



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2009

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Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Wednesday, February 18, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at Denis Morris Catholic High School in Niagara Falls.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Burtnik.

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Nieuwesteeg.

2. Roll Call

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board excuse Trustee Crole from attending the Special Board Meeting of February 18, 2009.

CARRIED

Trustee	Present	Excused
John Belcastro	✓	
Kathy Burtnik	✓	
Maurice Charbonneau	✓	
Gary Crole		✓
John Dekker	✓	
Frank Fera	✓	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓	
Tony Scalzi	✓	
<b>Student Trustees</b>		
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 Fera

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Special Board Meeting of February 18, 2009, as presented.

CARRIED

4. *Disclosure of Interest*

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

5. *Overview of Special Board Meeting Procedures*

Chairperson Burtnik welcomed all those in attendance, and gave an overview of the Special Board Meeting Procedures. It was reiterated that this Meeting is being held in order to provide an opportunity for public input and for the Board to listen and ask questions of clarification regarding pupil accommodation review.

Chairperson Burtnik affirmed that the recommendations resulting from the Special Board Meetings and subsequent meetings of Senior Staff will be presented in a Senior Staff Follow-Up report at the March 10, 2009 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

The audience was advised of the approved Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines for Public Input and the Delegation Application Process, which required written applications requesting the opportunity to appear as a delegation be submitted to the Director of Education no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 10, 2009.

Trustees received copies of the written submissions on February 10, 2009 allowing them the opportunity to thoroughly review the submissions prior to the presentations.

## B. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. *Pupil Accommodation Review Highlights and Recommendation*

John Crocco, Director of Education, presented the Pupil Accommodation Review highlights and recommendations currently being proposed as a result of the Accommodation Review Committee recommendations and the subsequent Senior Staff review.

Director Crocco reviewed the process followed along with the approved schedule of events, and stated that all presentations and correspondence are posted on the Board's Website under the Pupil Accommodations Review Tab.

## C. DELEGATIONS

### ***PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS ST. CATHARINES ELEMENTARY***

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1. ***St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School***

Tom Urlocker, Community Representative, made a presentation regarding St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School as it relates to the Pupil Accommodation Review.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

2. ***St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School***

Alanna Howell, Leslie Landolt, Lee Page, Cathy Sonier, Yvonne Wowk, representatives of the St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School community made a presentation regarding the Pupil Accommodation Review.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

3. ***St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School***

Phyllis Bonomi, Community Representative, made a presentation regarding St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School as it relates to the Pupil Accommodation Review.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

4. ***St. Catharines Downtown Development and Revitalization Committee***

Heather Foss of the St. Catharines Downtown Development and Revitalization Committee, made a presentation regarding St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School as it relates to the Pupil Accommodation Review.

Trustee Charbonneau asked is there was a Local Provincial Contact supporting the St. Catharines Downtown Development and Revitalization Committee. Ms. Foss responded that the Provincial Government does support the initiatives of the Committee, but there is no one locally directly speaking on their behalf.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

5. ***Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School, St. Catharines***

Tom Baker and Norm Herbert, Community Representatives, made a presentation regarding Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School, St. Catharines as it relates to the Pupil Accommodation Review.

The presentation is hereby attached and forms part of the minutes.

## D. TRUSTEE ITEMS& OTHER BUSINESS

### 1. Correspondence

Director Crocco presented the following requests to present delegations to the Special Board Meeting of Wednesday, January 18, 2009. He explained that the requests were not submitted within the timeline stated in the Delegation Application Process. He explained that the request was not submitted within the timeline stated in the Delegation Application Process, but that the correspondence is provided for all Trustees and will be considered in the Senior Staff Follow-Up report.

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

## E. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

1. Special Board Meeting - Monday, February 23, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.  
Denis Morris Catholic High School

## F. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

## G. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Fera

THAT the February 18, 2009 Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

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Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on February 18, 2009.

Approved on the 24th day of February 2009.

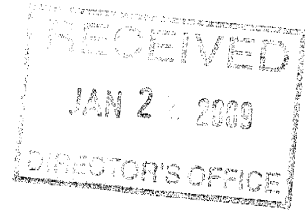
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Kathy Burtnik  
Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**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 18<sup>th</sup> at Denis Morris Catholic High School.

Please inform me if my request has been granted.

Thank you.  
Tom Urlocker

46 Albert St.  
St. Catharines, Ontario  
L2R 2G9

905 684 1983

e mail [urlockerannette@hotmail.com](mailto:urlockerannette@hotmail.com)

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 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

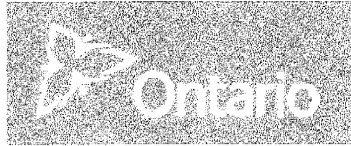
To briefly summarize, I have two requests.

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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[www.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca)  
[www.ontario.ca/progress](http://www.ontario.ca/progress)

Backgrounder

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#### 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 peuple
- Réseau Ontario

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[www.ontario.ca/progress](http://www.ontario.ca/progress)

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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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ALANNA HOWELL, LESLIE LANDOLT, LEE PAGE, CATHY SONIER, YVONNE WOWK

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 you could take such an important decision away from us 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.

Cathy Sonier  
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**Leslie Landolt**  
**Presentation to save St. Nicholas School**

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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 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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lpage62@sympatico.ca

February 4, 2009

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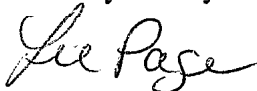
Good evening Mr. John Crocco, Secretary/Treasurer, Mrs. Kathy Burtnik, Chair, Mr. Frank Fera, Vice-Chair, Trustees of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, Parents, Principals and Guests.

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

# Save St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School

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.

Name	Address	Signature
Thomas Bonomi	73 Wellend Ave	Thomas Bonomi
Bridget Bonomi	" "	Bridget Bonomi
Conrad Flatman	110 Church St.	
Lena Cloutier	121 Eastchester Ave	Lena Cloutier
Kasey Cloutier	121 Eastchester Ave	Kasey
Emily Bell	12 LORNE ST	
Quinn Bell	12 Lorne St	Quinn Bell
Thelma Engcang	62-122 Lakeshore	
Kelce Quincey	62-122 Lakeshore	
WAYNE SHEPARD	13 SHORE BLVD., ST. CATH <sup>LN</sup> STS	Wayne Shepard
JOE AGNINO	12 COUNTRYSIDE ST. CATH	Joe Agnino
MARIE STOTT	407 5TH Lake St	Marie Stott
Caroline O'Conna	56 Huntington Ln	Caroline O'Connell
Jonah Krawtchuk	56 Huntington Ln	Jonah Krawtchuk
Tom CLIFFORD	124 WESTLAND ST	Tom Clifford
ERLINDA DAYANT	12 VINE ST.	Erlinda
Josette Landry	174 Beech St.	Josette Landry

