



*The Niagara Catholic District School Board through
the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership,
nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all
to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.*

AGENDA AND MATERIAL

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2017
7:00 P.M.**

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



A. ROUTINE MATTERS

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 1. Opening Prayer – Trustee Burtnik | - |
| 2. Roll Call | - |
| 3. Approval of the Agenda | - |
| 4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest | - |
| 5. Approval of Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 6, 2016 | A5 |
| 6. Consent Agenda Items | - |
| 6.1 Holy Childhood Walk 2017 | A6.1 |
| 6.2 Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities | A6.2 |
| 6.3 Capital Projects Update | A6.3 |
| 6.4 In Camera Items F1 and F3 | - |

B. PRESENTATIONS

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 1. Saint Michael and Saint Paul Catholic High School Family of Schools Attendance Area Review Committee Report | C1 |
| 2. Committee of the Whole System Priorities and Budget 2016-2017 Update | C2 |
| 3. Design of System Priorities and Budget 2017-2018 Consultation and Collaboration Schedule | C3 |
| 4. Monthly Updates | |
| 4.1 Student Senate Update | - |
| 4.2 Senior Staff Good News Update | - |

D. INFORMATION

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 1. Trustee Information | |
| 1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – December 20, 2016 | D1.1 |
| 1.2 Calendar of Events – January 2017 | D1.2 |
| 1.3 Draft School Year Calendar 2017-2018 | D1.3 |

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action -

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

G. REPORT ON THE IN CAMERA SESSION

H. ADJOURNMENT

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
JANUARY 17, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MEETING OF DECEMBER 6, 2016**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 6, 2016, 2016, as presented.



MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2016

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, December 6, 2016 in the Father Kenneth Burns c.s.c. Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Vice-Chair Burtnik.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was led by Trustee Sicoli

2. Roll Call

Vice-Chair Burtnik noted that Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services was excused from the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau	✓			
Frank Fera	✓			
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O'Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli	✓			
Pat Vernal	✓			
Student Trustees				
Kira Petriello	✓			
Nico Tripodi	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Mark Lefebvre**, Superintendents of Education; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Anna Pisano**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 6, 2016, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No Declaration of Conflict of Interest was declared with any items on the Agenda.

5. Approval of Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 8, 2016

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 8, 2016, as presented.

CARRIED

6. Consent Agenda Items

6.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of November 22, 2016

THAT the Committee of the Whole receive the Unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of November 22, 2016, as presented.

6.2 Approval of Administration of Oral Medication to Students Policy (302.2)

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Administration of Oral Medication to Students Policy (302.2), as presented.

6.3 Approval of Accessibility Customer Service Policy (800.8.1)

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Accessibility Customer Service Policy (800.8.1), as presented.

6.4 Approval of Access to Board Premises – Safe Schools Policy (302.6.3)

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Access to Board Premises Policy (302.6.3), as presented.

6.5 Approval of Progressive Student Discipline Policy (302.6.9)

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Progressive Student Discipline Policy (302.6.9), as presented.

6.6 Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities

Presented for information.

6.7 Capital Projects Update

Presented for information.

6.8 In Camera Items F.1 and F.3

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Committee of the Whole adopt the consent agenda items.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

Nil

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Niagara Catholic French Immersion Program Update

Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education presented the Niagara Catholic French Immersion Program Update report for Trustee information.

Superintendent Lefebvre answered questions of Trustees.

2. Lakeshore Catholic High School Building Envelope Upgrade Tender

Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services presented the result of the Lakeshore Catholic High School Building Envelope Upgrade Tender.

Controller Whitwell answered questions of Trustees.

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Award of Construction Tender for the Building Envelope Upgrade at Lakeshore Catholic High School to Manorcove Group Inc. for \$865,600 (HST excluded), as presented.

3. Committee of the Whole System Priorities and Budget 2016-2017 Update

Director Crocco along with Senior Administrative Council provided a verbal and visual update on the implementation of the annual Board approved System Priorities and Budget 2016-2017.

Director Crocco and Senior Administrative Council answered questions of Trustees. Trustee Charbonneau thanked Director Crocco and Senior Administrative Council for the clarity, informative and professionalism of the monthly System Priority and Budget Report which provides valuable and current information to Trustees which is used in making decisions by the Board.

4. Monthly Updates

4.1 Student Trustees' Update

Kira Petriello and Nico Tripodi, Student Trustees, presented a brief verbal update on the current activities of the Student Senate.

4.2 Senior Staff Good News Update

Senior Staff highlights included:

Superintendent Farrell

- Isabella Dayaram, a Grade 6 student at Assumption Catholic Elementary School was announced the winner of the Fire Prevention poster contest sponsored by the St. Catharines Fire Services. Isabella's poster was chosen from hundreds of entries and will be displayed on the side of 70 St. Catharines public transit busses.
- St. Theresa Catholic Elementary School, Saint Catharines ECE Nancy Ricci and ELKP Teacher Allison Szalai were awarded the Kindergarten Team Award for their outstanding kindergarten partnerships at the Early Childhood Community Centres 20th Annual Awards of Excellence celebration.

Superintendent Lefebvre

- There were approximately 470 new Kindergarten registrations that took place on November 23, 2016, the first day of Kindergarten registration for 2017-2018.

