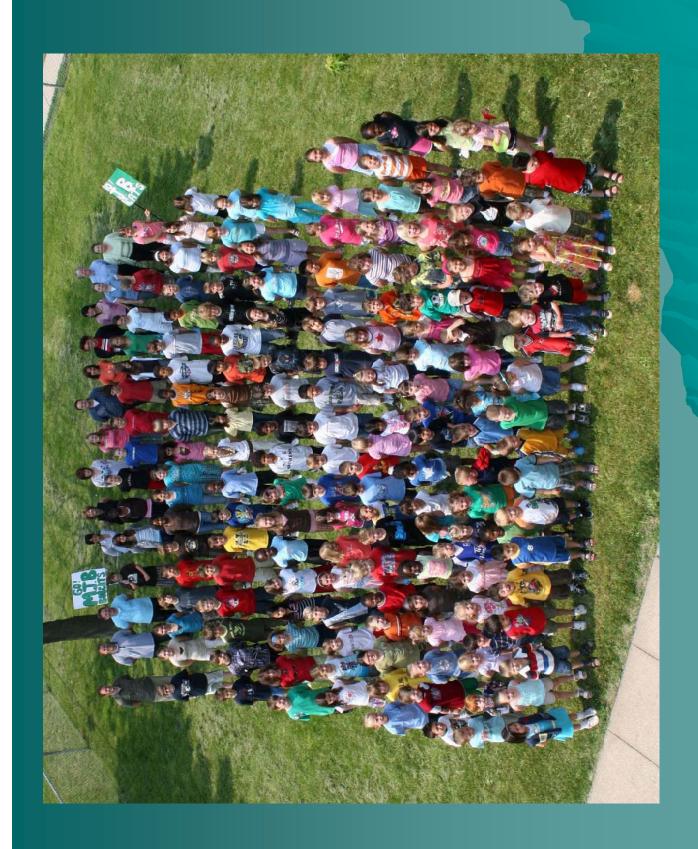
Public Session February 18, 2009

TOPIC: MICHAEL J. BRENNAN CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ROBERT SCHMIDT

MJB: A great place to be!!

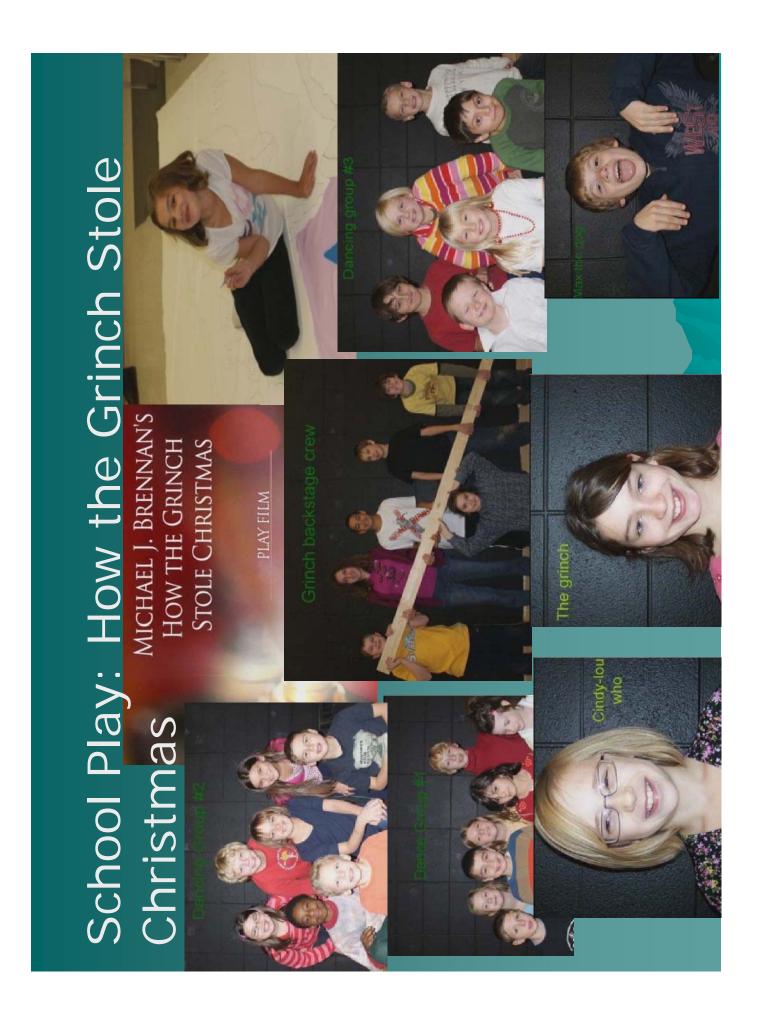
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