# Save St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School

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Name	Address	Signature
Leah Gordon	77 Windward St.	L. Gordon
E Bruneau	10 Hennick St.	E Bruneau
Allen Spooner	56 Leaside dr	Allen Spooner
W. McFlay	196 SCOTT ST.	W. McFlay
G. CELEST	45 WOODROW ST.	G. Celest
A. CELEST	45 Woodrow St.	Angela Celest
M. Shea	#15-10 Elderwood	M. Shea
D. White	14 Dolly Circle	D. White
B. McALEESE	46 MARMORA ST.	B.J. McAleese
M. GARCIA	103 WOODROW ST	M. Garcia
Mike Garcia	103 WOODROW ST.	Mike Garcia
DONALDA SCARRY	9 ROSSIE PLACE	Donalda Scarry
MATT. MAC DONALD	131 Rockwood #29	Matt Macdonald
Deborah Wenz	264 Guntham	Deborah Wenz
Victoria Elatico	102 Bgtrican Trail St. Catharines	Victoria Elatico
LAUREL ALLISON	7 DIANNE DR. ST. CATHARINES	Laurel Allison
Alicia Baker	17 Barnes Rd. St. Catharines	Alicia Baker

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 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





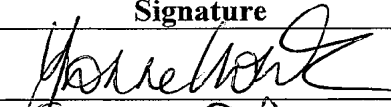


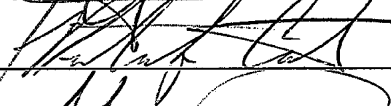
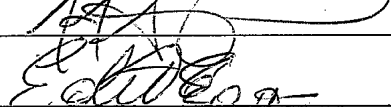
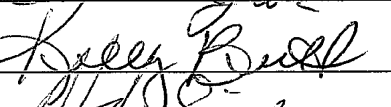

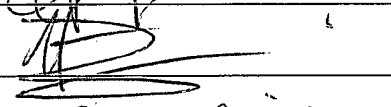
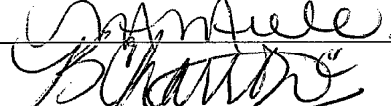
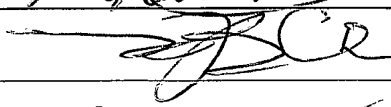




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Name	Address	Signature
Dorothea Bee	2045 - 80 Rockwood St. Catharines	Dorothea Bee
Rita McShane	26-308 Queenston	Rita McShane
Eleanor Portuguese	382 Queenston #16	Eleanor Portuguese
Elizabeth Gilbert	49. East Chester Ave.	E. Gilbert
Rita Parisee	46 Berness Dr	Rita Parisee
Dorothy McNamee	301 Mahan Ave	D. McNamee
Carol King	31 Queen Ln St.	Carol King
E. King	31 Queen Ave St	E. King
Lee Samuel	41 Monarch Park Dr	Lee Samuel
Lee Samuel	41 Monarch Park Dr	Lee Samuel
LOUISE YOUNG	60 WOODROW ST	Louise Young
Laurette Snejdar	264 Oakdale Ave, St. Cath.	Laurette Snejdar
Shirley R. Peterson	3305-413 Linwell	Shirley Peterson
Rose N Baker	23 Arlington Ave 211	R Baker
Josephine Callaghan	264 Oakdale Apt 308 <sup>ST CATH.</sup>	Josephine Callaghan
HELEN POPIEL	122 BUNTING RD UNIT 37	H. Popiel
R. A. WOOD	31 DEBORAH COURT	Robert A Wood

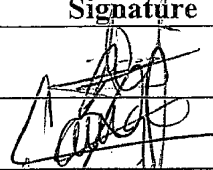
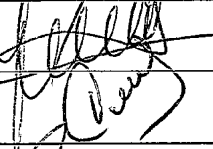
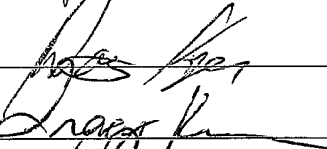
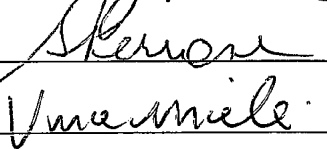
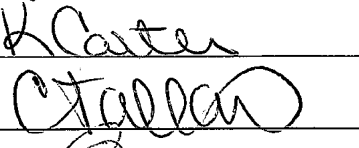
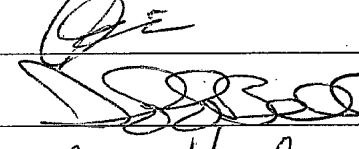
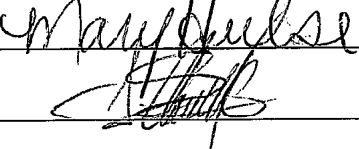
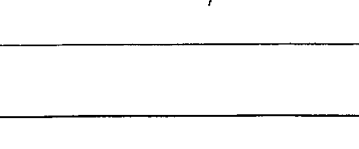
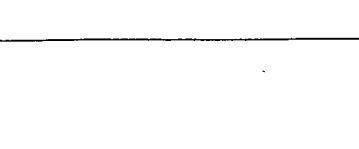

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Name	Address	Signature
Yvonne Wowk	4 MARMORA ST.	
Diane Culp	45 Kinsey St	
Aimee Laliberte	54 Greenwood Ave	
Claudia Quachra	15 McNicholl circle	
Patrick Carter	66 Acadia Cres	
John Aron	203 Russell Ave	
Edith Egert	49 North	
Kelly Britt	2 Ferndale Avenue	
Hailea Squires	30 Marmora St.	
Cheryl Fitzgibbon	32 Cherry St, Scott	
Vanessa Bianchi-Garcia	19 Wiley St	
Michelle Miele	113 Queenston St.	
<del>Blanche</del>	141 Church St.	
Bobby Charron	141 Church St	
LEE PAGE	11 HERRICK AVE	
Cathy Sonier	120 Louisa St.	
Dagmar Thomas	292 Oakdale Ave	

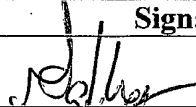
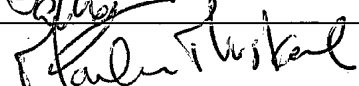
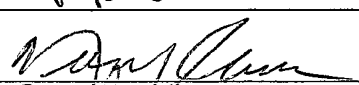
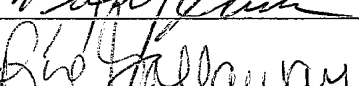
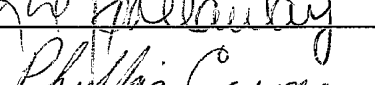
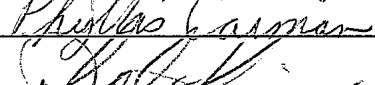


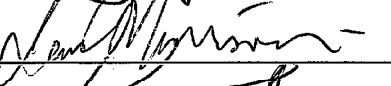
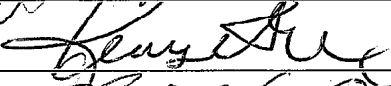
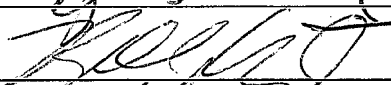

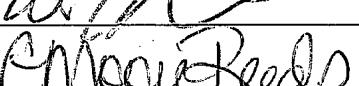
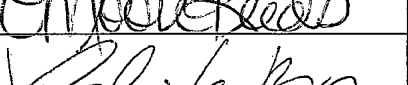
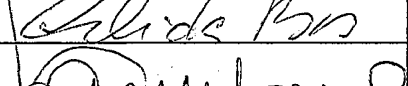
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Name	Address	Signature
Antonio Resendiz	1 Clark St Apt-617	
Juan Camisimo	45 North St.	
Mercedes Cordell	45 North St.	
Carmen Leonardo	1 Clark St. 617	
Doug Kyr	122 Page St.	
Tracy Kyr	122 Page St	
Shelly Perrone	128 Louise St	
VINCE MIELE	113 QUEENSTON ST	
Kathy Carter	22 Terrace Hill	
Caren Tallon	34 Terrace Hill	
CHRISTINA CAPRI	308-45 North St.	
Jeff Bell	367 Geneva St	
Mary Hulse	55 Albast St.	
LA Sosa	12 Bruce Dr.	