Superintendent Baldasaro

- This past month, the Junior division students at St. James Catholic Elementary School participated in the "Meaning of Home" writing challenge to help make difference in our world. Habitat for Humanity and Genworth Canada have partnered together to support this Canada wide writing challenge. Every written entry results in a ten dollar donation to the Habit to Humanity program, with winners to be announced in January 2017. St. James students have created several original and heartfelt entries, and have raised \$740.00 for Habitat for Humanity.
- Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School music students placed in the top 5 from all entries in the Country 89 Christmas Song Contest. The talented students and their music teachers will visit Country 89 on Friday December 9, 2016 at 8 a.m. and will perform their songs at approximately 8:10 a.m.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells

- The Fourth Annual Film Festival hosted by Niagara Regional Police Service, with assistance from community partners, including Pro-Action - Cops and Kids, was held Thursday, December 1, 2016 at the Landmark Theater with Niagara secondary schools. This year's topic of "Drugged Driving" is one of growing concern. Niagara Catholic schools were well represented with their video submissions. The first place winning submission was awarded to Notre Dame College School, second place to Saint Michael Catholic High School, and third place to Denis Morris Catholic High School.

D. INFORMATION

1. Trustee Information

1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – November 22, 2016

Director Crocco highlighted the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – November 22, 2016 issue for Trustees information.

1.2 Calendar of Events – December 2016

Director Crocco presented the December 2016 Calendar of Events for Trustees information.

Director Crocco reminded Trustees of the December 15, 2016 Faith Formation at Club Roma, St. Catharines beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Director Crocco reminded Trustees of the Boards Annual Advent and Christmas gathering following the December Board meeting in the Holy Cross Community Room.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

- 1.1** Director Crocco announced that work is well underway in implementing the 2016-2017 phase of the Board's Long Term Accommodation Plan.
- 1.2** Director Crocco informed the Board that Ad Hoc Committee for the Attendance Area Review in Niagara Falls will have their final meeting on December 14, 2016 with a recommendation to be brought forth at the January 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting.
- 1.3** Discussions on the System Priorities and Budget for 2017-2018 will commence at the January 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting.
- 1.4** Controller Whitwell announced that funding for the St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School joint venture has been denied by the Ministry of Education. Director Crocco added that a report on future options will be presented in the new year.

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

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

CARRIED

The Committee of the Whole moved into the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 8:32 p.m. and reconvened at 9:15 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 6, 2016.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES INCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - In Camera Session (Section A: Student Trustees Included) held on November 8, 2016, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - In Camera Session (Section B: Student Trustees Excluded) held on November 8, 2016, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F4)

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the December 6, 2016 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **December 6, 2016.**

Approved on **January 17, 2017.**

Kathy Burtnik
Vice-Chair of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: HOLY CHILDHOOD WALK

The Holy Childhood Walk report is presented for information.

Prepared by: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: January 17, 2017



REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE JANUARY 17, 2017

HOLY CHILDHOOD WALK

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Each school year the Niagara Catholic District School Board coordinates a board wide effort in support of the Holy Childhood Association. The Holy Childhood Association is a Mission Club for Elementary School Children. The goal of the Holy Childhood Association is to awaken missionary consciousness in children. Their motto is: *Children Helping Children*. This motto helps us to encourage children to pray for, learn more about, and share our material resources with children around the world.

In 2016 the Holy Childhood Association provided assistance to 53 projects in Ghana, Jamaica, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, and Thailand where missionaries continue to work selflessly guided by compassion, solidarity and the love of God. The Niagara Catholic District School Board elementary schools have supported the Holy Childhood Association for the last thirty-two (32) years. This year, thirty-seven (37) elementary schools participated in the Holy Childhood Walkathons in an effort to raise money for various countries. The walkathons were conducted through October and early November and raised \$11,372.56.

Our message to the students is that any contribution is meaningful – all of our small contributions as children, when added together, make a difference for children in the countries that we are helping.

The schools of the Niagara Catholic District School Board have raised over \$665,000.00 since we began our involvement in 1984.

Monies raised through schools are directed towards self-help programs involving the building of schools, the provision of health and nutrition programs and medications, school fees, and teaching and learning resources. Children in communities, orphanages, homes for the disabled, refugees, and those living on the streets are assisted by the generosity of children who wish to make the love of Jesus know everywhere.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board and the Holy Childhood Association would like to thank everyone who supported the Walkathons in our local school communities.

The Holy Childhood Walk report is presented for information.

Prepared by: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education
Presented by: Mary Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer
Date: January 17, 2017

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The Report on Staff Development Department:
Professional Development Opportunities is presented for information.

Prepared by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education
Anthony Corapi, Coordinator of Staff Development

Presented by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: January 17, 2017



REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING JANUARY 17, 2017

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In alignment with the Board's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan and Annual System Priorities, the Department of Staff Development, as an integral aspect of its mandate, acts as the point of co-ordination among various departments. Thus ensuring that all professional development opportunities for staff, both teaching and non-teaching, occur in a seamless fashion so as to minimize disruptions to the myriad services provided within our Niagara Catholic community.

The following is a listing of activities occurring during the period January 17, 2017 through February 14, 2017.

Tuesday, January 17 & Wednesday, January 18, 2017

SMG (Safe Management Group) Full Certification for Selected Staff

- Special Education Staff will be completing two-day Safe Management Group (SMG) Training for selected staff. Training is from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 17 and Wednesday, January 18 being held at St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School.