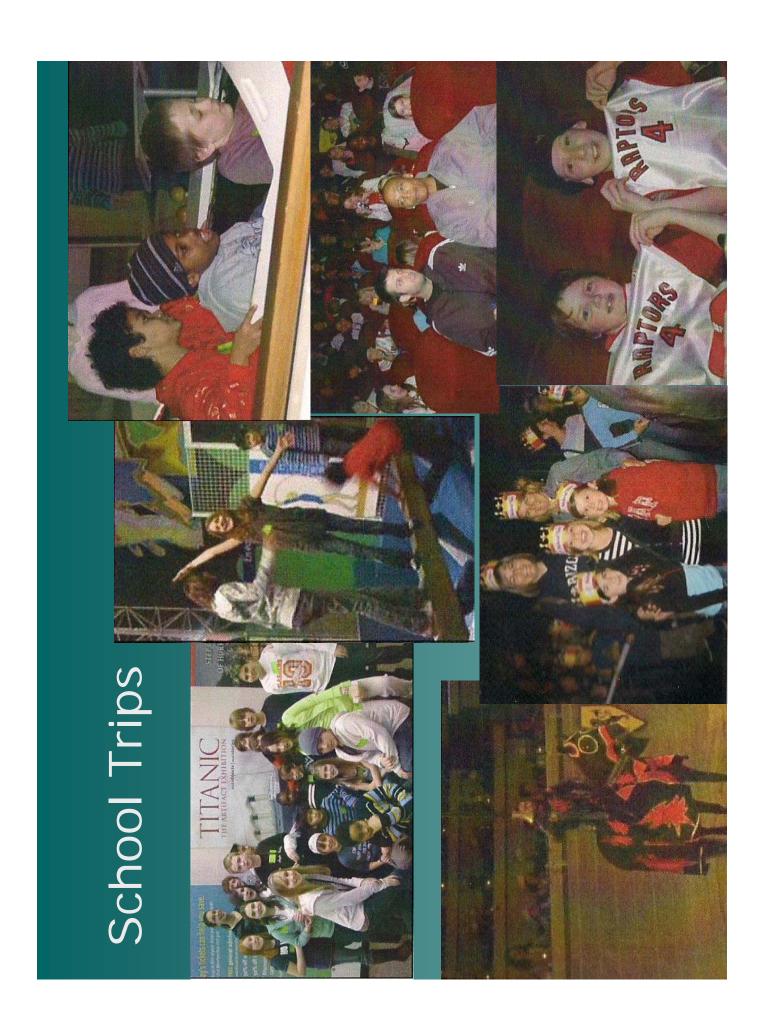


School Activities

Sports Teams









11 11 In the Class

Just Having Fun..

And There's So Much More...

Arc Committee Recommendation Regarding MJB

facility renewal needs for St. James be completed to accommodate Catholic Elementary School takes place not prior to September 2010, and not prior to an addition/renovation if required, and that That, the consolidation of Michael J. Brennan with St. James enrolment.

Senior Staff Recommendations Regarding MJB

Michael J. Brennan Catholic Elementary School and that Senior Staff THAT, Senior Staff will continue to monitor the possibility of closing will bring a report to the Board no later than September 2012.

IHAT, 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.

Regarding the ARC Recommendation MJB SOS Committee Position

- We are not convinced that financial case for closure of MJB is strong at this time.
- •The investment required for accommodating MJB students at St. James in 2010 is too large relative to the reduction in surplus student spaces.
- Geography: The North West section of the city (west of Lake) Street and North of the QEW) will be under serviced if MJB is
- Day care considerations were not adequately addressed with the recommendation to accommodate MJB Students at St. James
- The ARC recommendation was made without knowledge of the DSBN's plans for Pine Grove (the attached DSBN school)

Financial Case for Closure

- save 1.5 million in future renewal costs
- spend 1.5 million for expansion of St. James to accommodate MJB Students in 2010
- save 295,920 in operating costs
- spend an additional 90,000 per year in busing
- Surplus spaces are still projected to be at 570 students in 2022-2023 (proposal eliminates only 124 surplus spaces)

Problems with Financial Case for Closure

- Too much money spent for too little reduction in surplus spaces.
- •This proposal is definitely **not** the "low hanging fruit" solution for reducing surplus student spaces.
- operating costs at St. James. This seems a bit optimistic to The savings figures assume there will be no additional

Geography

Red Dots represent DSBN Elementary Schools White Dots represent NCDSB Elementary Schools

MJB's zone is on the upper left

MJB is the only NCDSB elementary school in the North West Corner of the city.

There are four DSBN elementary schools closer to most MJB students than St.