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Name	Address	Signature
GORDAN GALLAWAY	1 HARPER CRES	
Marlon Moskal	2-31 MARDONELL AVE	
Denny Cameron	51 HENRY	
Rose Gallaway	1 HARPER CRES	
Phyllis Cameron	122 BUNTING RD.	
DONALD MCKINNON	55 1/2 HENRY ST	
BARRY MCMANN	145 WAVELOCK ST.	
Ian Morrison	18 HEMLOCK ST	
Kenny McCly	12 LAKE ST.	
Bill WASH	656 NIAGARA ST	
Bill Hardles	13 SHAVE CUT	
Cindy Moore Beeds	29 CENTRE ST.	
Alicia Bos	4 LOCKWOOD DR	
Karen Young	513 MATTHEW RD	
<del>Donna</del>	4 MARNORA ST	

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Name	Address	Signature
Mary Marsh	99 Church	M. Marsh
Phyllis Bonomi	73 Wollond Ave	P. Bonomi
FRAN DELO CRUZ	61 GOLF CREST	F. DeLo Cruz
Alberta Suter	7 Marne Dr.	A. Suter
Jerry GACIK	29 JAMES ST. ST. CAT.	J. Gacik
Renata GACIK	29 JAMES ST. ST. CAT.	R. Gacik
Jackie Jones	15 Matthews Cr	J. Jones
Adelaida T. Gali	18 Harvest Grove	A. Gali
LORA MIANI	12 NORWOOD ST. ST. CATH.	L. Miani
Mrs J. Kamin	540 Line 3 North	J. Kamin
Melissa Hendricks	1804 Third Street	M. Hendricks
Ganni Hendricks	1804 Third St.	G. Hendricks
Robert Hendricks	1804 Third St. St. Catharines	R. Hendricks
Margarski Family	1 Inverton St. St. Catharines	M. Margarski
Leo Lehman	38 Northglan Ave.	L. Lehman
Louise Sheppard	42 Fohill Cr	L. Sheppard

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Name	Address	Signature
Shelly Sheppard	79 Rochelle Drive	Shelly Sheppard
Nicole Sheppard	79 Rochelle Drive	Nicole Sheppard
Jessica Ward	11 Carluccio Cres.	Jessica Ward
LORNA KROSKY	11 WHITECROFT	Lorna Krosky
LINDA HOWE	9 CHERRIMON CRES	Linda Howe
Gary Sheppard	79 Rochelle Dr.	Gary Sheppard
GERRY BOLTON	12 KEEFER RO.	Gerry Bolton
Jim Johnson	102 Woodland Av.	Jim Johnson
Bill Bessard	12 Keefer Ro	Bill Bessard
P. Borozny	30 MONTEBELLO	P. Borozny
D. CHASSIE	102 Woodland	D. M. Chassie
W. REEDS	29 Centre	W. Reeds
Sandy Mul	1029 Shaw St	Sandy Mul
Simon Cortes	14 Centre St.	Simon Cortes
Rick Green	30 Montebello R	Rick Green
Trish Nash	656 Niagara St.	Trish Nash
RICK FAISEY	NO FIX ADD.	Rick Faisey

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Name	Address	Signature
Paul Fowler	120 LOUISA ST	
Tracy Smith	38 Ker St	
Lorraine Beecher	33 Berkeley St	Lorraine Beecher
Tony Duchesneau	33 Berkeley St	Tony Duchesneau
Kelly Mayle	3 CROSS ST	
Carol Richard Dunsith	21 George St	Carol R. Dunsith
Sarrage	4 Grantham S.	Sarah Barrage
Manushage Avullija	165 Ontario St	
Adona Avullija	165 Ontario St	
Rachelle Koetker	1 Wills St	
Brian Koetker	1 Will St	
Jona Byoga	33 EDMUND ST	Jona Byoga
Cathy Mundy	44 1/2 Division St	Cathy Mundy
Jimmy Dlamy	28 Russell Ave	Jimmy Dlamy
Joe Savia	" "	JOE SAVIA
Billy Newlands	117 Welland Ave	BILLY NEWLANDS
Dave Page	11 HERBERT AVE	

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Name	Address	Signature
Bob Romo	St. Catharines	B Romo
Barbara Hardie	Grimsby	B Hardie
S. Dolanowski	St. Catharines	S Dolanowski
J. Wheeler	101 Glenridge	J Wheeler
E. Phelan	50 Thomas St	E Phelan
MARK HANLOW	91 ELSE ST.	Mark Hanlow
Pauline Memme	137 martindale unit	P Memme
Teresa Ferrante	1335 Hutton Rd North	T Ferrante
M. Wilson	137 George St	M. Wilson
Lee Mitty	St. Catharines	see Dr. Mitty
Thomas S Brown	19 Henry St. St. Catharines	T Brown
Jean BRADY	St Cath.	J Brady
Al Beaton	St Catharines	Al Beaton
PATTI BAKER	St. Catharines	Patti Baker
Miriam Conway	St. Catharines	M. Conway
Joshua Thierman	St. Catharines	Joshua Thierman
F. M. L. S. L.	St. Catharines	F. M. L. S. L.