Tuesday, January 17, 2017

New Teacher Induction Program (Four Points Sheraton)

- The focus of the January 17 session will be Assessment, Evaluation and Growing Success for teachers K – 12.

Friday, January 20, 2017

Professional Activity Day – Elementary Panel

- The focus of the Professional Activity day on January 20 is Report Card Writing for K – 8 teaching staff.
- BMS Refresher Training for Educational Assistants and select staff will occur on Friday, January 20, 2017. As this is a half-day training, all staff requiring BMS Refresher Training will receive direction from their Principal regarding expectations for the other half of the day.

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Leadership Identification Program (2016 – 2018) (Catholic Education Centre)

- Niagara Catholic's Leadership Identification Program is a leadership succession strategy for qualified teachers who meet specific application criteria, and are successful through an interview and selection process. The program allows them to explore their educational leadership potential. The January 24 session will be highlighted by a Catholic Leadership presentation by Bishop Gerard Bergie and a Predictive Index Workshop lead by Mitch LePage from Predictive Success Corporation.

Friday, February 3, 2017

Professional Activity Day – Secondary Panel

- Annual BMS Refresher Training for all Secondary Educational Assistants (EAs) (Contract and Long Term Occasional) and Special Education Class Teachers will occur on Friday, February 3, 2017.

Friday, February 3, 2017

Elementary & Secondary Library Technician Professional Development

- All Elementary and Secondary Library Technicians will travel to Toronto for the Ontario Library Association Super Conference 2017 Expo. On the Expo floor there will be IdeaHUB presentations taking place that include: Coding our Way into the Future! featuring robotics; CANSCAIP Book Launch featuring Forest of Reading authors; Meet the Crime Writers of Canada. For a complete list of exhibitors go to: <http://www.olasuperconference.ca/expo/exhibitor-directory/> This is an exciting day with an incredible amount of things to see and experience along with the much appreciated book giveaways and author signings!

The Report on Staff Development:
Professional Development Opportunities is presented for information.

Prepared by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education
Anthony Corapi, Coordinator of Staff Development

Presented by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: January 17, 2017

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRESS REPORT UPDATE

The Capital Projects Progress Report Update is presented for information.

Prepared by: Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services
Presented by: Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer
Date: January 17, 2017



**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2017
CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRESS REPORT UPDATE**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Individual progress reports for capital projects are presented as follows:

In Progress

NEW BUILD

Appendix A

St. Martin Catholic Elementary School

ADDITIONS

Appendix B

Our Lady of Fatima (G) Catholic Elementary School

The Capital Projects Progress Report Update is presented for information.

Prepared by: Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services
Presented by: Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer
Date: January 17, 2017



**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
CAPITAL PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT
JANUARY 17, 2017**

APPENDIX A

ST. MARTIN CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Scope of Project:

Design and construction of a replacement school and child care centre on a new site.

Current Status: Storm sewer work is complete. Water service installation is complete. The electrical primary/secondary ductbanks have been installed. Roof structure has begun in some sections. Curbs to be poured by mid-December. Masonry veneer and siding installation is underway.

Project Information:

New Area to be Constructed	44,067	sq. ft.
Existing Area to be Renovated		sq. ft.
Total New Facility Area	44,067	sq. ft.
Total Site Area	6	acres
Pupil Places Added	115	students
New Facility Capacity	454	students



Project Funding:

Capital Priorities	9,910,289
	<u>\$9,910,289</u>

Project Costs:

	Budget	Paid
Construction Contract	7,734,824	4,541,764
Fees & Disbursements	937,360	971,078
Furniture & Equipment	260,917	0
Other Project Costs	977,188	161,857
	<u>\$9,910,289</u>	<u>\$5,674,698</u>

Project Timelines:

	Scheduled Completion	Actual Completion
Funding Approval	July 7, 2011	July 7, 2011
Ministry Approval (space)	December 2011	February 14, 2012
Architect Selection	January 30, 2012	March 22, 2012
Design Development	March 2012	October 2013
Contract Documents	January 2014	Feb 2014
Tender & Approvals (re-design)	Summer/Fall 2015	October 2015
Ministry Approval (cost - revised)	Summer/Fall 2015	November 2015
Ground Breaking Date	December 2015	December 9, 2015
Construction Start	December 2015	
Occupancy	Spring 2017	
Official Opening & Blessing	TBD	

Project Team:

Architect	MMMC Inc. Architects
General Contractor	Brouwer Construction
Project Manager	Anthony Ferrara
Superintendent	Yolanda Baldasaro
Principal	Chris Zanuttini



**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
CAPITAL PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT
JANUARY 17, 2017**

APPENDIX B

OUR LADY OF FATIMA (G) CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Scope of Project: Design and construction of a 6 classroom/3 child care room addition.

Current Status: Tender documents and drawings are being developed by architect and engineers.