Effects on Day Care Availability

- day care availability concerns as a major factor in their A significant percentage of MJB parents polled cited choice of school.
- St. James currently uses both Kindergarten classes in the morning and the YMCA day care uses those rooms in the afternoon.
- eliminating the availability of school based day care for and possibly force the YMCA day care out of St. James, require St. James to use their rooms in the afternoon The addition of more JK/SK students from MJB will MJB and St. James parents.

How Does MJB Closing Affect Pine Grove?

- •The ARC committee only considered MJB which is under NCDSB control (understandable).
- The facility (ie land, building etc) really accommodates over 300 children when both MJB and Pine Grove are considered.
- understand what the DSBN plans for are for Pine Grove The closure of MJB would clearly affect the viability of Pine Grove. Wouldn't it make sense for the NCDSB to before deciding to close MJB.

Summary of MJB SOS Committee Position

be expensive and difficult to implement at the time The ARC committee proposal regarding MJB would recommended.

significant investment but does not eliminate many more reasonable and enables the board to better monitor the situation and report in 2012 seems address the issue of surplus spaces without The NCDSB senior staff recommendation to hurrying into a school closure that requires surplus student spaces. TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board

Special Board Meeting

Public Session February 18, 2009

TOPIC: ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN ST. CATHARINES

MAGS PURCHA

10 Prince Robert Crt, St Catharines, ON L2N 3C4.

Dear Madam Chairperson and Board Members,

I am writing to express my dismay at Staff response to the ARC Committee recommendation for St. Catharines Elementary Schools under review. It was quite clear during the process that status quo would be a fiscally irresponsible measure as it costs over \$700,000 to continue to run these schools at the present enrollment and many plants are in need of repairs/upgrades. I believe Niagara Catholic has a responsibility to ensure that the children within our Board receive the best programming in a safe environment. In this economic time it is irresponsible to run our schools below enrollment and over budget. This will affect programming not only in the schools in question but eventually other school. As you are aware there is a group in our province who believe that Catholic Education should not continue to be publicly funded. To ensure the survival of Catholic education for our children and grandchildren we need to act in a fiscally responsible manner, we just have to look to our neighbors in Toronto to see what can happen if we do not. I urge you to consider this as you make your recommendations with regard to the Elementary schools in St.Catharines.

Sincerely,

Mags Purcha

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board

Special Board Meeting

Public Session February 18, 2009

TOPIC: ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

DAGMAR THOMS

January 26, 2009

Mr. Crocco,
Secretary/Treasurer, Mrs. KathyBurtnik
Chair Mr Frank Fera.
Vice-Chair
Trustees of the Niagara Catholic Parents
Principals and Guests



One hundred and fifty-two years ago there was a group of people like us today who were probably discussing how to extend Catholic Education into Southern Ontario. The Sisters of St. Joseph took this task o their shoulders and a Catholic Elementary School opened which they called St. Nicholas.

St. Nicholas was opened one hundred years before we became the Diocese of St. Catharines and nine years before Canada became a nation. As we all know November 9, 2008 was the 50th Anniversary of the Diocese and we are discussing possible closure of St. Nicholas school. With this move we will take the reception of the holy sacraments for our children away from our mother church the Cathedral resulting in the absence of elementary school sacraments forever.

In the event of the closure of St. Nicholas school students would be transferred by bus to St. Denis. Transfer by bus adds complication to an already busy lifestyle; therefore we would loose these students to the public school system due to convenience and school location.

Ladies and Gentlemen I am sure if our ancestors would know the situation today we would still have the original building of St. Nicholas school.

Thank you for your consideration
Sincerely,

Dagmar Thoms
Parent of St. Nicholas School Student

Address 292 Ockdole Ave Apt 405

St Catharines Option Las 2P7

905-688-4308 (home)

cell 905-360-0023

TO: Niagara Catholic District School Board

Special Board Meeting

Public Session February 18, 2009

TOPIC: ST. JAMES CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

MAGS PURCHA

Dear Madam Chairperson and Board members,

St James School in St.Catharines is one of the schools under review by The Accommodations Review Committee (ARC) 2008. At this time the St. James Community does not wish to make a presentation at the public meeting on February 18, 2009. Our building is in need of several upgrades to make it an adequate learning environment for our children and this matter will not be addressed at a public meeting related to Accommodations. We have had some communication with senior staff with regard to this matter and will continue the dialogue with hope of resolving the issues. This being said, we are very much aware that the decisions made by the Niagara Catholic School Board in response to the ARC recommendations will impact St. James.

We wish to take this opportunity to recognize that the decision before you is difficult and not one that will be taken lightly. We trust that your decision(s) will be made with the needs of all children and communities in mind, and with the foresight for the preservation of Catholic Education in Niagara for our children and generations to come. May God guide you in your decision-making and support you as you go through this process.

Sincerely yours in Catholic Education

On behalf of the St. James Community,

Mags Purcha Chair CSC.