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Name	Address	Signature
Michael McAuley	292 Oakdale	Michael McAuley
Jimmy Thoms	292 Oakdale	Jimmy Thoms
Joe Sondzik	22 Montedora Ave	Joe Sondzik
William Sondzik		William Sondzik
B. J. McDermott	47 Carlisle St	William McDermott
Collette Saranichuk	180 King St, St. C.	Collette Saranichuk
Peter Struchanik	180 King St.	Peter Struchanik
J. Rychorick		Paul Walkowicz
J. Rychorick		
S. Francis	#811 7 - GALE CRESCENT	S. Francis
H. FRANCIS	#811 7 GALE CRESCENT	H. Francis
R. HEDDEN	Rolande Hedden	R. Hedden
K. PAGE	27 DACOTA	Flourie Page
E. Richards	137 Church St	E. Richards
May-Gloria Carr	39 Fanning	May-Gloria Carr
Waldemar Boland	3 Killmer	Waldemar Boland
Juha Zahank	99 Church	

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Name	Address	Signature
Louise Sandmoen <sup>SANDMOEN</sup>	365 Geneva St.	L Sandmoen
Jane Michland	494 Alkenburg Rd	Jane Michland
Patricia Jenkins	12 Morning side	Patricia Jenkins
MAUREEN BOHARD	345 GENEVA ST	Maureen Bohard
J. Ireland	141 Church	J Ireland
C. DORRISWANT	26 GRENADIER DR	C Dorriswant
John Tilley (teacher)	66 October Drive	John Tilley
Sandra Chodarewicz <sup>retired teacher</sup>	A2-7 Gale Cr. City	Sandra Chodarewicz
Juan Vargas	438 Scott St. scatter	Juan Vargas
Jr Juan Vargas	438 SCOTT ST.	Juan Vargas
Fabio Bostaman	6 Westlake Ln #314	Fabio Bostaman
Deacon Jack	3 Lyman ST SIO	Deacon Jack
Dawn Rappit	11 Columbia	Dawn Rappit
Charles Brook	441 West 4th N St Cath	Charles Brook
STEVE KITTEL	8 JASMIN CREES	Steve Kittel
P. Byebel	8 Jasmin cres	P Byebel
Annette Urlocker	46 Albert	Annette Urlocker

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Name	Address	Signature
Melissa Landry	174 Beech St.	Melissa Landry
Marie Schimmelpeinicki	76 Savoyeign Dr	Marie Schimmelpeinicki
D. Anne Mad Nascif	#35-141 W. Ward Lake Rd	D. Anne Mad Nascif
Red Curzon	112 BARRICKN TRAIL	Red Curzon
Luz Makinkim	39-157 Linwood Rd.	Luz Makinkim
Peg King	3 Row. Rd. Atkin. Pains	Peg King
DON MIKULINSKI	83 WEST FARMINGTON DR	Don Mikulinski
Anna Sun A	110 SILVERCREST	Anna Sun A
MARCO SUTAR	1 WAITE ST.	Marco Sutar
Paula Nigovske	1 WAITE ST.	Paula Nigovske
Klara Kross	28 Westland St.	K. Kross
Bridgette Breen	31 Tavistock Rd	Bridgette Breen
Danica Bucci	31 Tavistock Rd	Danica Bucci
MAURICE PRINDIVILLE	4 PIONEER COURT	Maurice Prindiville
Kelly Pattee	21 CIRCLE ST NORTH	Kelly Pattee
Diana Savarchuk	23 Oblate St South	Diana Savarchuk

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Name	Address	Signature
Tom Wood	46 Albert St	Tom Wood
Jeffery Charlette	72. Farris	J. Charlette
Joe Kawale	4011 Brookdale Dr. NF	Joe Kawale
Peterson Simpson	4132 Brookdale Dr. <sup>NF</sup>	P. Simpson
James Simpson	4132 BROOKDALE DR.	J. Simpson
N. PENNINGTON	179 Highland Ave	N. Pennington
DAVID & WILMA VANSROY	99 Church St. Apt. 404	D. Vansroy
Dale David	7 GALE CRES	D. David
Alcita	32 Highland	Alcita
Steve Pettes	54 RUNCORN	Steve Pettes
Francis Prindelwell	4 Puren lit	F. Prindelwell
Joyce Di Angelo	23 Lowell Ave	J. Di Angelo
Nahire Kollac	92 Page. St.	N. Kollac
Mami Howell	56 Guthrie ave. S	M. Howell
John Costello	3 Colonial	J. Costello
B. Kanoth	42 Lakeshore	B. Kanoth

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Name	Address	Signature
<sup>CHARLES TOYE</sup> Charles Toye	7 RENFORTH SQ. ST. CATH	Charles Toye
Mitcheline Oakes	4 Brooklyn Cr. St. Cath	Mitcheline Oakes
Led Oakes	4 BROOKLYN CRT.	Led Oakes
Bonnie Pennington	139 Highland	B. Pennington
Babs Schenk	1486 2nd Ave SE	B Schenk
<del>Vanessa</del>	94 Raspberry Trail	<del>Vanessa</del>
<del>M. Jones</del>	530 Greenwood St	<del>M. Jones</del>
Ho Khalil	345 Geneva St	Ho Khalil
Suzanne Parad	52 Arkouth St	S. Parad
Courtney Taylor	50 St Patrick St	C Taylor
Carol Patterson	172 Louth St	C Patterson
M Brannigan	315 Geneva St	M Brannigan
Greg Baker	214 Main St	Greg Baker
Ann Baker	214 Main St	Ann Baker
Cody Cloutier	21 East Charles Ave	Cody Cloutier
Martina Bonomi	73 Welland Ave	M Bonomi
Leo Bonomi	" "	Leo Bonomi

# Save St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School

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Name	Address	Signature
GREG WASHUTA	65 McCalla Dr.	Greg Washuta
STAN LESNIEWSKI	20 BARBICAN TRAIL	Stan Lesniowski
CLAIRE CORUPE	30 McTavish Ave	Claire Corupe
Sanice Lesniowski	20 Barbican Trail	Sanice Lesniowski
Kathy Sirotnik	65 McCalla Pr.	K. Sirotnik
Marlene Sheehan	10 1/2 George St	Marlene Sheehan
Greg Sheehan	67 York St	Greg Sheehan
Claire Madson	79 Masterson Dr	Claire Madson
Rosemary <del>Sheehan</del>	84 Masterson P.	Rosemary
Gloria Sheehan	1813 Foleyet Cres. <sup>Pickering</sup>	Gloria Sheehan
A Thurston	1813 Foleyet Cres	A Thurston
O Thurston	1813 Foleyet Cres	O Thurston
Jane Madson	21 ST HELENS	Jane Madson
Alice McAul	292 Oakdale #305	Alice McAul
James Thoms	20 Meitlent	J. P. Thoms
Mary Thoms	20 Meitlent	M. Thoms

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Name	Address	Signature
Liz Slavovick	58 Sheppard Ave	
H. Szwajnszak	" "	H. Szwajnszak
CHRIS LEWIS	15 WESTFIELD DR.	
Donna McIsaac	131 George St	Donna McIsaac
PETER MAHONEY	183 ONTARIO ST.	
MARIE TACINELLI	9. NORRIS PLACE. ST. C.	M. Tacinelli
R. Hedden	102-76 Ave C	R. Hedden
Ash Baulus	6865 Parkside Rd	Ash Baulus
Katrina Baulus	6865 Parkside Rd	Katrina Baulus
Victoria Baulus	6865 Parkside Rd	Victoria Baulus
Antonio Baulus	6365 Parkside Rd	Antonio Baulus
Sandra Smith	7869 Petite Ave	Sandra Smith
Brian Smith	7869 Petite Ave	Brian Smith
Steve McAulay	39 Lisavid Dr	Steve McAulay