Project Information:

New Area to be Constructed		sq. ft.
Pupil Places Added	138	students
New Facility Capacity	541	students



Project Funding:

Capital Priorities	2,860,000
Child Care	1,530,000
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	\$4,390,000

Project Costs:

	Budget	Paid
Construction Contract	0	0
Fees & Disbursements	0	53,930
Furniture & Equipment	0	0
Other Project Costs	0	2,600
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$4,390,000	\$56,530

Project Timelines:

	Scheduled Completion	Actual Completion
Funding Approval	November 9, 2015	November 9, 2015
Ministry Approval (space)		
Architect Selection	April 18, 2016	June 30, 2016
Design Development		
Contract Documents		
Tender & Approvals		
Ministry Approval (cost)		
Ground Breaking Date		
Construction Start		
Occupancy		
Official Opening & Blessing		

Project Team:

Architect	Svedas Architects Inc.
General Contractor	
Project Manager	Tunde Labbancz
Superintendent	Yolanda Baldasaro
Principal	Brian Palujanskas

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
JANUARY 17, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC AND SAINT PAUL CATHOLIC
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS
AD HOC ATTENDANCE AREA REVIEW COMMITTEE
REPORT**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Niagara Catholic District School Board that the following revisions occur to the current attendance area boundaries for Father Hennepin Catholic, Loretto Catholic, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary Schools and approve the recommendations as presented.

1. **THAT** as of February 1st, 2017 the boundary description for Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School be revised from:

East: Commencing on the Niagara River to

South: Corfield St. (and its projection) to Stanley Ave to the Welland River to

West: Wilson Cres. (and its projection) to McLeod Rd to Dell Ave (including) (and its projection) to the power transmission lines to Drummond Rd to Culp St. to Franklin Ave (including)

North: to Lundy's Lane (centreline) to Ferry Ave. (centreline) to the extension of Magdalen St. to the point of commencement on the Niagara River.

To now be described as

East: Commencing on the Niagara River to Corfield Street (and its projection) to Stanley Avenue (including), south to the Welland River,

South: Welland River to the projection of Wilson Crescent,

West: Projection of Wilson Crescent north to Oldfield Road, Oldfield Road (including) to point where it meets Dorchester Road, northeast along power transmission lines, north to projection of Wilson Crescent, north on Wilson Crescent (including) to McLeod Road (centreline) to Dell Avenue (including) and its projection to the power transmission lines to Drummond Road (including) to Culp Street west on Culp Street (including) to Franklin Avenue north on Franklin Avenue (including) to Lundy's Lane

North: east on Lundy's Lane (centerline) to Ferry Avenue (centerline) and its projection to the point of commencement at Niagara River.

THAT as of February 1st, 2017, the boundary description for Loretto Catholic Elementary School be revised from:

East: Commencing on Montrose Road (centreline) at Lundy's Lane (centreline) to

South: McLeod Road (centreline) to

West: Thorold Townline Road (centreline)

North: Lundy's Lane (centreline) to the point of commencement on Montrose Road

To now be described as:

East: Commencing on Kalar Road at Catalina Street, east on Catalina Street (excluding) to Pitton Road, south on Pitton Road (excluding), to Ethel Street (excluding) to Sherri Avenue (excluding) to Alfred Street (excluding) to Charnwood Avenue, east along Charnwood Avenue (excluding) to south entrance and Montrose Road, Montrose Road to McLeod Road,

South: McLeod Road (centerline) to Thorold Townline Road,

West: North on Thorold Townline Road (centerline) to Lundy's Lane, west on Lundy's Lane (centerline) to Garner Road, south on Garner Road (centerline) to Forestview Boulevard

North: east on Forestview Boulevard (centerline) to St. Michael Avenue (excluding), north to Angie Drive, east along Angie Drive (excluding) and excluding Mildred Court, to Kalar Road, north on Kalar Road (excluding) to point of commencement at Catalina Street.

THAT as of February 1st, 2017 the boundary description for Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School be revised from:

East: Commencing on Glenholme Ave. (excluding – and its projection) to Lundy's Lane (centreline) to Franklin Ave (excluding) to Culp St. (excluding) to Drummond Rd (excluding) to the power transmission lines to Dell Ave. (excluding – and its projection) to McLeod (excluding) to Wilson Cres. (excluding – and its projection) to

South: the Welland River to

West: Thorold Townline Road (centreline) to

North: McLeod Road to Montrose to Lundy's Lane (centreline) to the hydro canal to Hwy 420 to the point of commencement on Glenholme Ave

To be described as:

East: Commencing at Hwy 420 to Glenholme Avenue (excluding and its projection) to Lundy's Lane (centreline) to Franklin Avenue (excluding) to Culp Street (excluding) to Drummond Road (excluding) to the power transmission lines to Dell Avenue (excluding – and its projection) to McLeod Road (excluding) to Wilson Crescent (excluding – and its projection) to power transmission lines and projection to Dorchester Road where it meets Oldfield Road, east along Oldfield Road (excluding) to projection of Wilson Crescent, to Welland River

South: Welland River to Thorold Townline Road

West: Thorold Townline Road (centreline) north to McLeod Road (centreline), east to Montrose Road (centreline), north to Charnwood Avenue, south entrance, west on Charnwood Avenue (including), north on Charnwood Avenue (including) to Alfred Street, west on Alfred Street (including) to Sherri Avenue, north on Sherri Avenue (including) to Ethel Street, west on Ethel Street (including), to Pitton Road, north on Pitton Road (including), to Catalina Street, west on Catalina Street (including) to Kalar Road, south on Kalar Road to Angie Drive (including) and including Mildred Court, to St. Michael Avenue (including), south to Forestview Blvd. (centreline) west to Garner Road (centreline), north on Garner Road (centreline) to Kalar Road (including)

North: East from Kalar Road on Lundy's Lane (centreline) to the hydro canal to point of commencement at Hwy 420.

