

In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, Niagara Catholic is committed to providing the best educational facilities that advance student achievement for all and build strong Catholic identity and community.

In accordance with the Ministry of Education, the Niagara Catholic District School Board recognizes its responsibility:

- To provide adequate accommodation and instruction for all pupils attending its schools;
- To undertake long-term capital planning;
- To operate its schools economically and efficiently, while providing the best Catholic education for the pupils, within the limits of the Board's available resources;
- To explore opportunities for effective, sustainable partnerships; and
- To maintain communication with stakeholders and potential partners concerning possible changes in the status of a school or of school boundaries.

The Board acknowledges that the consolidation or closure of schools may be required to meet the above objectives. The Board is committed to providing student accommodation in a responsible and organized manner considering reasonable and just alternatives.

The Director of Education shall present an Initial Staff Report to the Board to review a school or schools for potential consolidation or closure. The Board may establish an Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) and provide the terms of reference or proceed to a Modified Accommodation Review Process.

The Board shall consider consolidation or closure of a school(s) following the submission of the Final Staff Report which will contain feedback from an Accommodation Review Committee and/or a community consultation. The Niagara Catholic District School Board has the discretion to approve the recommendation(s) of the Final Staff Report as presented, modify the recommendation(s) of the report or approve a different outcome. The final decision regarding the future of a school or group of schools rests solely with the Board of Trustees.

The Director of Education will issue Administrative Operational Procedures in support of this policy.

References

- Ministry of Education Administrative Review of the Accommodation Review Process
- Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines (Revised March 2015)
- Niagara Catholic District School Board Policies/Procedures
- Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy (301.1)
 - Attendance Areas Policy (301.3)
 - Board By-Laws Policy (100.1)
 - Community Planning & Partnerships (800.6) AOP

Adopted Date:	April 28, 1998
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