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Name	Address	Signature
Sara Mancini	92 Silver Maple Rd. <sup>Thorold, ON</sup> L2V5G6	Sara Mancini
Lise James	65 Alexandra Blvd	Lise James
Peggy Jackson	12 Thornton St.	Peggy Jackson
<del>James Kennedy</del>	50 Alexander Ave	<del>James Kennedy</del>
Mr. & Mrs. J. McLean	47 Rosedale	J. McLean
Brian & Dana LeBlanc	67 AEGLE CR.	B. LeBlanc
Karen Hardie	321 Grant Ave	K. Hardie
Lu Noh	72 LINCOLN AVE	Lu Noh
CATHY BERGES	76 Rockwood Ave	Cathy Berges
Jane Ferguson	122 Bunting Rd.	Jane Ferguson
Bea Mcguire	100 Royal Manor	Bea Mcguire
Linda Withall	25 Buerness Drive	Linda Withall
Melis Jussell	105 Royal Manor	M. Jussell
Alice Ward	198 Scott St.	Alice Ward
TRICIA HOUGH	63 Canterbury DR.	Tricia Hough

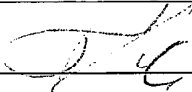
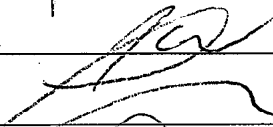

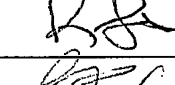
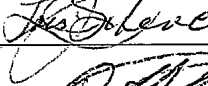
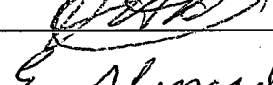
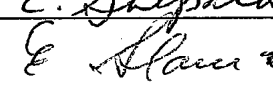
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Name	Address	Signature
Tanea West	208-1363 Lakeshore Rd <sup>Buzz</sup>	Tanea West
JAMARA FANE	62 Stillman St	Jamara Fane
Jane DuLong	65 Longblow Ave	Jane DuLong
Marilyn Sebaste	126 Page St.	Marilyn Sebaste
J.D. Sebaste	126 Page St	J.D. Sebaste
MICHAEL GLEASON	151 WELAND AVE	Michael Gleason
EDGAR RESPICIO	8 THORNCHIFF DR	Edgar Respicio
Mr. M. Slawka	157 Linwell Rd.	Mr. M. Slawka
Mrs. All	82 Church St 207	Mrs. All
John	55 Lafoye Hg	John Gordon
George Schlang		
Harry Schlang		
CHARLES PRADA	98 ELMA ST.	Charles Prada
Rosythia Pantin	94 Elma St	Rosythia Pantin
Frank Berardi	2 FREDONIA CR.	Frank Berardi

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Name	Address	Signature
Frank Curran	540 Ontario St.	
Jeff West	1363 Lakeshore RD Burlington	
Healie Landolt	7 GERARD ST	
Gracie Landolt	7 GERARD ST	
Katherine Sitko	27 Harbour Glen Drive	
Law Schenk	RK# 3, St Catharines	
Joseph Bonomi	15 Lake Cess	
Berk + Wajner Shynard	13 Shore Blvd.	E. Shepard
Elena Glauka	152 Jimwell Rd.	E. Glauka
M.L. Scholl	67 Louth St	M.L. Scholl
R. Guertin	Apt 601, 37 Ontario St	R. Guertin
J. Colli	11 Keistan	J. Colli
A. Jotic	St. Cath. ON	A. Jotic
PAULA NIZAN	ST. CATH. ONT.	Paula Nizan

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Name	Address	Signature
Dorothy Gabola	34 Glenridge St. Cath	D. Gabola
Clarissa Szakacs	87 Queen St. St Cath	C. Szakacs
Calib Szakacs	87 Queen St St Cath	Calib Szakacs
B. J. C. Bick	146 Beaufort St	B. J. C. Bick
Stephanie Young	5401 Beaver Valley	S. Young
Mally O'Sheara	6 Simcoe St	M. O'Sheara
Marco Hollett	174 Highland	M. Hollett
MARTHA BONAMI	1 Clark	M. Bonami
MARY MACCORMICK	29 1/2 Howko St	Mary MacCormick
Antonio Resendiz	1 Clark St	A. Resendiz
Carmen Resendiz	1 Clark St	Carmen Resendiz
Frank Curran	540 Centre Street	F. Curran
Mary Vancouver	99 Church St.	Mary Vancouver
Teresa Beaudin		Teresa Beaudin
Eleanor Donaghue	75 Lorraine Dr.	Eleanor Donaghue
SAMUEL DONAGHUE	75 LORRAINE DR.	Samuel Donaghue
Louise Maline	61 Galt Ave.	Louise Maline



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Name	Address	Signature
Reena Besa	18 Keefer Rd. Thorold, ON L2V 4Y4	Reena Besa
Reynaldo Besa	18 Keefer Rd. Thorold	Reynaldo Besa
Marina Ruby Besa	18 Keefer Rd Thorold	M R Besa
JOHN WARKIN	8 BLDG PLACE	John Warkin
n. Desanti	23 Westland	
A. O'Brien		
Sixto ONGCANGCO	29 Wilcher Dr. ST CATHA	Sixto Ongcangco
Bolan Alonwumi	45 North St	Bolan
Edward Alonwumi	45 North St.	Edward
Amanda Berardi	2 Fredonia	Amanda
Jenny + Trevor Anderson	141 Church St	J Anderson
John Baker	115 Queen St	John Baker
Mary Jensen	1165 Ontario St	Mary Jensen
Pamela Musingini	3-88 Westland Ave ST CATH	P Musingini



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Name	Address	Signature
Alexandra Villalobos	3 Vintage Crescent	<del>Alexandra Villalobos</del>
<del>Patricia</del> Billy Newkants	117 Welland Ave	Billy Newkants
Leri Marcella	6361 Moretta Dr. WPO	Leri Marcella
Lillian Corbin	8 Elmwood Ave	Lillian Corbin
Premade Pjeter		Premade Pjeter
Simona Skareddy	313 Queenston St	Skareddy Sim.
Steph Balogh	50	



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Name	Address	Signature
Megan Ingram	14 marmora st	Megan Ingram
Alonso Loaiza	6 Lincoln Ave	[Signature]
Jennifer Murphy	24 Bluegrass Cres.	[Signature]
Josee Hendricks	93 Albert St.	[Signature]
DAVID ROTZIK	404 VINE ST	[Signature]
Search		
<del>Randi Kuban</del>		
Amanda Copola		[Signature]
Heuneme Link	372 Grantham Ave.	[Signature]
Ferdiner Durango	103 Vine St south.	[Signature]
Steph Whalen.	136 Page St.	[Signature]
<del>Lynette Park</del>		
<del>[Signature]</del>		
Vanessa Garcia	19 Wiley St	[Signature]
Jodi Cragg	7 Fallingbrook Cr	[Signature]
Jordan Shillingford	19 Lorne St	[Signature]
Rocio Centeno	20 Dundonald St.	[Signature]