2. **THAT** students, who are currently in Grade 7 at Loretto Catholic Elementary School and have been affected by the proposed boundary changes be grandfathered, including siblings, until completion of Grade 8 commencing September 2017. If required, transportation will continue until the current Grade 8 student graduates from Loretto Catholic Elementary School.
3. **THAT**, in compliance with Board Policy 301.1 Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy, the siblings of the grandfathered students for the 2017-2018 school year at Loretto Catholic Elementary School may apply to continue to attend Loretto Catholic Elementary School commencing in September 2018 as an Out of Boundary student without transportation.
4. **THAT**, in compliance with Board Policy 301.1 Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy, effective for September 2017 only, students who currently attend Loretto Catholic Elementary School from outside the current and revised attendance boundary of Loretto Catholic Elementary School, and their school age siblings, be permitted to apply for out of boundary admission to Loretto Catholic Elementary School without transportation.
5. **THAT**, in compliance with Board Policy 301.1 Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy and Board approved motions for Loretto Catholic Elementary School, effective February 1st 2017, out of boundary requests for Loretto Catholic Elementary School boundary will not be granted.
6. **THAT**, in compliance with Board Policy 500.2 Student Transportation Policy, during the transition of school boundary descriptions from February 1st, 2017 to June 30th, 2017, transportation will continue to be provided for students who have been affected by the attendance boundary changes.

Prepared by: Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools
Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee

Presented by: Ed Nieuwesteeg, Trustee and Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee
Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education

Recommended by: Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools
Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee

Date: January 17, 2017



REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE JANUARY 17, 2017

SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC AND SAINT PAUL CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS AD HOC ATTENDANCE AREA REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

As part of Niagara Catholic District School Board's continued open and transparent communication process with all stakeholders in our Catholic school communities, this report provides updated information on the completed work of the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee.

At the June 21st, 2016 Board Meeting the Niagara Catholic District School Board approved the formation of the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee with the following Terms of Reference:

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board that in September 2016 the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee commence an attendance area review of boundaries for Loretto Catholic Elementary School, Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School in accordance with the Attendance Areas Policy (301.3) and submit recommendations to the January 17th, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the following Terms of Reference for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee:

- Align student enrolment to facility capacity at Loretto Catholic Elementary School.
- Align student enrolment to facility capacity at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School, considering the possibility and the potential impact of moving the French Immersion Program from Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School.
- Provide recommendations to address the increasing enrollment in the Imagine Estates subdivision.
- Provide recommendations to support temporary overcapacity at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School for students from Imagine Estates until a new Catholic elementary school is built in Imagine Estates.
- Review and recommend adjusted attendance area boundaries for Loretto Catholic Elementary School, Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Elementary School, within the Saint Michael Catholic High School – Family of Schools.

Appendices to this report include the following:

- Niagara Catholic Policy 301.1 Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy
- Minutes from the October 26th, 2016 Public Consultation Session seeking input on the impact of moving the French Immersion Program from Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School.
- Copies of Committee Meeting Minutes
- Copies of Public Meeting Minutes

The first Ad Hoc Committee Meeting, October 16th, 2016 involved developing Guiding Principles to be used in the considering various options:

- Minimal disruption to the communities
- Not moving students more than once
- Open and transparent process
- Must relieve enrolment pressures at Loretto Catholic - would like input from parents
- Recognize needs of parents (i.e. childcare)

At the Committee Meeting, November 15th, 2016 an additional Guiding Principle was added:

- Transition Plan will be developed and supported by the Catholic school community and individuals

After consideration of the input received at the Public Consultation Session seeking input on the potential move of the French Immersion Program from Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School, Senior Staff recommended that the program continue at each of the sites.

The Ad Hoc Committee researched and considered the following factors:

- Present and projected student population at Father Hennepin, Loretto Catholic, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic elementary schools
- Ministry Rated Capacity of each school
- Location and impact of students attending the schools outside of their attendance area
- The impact of proposed options on student enrolment at each of the schools using input from Consultant Jack Ammendolia, of Watson and Associates, to project the impact of various attendance area boundary options on enrolment at the schools
- The impact of attendance area boundary options on transportation routes/times based on consultation with Niagara Student Transportation Services
- Location of Parishes
- The impact of a possible addition at Loretto Catholic Elementary School as a measure to address enrolment pressure at the school

Enrolment pressures continue to exist at Loretto Catholic Elementary School with enrolment currently at 630 students that has the school operating at 160% of (392) capacity. The school currently has 95 students attending the school from outside the current boundary; however, this is mitigated by 58 students who leave the Loretto Catholic catchment to attend other schools. Limiting enrolment to solely the Loretto Catholic Elementary School catchment would have the school operating at 150% of capacity. As such, it is insufficient to limit consideration of enrolment options solely to out of boundary students. Currently, Loretto Catholic experiences 6% of its overcapacity due to the net cross boundary effect to out of boundary students with the remainder of the enrolment pressure coming from within the current boundary.

Consultation Process

The consultation process with the school communities was extensive through Committee and Public Meetings. A schedule is included below. Prior to each Public Meeting the school communities were informed via SchoolConnects, by phone and email when possible, of meeting dates/times. The public was also informed on Wednesday, January 11th, 2017 of the recommendations being considered at the January 17th, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting. The Committee Recommendations were sent as an attachment.