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Name	Address	Signature
GRAY COOPER	158 DUNDAS ST ST CATHARINES	G. Cooper
S. KEULODY	7 TEWSPLACES ST CATH	S. Keulody
J. CHERUSHENKO	60 CHAPLIN AVE	Jim Cherushenko
Lynne Cunningham	48 Stewart St	Lynne Cunningham
KATHY KARAIM	90 Spring Garden Blvd	K. Karaim
ADAM AZZODARDI	34 Keswick St	A. Azzodardi
Dawn Kennedy	1 Inglis circle	D. Kennedy
DAVE CHAMBERLAIN	16 TRAPNELL ST.	D. Chamberlain
T. KITCHING	33 JEFFERSON DR.	T. Kitching
JASON MORIS	7101 DOLPHIN ST	J. Moris
Shannen Lawrence	192 Wellbrook	S. Lawrence
PETER BENNER	3848 SUMMIT	P. Benner
T. DUNNAN	53 BELAIR DR	T. Dunnan
Sheril McRoberts	7 Shaver Crt	S. McRoberts
Lynne Redford	6056 PENSILVA DR	L. Redford
Craig Mustard	21 A Page St.	C. Mustard
LOUISE SECHOL	3 MacTomball Dr.	L. Sechol

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Name	Address	Signature
Sharon Coult	4 Pine Meadow	Sharon Coult
LEONE PETTIT	APT. 410 321 GENEVA ST	Leone Pettit
Cindy Scriver	262 Fanshille Rd	Cindy Scriver
Victor Demkowitz	12 Barnsdale Lane	Victor Demkowitz
Carolyn Helstrom	9 Midway, St Cath.	Carolyn Helstrom
Andree Stecher	27 Chaplin Ave	Andree Stecher
Moschoy Graham	423 Bunting	M. Graham
PETE MORRO	16 GLEN PARK RD	Pete Morro
A. Fraser	55- 122 Lakeshore	A. Fraser
J LaPorte	1012-81 Scott	FRANCES LaPORTE
L. Therese Conje	367 Geneva St.	L. Therese Conje
M. Sawatzky	165 Ontario	M. Sawatzky
Julie Gill	107 Rupert	Julie Gill
PETER HOWARD	22 NICKERSON	Peter Howard
LYNN HOWARD	22 NICKERSON	Lynn Howard
Louise Spencer	Norris Pl.	Louise Spencer
Larkin Lynn	Kilbourn Cres.	Larkin Lynn

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Name	Address	Signature
S. Addison	20 Cosper	[Signature]
M. Robson	124 Newell St	[Signature]
P. Moccio	53 Huntley Cres	[Signature]
M.B. Murphy	28 GREYSON E C	[Signature]
D. Novak	120 Page St.	[Signature]
Annette Bruder	377 Oakdale Ave	[Signature]
Nesta Epina	86 Huntley St	[Signature]
Colton	97 Catharine	[Signature]
C. Alfarano	87 Cath	[Signature]
P.A. Alfarano	87 Cath	[Signature]
J. Lambert	ST Cath	[Signature]
E. Lambert	ST Cath	[Signature]
W. Wong	'	WIFUS
MARIA SARTACCI	7 MARINE DR. ST. CATH L7R2X7	[Signature]
TOM OWENS	12 ROEMER DR	[Signature]
Neil Russell	321 GORANTHAM AVE	[Signature]

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Name	Address	Signature
Norma Walker	35 Dunblane	Norma Walker
MICHAEL WALKER	35 Dunblane	Michael Walker
Nora Dupuis	Allanburg	Nora Dupuis
Rosanne Young	St. Catharines	Rosanne Young
MAUREEN MOCCIO	ST. CATH.	Maureen Moccio
Mrs M. Murphy	57 Cath	Mrs M. Murphy
DON TRAUENF.	St Cath.	Don Trauenf.
John M. PIERCH	ST. CATH.	John M. Pierch
Ken MISTA	ST. CATH	Ken Mista
Loretta McNeil	St. Cath.	Loretta McNeil
C. MacLachlan	St. Catharines	C. MacLachlan
J. Meyer	St. Catharines	J. Meyer
J. M. Kennan	St. Catharines	J. M. Kennan
Beverly Chuel Aronoff	St. Cath.	Beverly Chuel Aronoff
Paula Linn	14 Barnaby St.	Paula Linn
Bill Puffin	312 Niagara St. Cath.	Bill Puffin
Marie Goldstein	RR #1 St. Cath.	Marie Goldstein

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Name	Address	Signature
STEVE KITTEL	8 JOSHUA CREK.	<i>Steve Kittel</i>
AL GAGGI	111 Queen St.	<i>Al Gaggi</i>
DAVE SMITH	27 CHURCH	<i>Dave Smith</i>
Nancy Hawthorn	158 Ontario	<i>Nancy Hawthorn</i>
Joan MacKeil	13 Marks Cr.	<i>Joan MacKeil</i>
Margaret E. Sturges	54 Shakespeare	<i>Margaret E. Sturges</i>
FREDA MAUNDER	20 Hellivood Rd. N.	<i>Freda Maunder</i>
Kerri Wall	51 Albert St.	<i>Kerri Wall</i>
KATIE SIMKO	610 LAKE ST	<i>Katie Simko</i>
Mary Shaver	59 Louisa St.	<i>R. Mary Shaver</i>
LORRAINE CHIVERS	75 LAKEPORT RD	<i>Lorraine Chivers</i>
M. F. Nagy	17 Springbank Dr	<i>M. F. Nagy</i>
PAULETTE LUTHER	137 CHURCH ST	<i>Paulette Luther</i>
JANAY SHONAUER	10 BOWSTEAD DR	<i>Janay Shonauer</i>
JEAN HULL	10 BOWSTEAD DR	<i>Jean Hull</i>
SUZANNE KWOLEK	1061 BAUSICIA RD. N.	<i>Suzanne Kwolek</i>
Margaret Guse	5 Locherivan Dr	<i>M. Guse</i>

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Name	Address	Signature
Gandy Moccia	53 Hurstley Cres St Cath	Gandy Moccia
Paula Mista	6 Brookdale Ave	Paula Mista
Paula Mista	6 Brookdale Ave	Paula Mista
Shannon Mista	27 Leaside Dr	Shannon Mista
Noris Konst	59 Longfellow Ave	N. Konst
Donna Dazzola	38 Hurstley Cr.	D. Dazzola
Mary Wayne Kirkpatrick	3 Lyman Street	Wayne Kirkpatrick
J. Mackay	272 Glenridge	J. Mackay
A. F. H. H.	25 Simpson	A. F. H. H.
W. Hardie	77 Bell Ave	W. Hardie
Sylvia Zimmerman	283 7th St	S. Zimmerman
Marilyn Ferracuti	35 Village Green	M. Ferracuti
Lee Lalonde	65 Sterling St.	Lee Lalonde
Rob Brown	65 Sterling St.	Rob Brown
Mary Kubi	3785 - 19th Ave	Mary Kubi
Kullian Komun	3785 - 19th Ave	Kullian Komun
Emily Thurston	27 Henry Street	Emily Thurston

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Name	Address	Signature
Maria Helditch	583 Sawmill Rd St. Cath.	M Helditch
Catherine Scott	3916 13 <sup>th</sup> St Tondan	C Scott
Lucas Chorosky	220-191 Scott	L P Chorosky
Fr. Fred Skel.		Fr. Skel
Yeray Roman	34 Victoria St	Yeray Roman
KAREN HENDLE	321 Brunton Ave	Karen Hendle
Ian Hauber	33 Albert St	Ian Hauber
Micheline Hauber	33 Albert St.	Micheline Hauber
Jacqueline Messinger	21 Friar's Court St. Catharines	J. Messinger
P. Cummings	43 Kimberland Rd	P. Cummings
Donnell Demers	43 Thomas St	Donnell Demers
Sister Patricia Conway	124 Richmond St	Sister Patricia Conway
Sister Kathleen Conway	" "	Sister Kathleen Conway



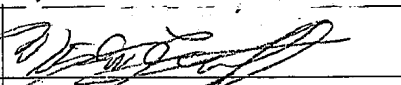

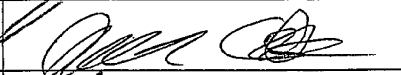
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Name	Address	Signature
Salvador Dayang	17 Ogilvie St. South St. Cath.	Salvador Dayang
Alga Barron	22 Prospect Ave St. Cath	Alga Barron
Janeen Thurston	27 Henry St.	Janeen Thurston
Jane Illich	49 Church St. #306	Jane Illich
Minda Parody	5985 Eldorado Avenue, N.F.O.	M Parody
Magie Respicio	8 Thorncliff Dr. St. Catharines	Magie Respicio
Stella Frenzbach	5985 Eldorado Ave. N.F.	Stella Frenzbach
FE EDRAVIN	66 WESTGATE PARK DR	FE Edravin
Cirilo Respicio	8 Thorncliff Drive	Cirilo Respicio
Poch Robles	8216 SPRING BLOSSOM DR	Poch Robles
FELY WHITFIELD	15 GALE Crescent	Fely Whitfield
Linda Krause	475 Bunting Rd	Linda Krause
Mercedes Demkowitz	12 Bainsdale	Mercedes Demkowitz
Mary White	8 Wedgewood Ct	Mary White
Cip TABIGS	311-25 BARNABY DR.	Cip Tabigs
Liz Purser	62 Spring Garden	Liz Purser
Tom Purser	62 Spring Garden	Tom Purser

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Name	Address	Signature
	221.1A	
Michael Cross	27 BARTON ST	
Brent Thomas	63 ACADIA CRES	
Jacob Chode	8 Princess Ancie	
G H FAWCETT	28 BLUEGRASS CR	G. H. Fawcett

# Save St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School

*W*

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Name	Address	Signature
LOUISE GLENFIELD	21 GREENLAW PL. #8 ST. CATHARINES ON.	<i>L. Glenfield</i>
Vera Berezuk	85-35 Westland St. St Cath ON	<i>Vera Berezuk</i>
TIM Glenfield	30 Parkview Rd	<i>T. Glenfield</i>
John Justyk	99 Barbican Tr	<i>John Justyk</i>
Ellen Beale	89 Woodhill Ln #5	<i>Ellen Beale</i>
<del>Joanna Lockwood</del>	39 Parkview	<del>Joanna Lockwood</del>
Jean Jewett	26 BLUEGRASS CRES. UNIT 28 - ST. CATH. ONT	<i>J. Jewett</i>
Gene Humalda	140 Cole Cresc. N.D.T.L. Loc 150	<i>Gene Humalda</i>
Helsa Brock	70 Regt Dr. St Cath	<i>Helsa Brock</i>
R. Minkes	53 Mc Ghee St St Cath	<i>R. Minkes</i>
R. Coera ft	27 Bantons	<i>R. Coera</i>
Drenok Proski	165 Outgario St	<i>Drenok Proski</i>
DAVID W. HOWE.	14 Glen Park Rd	<i>David W. Howe</i>
LINDA MARIE O'HAGAN	62 Louise St. S.C.	<i>Linda Marie O'Hagan</i>
Sarah Ledita	8 Princess Ann Cir	<i>Sarah Ledita</i>
Tony Ledita	8 Princess Ann Cir	<i>Tony Ledita</i>
W. Hampman	1300 Pelham Rd	<i>W. Hampman</i>

**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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "P. Bonomi".

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 2<sup>nd</sup> daughter is in 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS  
HEATHER FOSS  
ST. CATHARINES DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AND REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE**

PRESENTER INFORMATION



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



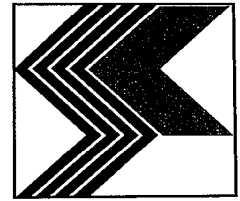
PRESENTATION CONCERNING POSSIBLE CLOSURE  
OF ST. NICHOLAS SCHOOL BY

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 27<sup>th</sup>, 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.

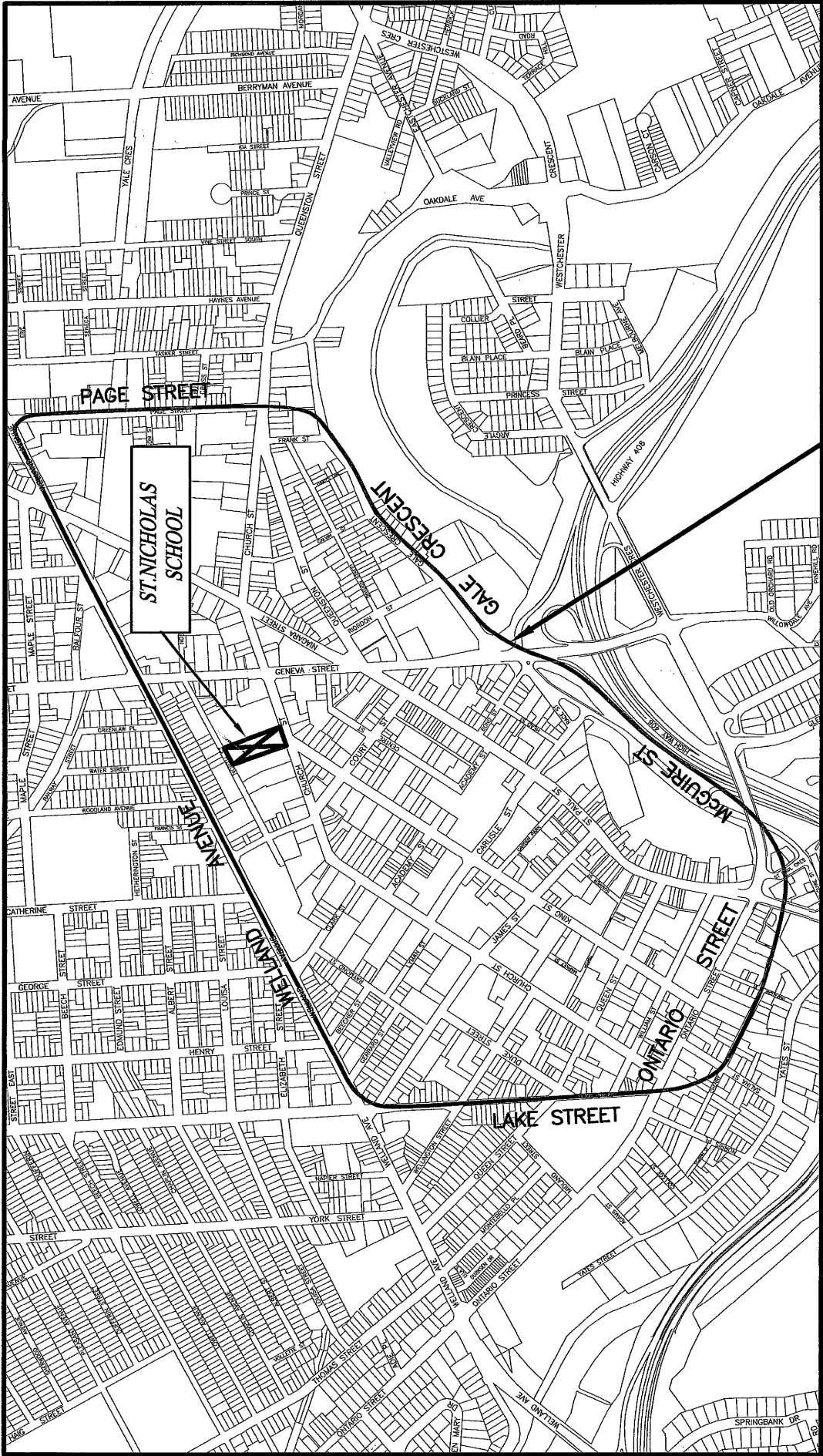
A school is an important component of any residential area. It is an important facility that particularly younger families look for in making housing choice. As such, the continuation of the presence of an elementary school is considered very important in helping the City to achieve the longer term provincial 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 [pchapman@stcatharines.ca](mailto:pchapman@stcatharines.ca) 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