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
October 19, 2016	5:00 p.m.	Committee Meeting	Catholic Education Centre 427 Rice Road, Welland, Ontario Fr. Kenneth Burns csc Board Room
November 3, 2016	5:00 p.m.	Committee Meeting	Catholic Education Centre 427 Rice Road, Welland, Ontario Fr. Kenneth Burns csc Board Room
November 9, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Public Meeting	Loretto Catholic Elementary School 6855 Kalar Road, Niagara Falls, Ontario
November 10, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Public Meeting	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School 6525 Carlton Street, Niagara Falls, Ontario
November 15, 2016	5:00 p.m.	Committee Meeting	Catholic Education Centre 427 Rice Road, Welland, Ontario Fr. Kenneth Burns csc Board Room
November 28, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Public Meeting	Saint Michael Catholic High School 8699 McLeod Road, Niagara Falls, Ontario
December 6, 2016	4:00 p.m.	Committee Meeting	Catholic Education Centre 427 Rice Road, Welland, Ontario Fr. Kenneth Burns csc Board Room
December 14, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Public Session	Saint Michael Catholic High School 8699 McLeod Road, Niagara Falls, Ontario
December 14, 2016	9:00 p.m.	Committee Meeting	Saint Michael Catholic High School 8699 McLeod Road, Niagara Falls, Ontario
January 17, 2017	7:00 p.m.	Report to the Committee of the Whole	Catholic Education Centre 427 Rice Road, Welland, Ontario Fr. Kenneth Burns csc Board Room
January 31, 2017	7:00 p.m.	Board Meeting	Catholic Education Centre 427 Rice Road, Welland, Ontario Fr. Kenneth Burns csc Board Room

Input from the public was provided respectfully and considered by the Committee at its next meeting. Consequently, the Ad Hoc Committee which began with six options finished with eighteen. The recommended option was subsequently revised at the final Committee Meeting based on public input.

Board staff is currently pursuing before and after school childcare at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School beginning September 2017.

Should the Board approve the revised attendance area boundaries for the Loretto Catholic Elementary School, Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Elementary School, a transition plan will be developed beginning in February for the students affected in September 2017.

Attachments:

Appendix A - Niagara Catholic Policy 301.1 Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy

Appendix B - Minutes from the October 26th, 2016 Public Consultation Session seeking input on the impact of moving the French Immersion Program from Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School

Appendix C - Copies of Committee Meeting Minutes

Appendix D - Copies of Public Meeting Minutes

Appendix E - School Connects Message and Attachment of Recommendations Sent to School Communities – January 11th, 2017

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Niagara Catholic District School Board that the following revisions occur to the current attendance area boundaries for Father Hennepin Catholic, Loretto Catholic, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary Schools and approve the recommendations as presented.

1. **THAT** as of February 1st, 2017 the boundary description for Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School be revised from:

East: Commencing on the Niagara River to

South: Corfield St. (and its projection) to Stanley Ave to the Welland River to

West: Wilson Cres. (and its projection) to McLeod Rd to Dell Ave (including) (and its projection) to the power transmission lines to Drummond Rd to Culp St. to Franklin Ave (including)

North: to Lundy's Lane (centreline) to Ferry Ave. (centreline) to the extension of Magdalen St. to the point of commencement on the Niagara River.

To now be described as

East: Commencing on the Niagara River to Corfield Street (and its projection) to Stanley Avenue (including), south to the Welland River,

South: Welland River to the projection of Wilson Crescent,

West: **Projection of Wilson Crescent north to Oldfield Road, Oldfield Road (including) to point where it meets Dorchester Road,** northeast along power transmission lines, north

to projection of Wilson Crescent, north on Wilson Crescent (including) to McLeod Road (centreline) to Dell Avenue (including) and its projection to the power transmission lines to Drummond Road (including) to Culp Street west on Culp Street (including) to Franklin Avenue north on Franklin Avenue (including) to Lundy's Lane

North: east on Lundy's Lane (centerline) to Ferry Avenue (centerline) and its projection to the point of commencement at Niagara River.

THAT as of February 1st, 2017, the boundary description for Loretto Catholic Elementary School be revised from:

East: Commencing on Montrose Road (centreline) at Lundy's Lane (centreline) to

South: McLeod Road (centreline) to

West: Thorold Townline Road (centreline)

North: Lundy's Lane (centreline) to the point of commencement on Montrose Road

To now be described as:

East: Commencing on Kalar Road at Catalina Street, east on Catalina Street (excluding) to Pitton Road, south on Pitton Road (excluding), to Ethel Street (excluding) to Sherri Avenue (excluding) to Alfred Street (excluding) to Charnwood Avenue, east along Charnwood Avenue (excluding) to south entrance and Montrose Road, Montrose Road to McLeod Road,

South: McLeod Road (centerline) to Thorold Townline Road,

West: North on Thorold Townline Road (centerline) to Lundy's Lane, west on Lundy's Lane (centerline) to Garner Road, **south on Garner Road (centerline) to Forestview Boulevard**

North: east on Forestview Boulevard (centerline) to St. Michael Avenue (excluding), north to Angie Drive, east along Angie Drive (excluding) and excluding Mildred Court, to Kalar Road, north on Kalar Road (excluding) to point of commencement at Catalina Street.

THAT as of February 1st, 2017 the boundary description for Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School be revised from:

East: Commencing on Glenholme Ave. (excluding – and its projection) to Lundy's Lane (centreline) to Franklin Ave (excluding) to Culp St. (excluding) to Drummond Rd (excluding) to the power transmission lines to Dell Ave. (excluding – and its projection) to McLeod (excluding) to Wilson Cres. (excluding – and its projection) to

South: the Welland River to

West: Thorold Townline Road (centreline) to

North: McLeod Road to Montrose to Lundy's Lane (centreline) to the hydro canal to Hwy 420 to the point of commencement on Glenholme Ave

To now be described as:

East: Commencing at Hwy 420 to Glenholme Avenue (excluding and its projection) to Lundy's Lane (centreline) to Franklin Avenue (excluding) to Culp Street (excluding) to Drummond Road (excluding) to the power transmission lines to Dell Avenue (excluding – and its projection) to McLeod Road (excluding) to Wilson Crescent (excluding – and its projection) **to power transmission lines and projection to Dorchester Road where it meets Oldfield Road, east along Oldfield Road (excluding)** to projection of Wilson Crescent, to Welland River

South: Welland River to Thorold Townline Road

West: Thorold Townline Road (centreline) north to McLeod Road (centreline), east to Montrose Road (centreline), **north to Charnwood Avenue, south entrance, west on Charnwood Avenue (including), north on Charnwood Avenue (including) to Alfred Street, west on Alfred Street (including) to Sherri Avenue, north on Sherri Avenue (including) to Ethel Street, west on Ethel Street (including), to Pitton Road, north on Pitton Road (including), to Catalina Street, west on Catalina Street (including) to Kalar Road, south on Kalar Road to Angie Drive (including) and including Mildred**

Court, to St. Michael Avenue (including), south to Forestview Blvd. (centreline) west to Garner Road (centreline), north on Garner Road (centreline) to Kalar Road (including)

North: East from Kalar Road on Lundy's Lane (centreline) to the hydro canal to point of commencement at Hwy 420.

2. **THAT** students, who are currently in Grade 7 at Loretto Catholic Elementary School and have been affected by the proposed boundary changes be grandfathered, including siblings, until completion of Grade 8 commencing September 2017. If required, transportation will continue until the current Grade 8 student graduates from Loretto Catholic Elementary School.
3. **THAT**, in compliance with Board Policy 301.1 Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy, the siblings of the grandfathered students for the 2017-2018 school year at Loretto Catholic Elementary School may apply to continue to attend Loretto Catholic commencing in September 2018 as an Out of Boundary student without transportation.
4. **THAT**, in compliance with Board Policy 301.1 Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy, effective for September 2017 only, students who currently attend Loretto Catholic Elementary School from outside the current and revised attendance boundary of Loretto Catholic Elementary School, and their school age siblings, be permitted to apply for out of boundary admission to Loretto Catholic Elementary School without transportation.
5. **THAT**, in compliance with Board Policy 301.1 Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy and Board approved motions for Loretto Catholic Elementary School, effective February 1st 2017, out of boundary requests for Loretto Catholic Elementary School boundary will not be granted.
6. **THAT**, in compliance with Board Policy 500.2 Student Transportation Policy, during the transition of school boundary descriptions from February 1st, 2017 to June 30th, 2017, transportation will continue to be provided for students who have been affected by the attendance boundary changes.

Prepared by: Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee

Presented by: Ed Nieuwesteeg, Trustee and Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee
Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education

Recommended by: Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee

Date: January 17, 2017



Niagara Catholic District School Board
**ADMISSION OF ELEMENTARY AND
 SECONDARY STUDENTS POLICY**
 STATEMENT OF POLICY

300 – Schools/Students

Policy No 301.1

Adopted Date: February 24, 1998

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: June 16, 2015

In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, Niagara Catholic embraces the opportunities and challenges of providing a learning environment in which the teachings of Christ and the Catholic faith provide a distinctive Catholic education for all students within its jurisdiction.

The Board, in cooperation with the Bishop, Priests, Chaplaincy Leaders and the parent/guardian community, fosters the spiritual growth of all students enabling them to become responsible citizens, who give witness to Catholic social teachings by promoting peace, justice and sacredness of human life.

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction on the process for admission of students to the elementary and secondary schools of the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

Therefore, upon approval, any student within the Niagara Region, electing to attend a Niagara Catholic elementary or secondary school may attend with the understanding that they respect the environment and traditions of Catholic Education, and the expectations of the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

The Director of Education shall issue Administrative Procedures for the implementation of this policy.