**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 9<sup>th</sup>, 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

Formal Information, the Niagara Catholic District School Board

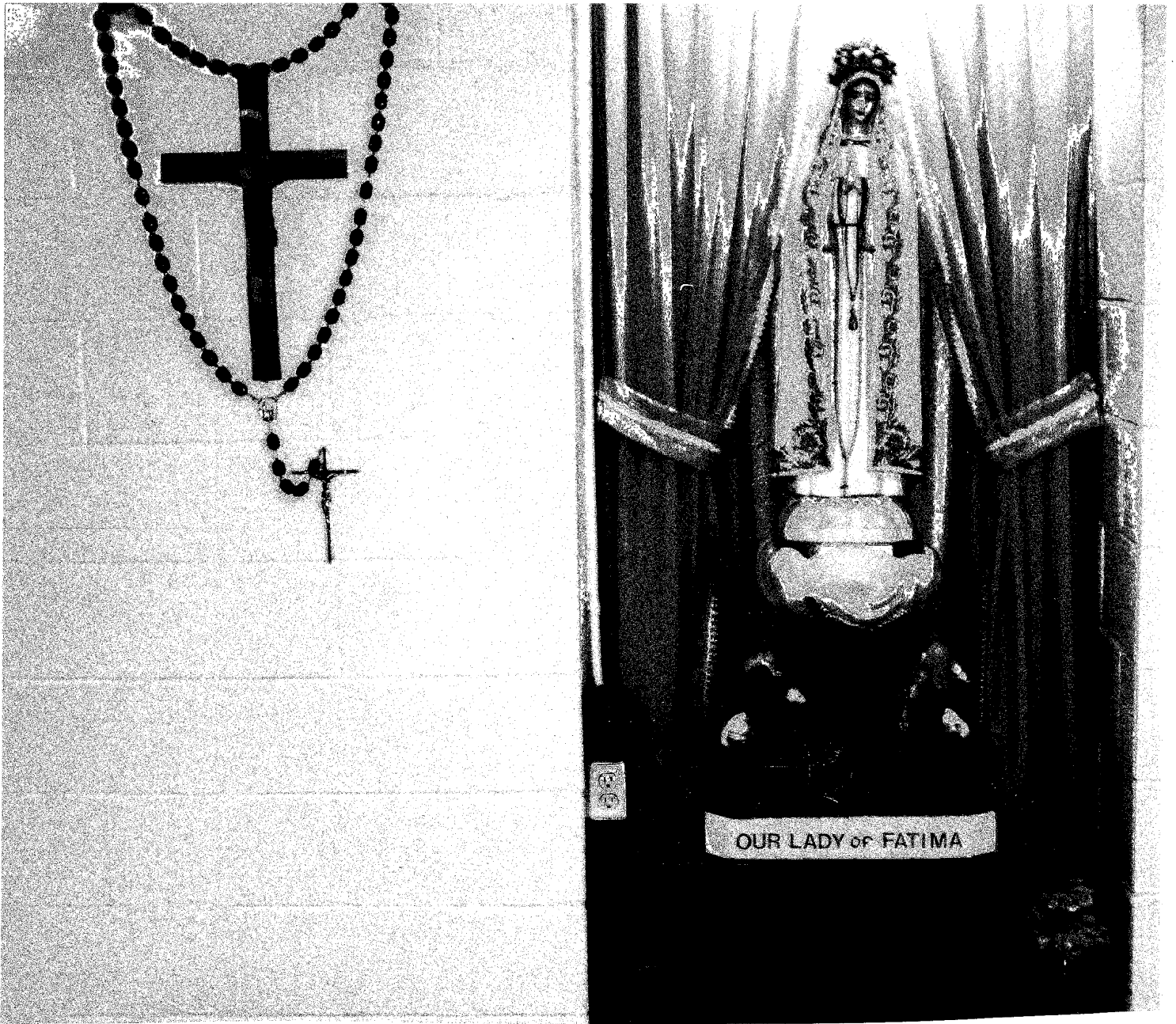
**Pupil Accommodation Review Process**

- 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	<b>Tom Baker</b>	<b>Norm Herbert</b>
ii)	Not Applicable		
iii)	Address	28 Old Coach Road St. Catharines, Ontario L2N 2P5	21 Arran Drive St. Catharines, Ontario L2N 1L6
iv)	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	<u><a href="mailto:tom@bayviewflowers.com">tom@bayviewflowers.com</a></u>	<u><a href="mailto:Nherbert@niagara.com">Nherbert@niagara.com</a></u>
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 50<sup>th</sup> 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**

### What Our Lady of Fatima School offers:

- 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**

### What Our Lady of Fatima School offers:

- 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**

#### What Our Lady of Fatima School offers:

- 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**

What Our Lady of Fatima School offers:

- 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 school's 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-knit class and had a close bond with my teachers. I didn't know it then, but the school's, and its 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 its small size is charming, its 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 experiences 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:**

1. 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<sup>th</sup>, 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 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009, at Saint Michael Catholic High School
- St. Catharines Elementary - 7:00 p.m. February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009, at Denis Morris Catholic High School
- St. Catharines Secondary - 7:00 p.m. February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009.
- (b) The following information should be included with this application:
  - (i) The name of the organization/individual(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.