References

- [*Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada*](#)
- [*Education Act \(Section 33 \(3\), 1997\)*](#)
- [*Immigration and Refugee Protection Act \(Canada\)*](#)
- [*International Exchange Student - Ontario \(ISE\)*](#)
- [*Ontario Catholic School Graduation Expectations*](#)
- [*Niagara Catholic District School Board Policies/Procedures*](#)
 - [*Attendance Areas Policy \(301.3\)*](#)
 - [*Code of Conduct Policy \(302.6.2\)*](#)
 - [*Dress Code Secondary Uniform Policy \(302.6.6\)*](#)
 - [*Elementary Standardized Dress Code Policy \(302.6.10\)*](#)
 - [*Ontario Student Record Policy \(301.7\)*](#)
 - [*Safe Schools Policy \(302.6\)*](#)
 - [*Student Transportation Policy \(500.2\)*](#)
 - [*Voluntary and Confidential Self-Identification Policy for First Nation, Métis and Inuit Students Policy \(301.9\)*](#)



Niagara Catholic District School Board
**ADMISSION OF ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY STUDENTS POLICY**
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

300 – Schools/Students

Policy No 301.1

Adopted Date: February 24, 1998

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: June 16, 2015

The provisions of the Education Act, along with other relevant legislation and Board policies, shall determine admission to elementary and secondary schools in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

- i. Elementary and secondary students shall be admitted to the geographically designated home school.
- ii. The residential address of the parents/guardians of a student or adult student will determine the designated home school with proof of residency as required by the Principal.
- iii. The Principal/Vice-Principal, in consultation with the parents/guardians or adult student is responsible for placing the student in the most appropriate program.
- iv. Elementary and secondary students are expected to fully participate in required instructional classes including religious education, family life programs and faith life activities.
- v. Elementary and secondary students shall be granted transportation in accordance with the [Student Transportation Policy \(500.2\)](#).

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY ADMISSION NON-CATHOLIC

Elementary School Admission Non-Catholic

Parents/Guardians requesting to register a student in a Niagara Catholic elementary school, who is not eligible to direct their school support to the Catholic Board, it is expected that compliance with the Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy be followed.

The admission of a non-Catholic ratepayer's student will require the recommendation from the school Principal/Vice-Principal in consultation with, and the approval of, the Family of Schools' Superintendent of Education.

Parents/Guardians have the responsibility to notify the school of changes regarding biographical information.

Secondary School Admission Non-Catholic

Parents/Guardians or adult student requesting admission to a Niagara Catholic secondary school, and who is not eligible to direct their school support to the Catholic Board, shall make application to the Principal/Vice-Principal of the Catholic secondary school.

Principals/Vice-Principals will ensure that all students attending a Niagara Catholic secondary school will:

- i. successfully achieve a credit in Religious Education for every year of attendance, up to graduation (total of four (4) Religious Education Credits),
- ii. participate fully in the faith life activities of the Catholic secondary school, and
- iii. respect the environment and traditions of Catholic Education and the expectations of the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

Elementary and Secondary Graduation Ceremonies

Students who qualify for graduation will be invited by the Principal to participate in faith-based elementary or secondary Catholic graduation ceremonies providing they meet all of the Ministry of Education, Board and school-based graduation expectations. The expectations include, but are not limited to, participation in religious education and faith life activities, being a student in good standing and fulfilling the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations as endorsed by the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION: ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY

Responsibility of Parents/Guardians or adult student

It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians or adult student to complete the required Niagara Catholic District School Board Admission Forms (where applicable):

- [Elementary Student Registration Form - Appendix A](#)
- [Secondary Student Registration Form - Appendix B](#)
- [Consent for Release of Information - Appendix C](#)
- [Application for Direction of School Support – Appendix D](#)
- [Roman Catholic School Assessment Lease – Appendix E](#)
- [Request for Admission Form \(Non-Catholic/Out-of-Boundary\) – Appendix F](#)
- [Confirmation of Pupil Eligibility for English as a Second Language/Literacy Development Funding - Appendix G](#)
- [International Student Application Form – Appendix H](#)
- [Renewal International Student Application Form – Appendix I](#)
- Completion of the Niagara Region Public Health Confidential Student Immunization Form (provided by the school)

In addition, it is the responsibility of the parents/guardians or adult student to provide original documentation or a copy certified as original (where applicable) for the following:

- Proof of age: Birth Certificate, Statement of Live Birth or Passport
- A Roman or Eastern Rite Catholic Baptismal Certificate. If the student has not been baptized, the student may be admitted if one (1) parent can provide a Roman/Eastern Rite Baptismal Certificate. If necessary, a letter from a pastor certifying that the student or parent has been baptized in the Roman or Eastern Rite will be accepted in lieu of a Baptismal Certificate.
- Ontario Health Card
- Immunization Record or Statement of Conscience or Religious Belief Affidavit
- Proof of Immigration Status
- Court Order
- International Student Letter of Confirmation

The Principal is to ensure that the Niagara Catholic Registration Checklist (internal use only) and copies of all relevant registration documents are placed in the student's OSR.

ATTENDANCE AREA EXCEPTIONS

In accordance with the Education Act, the Niagara Catholic District School Board has established boundaries for student attendance.

If, parents/guardians request to register a student or where applicable adult student in a Niagara Catholic school other than their home school, it is expected that the Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students' Policy and the Attendance Areas Policy are followed.

Approval for an Out-of-Boundary admission request will require a recommendation from the Principal/Vice-Principal in consultation with, and the approval of the Family of Schools' Superintendent of Education. Permission to attend will remain in effect for the duration of a student's attendance at the school, unless otherwise notified by the Principal of the school and approved by the Family of Schools' Superintendent of Education.

Transportation for an approved Out-of-Boundary admission request shall be the sole responsibility of the parents/guardians or where applicable adult student.

Approved attendance area exceptions are for the identified school boundaries at the time of the approval. Any changes which occur to the attendance area boundaries may require attendance area exceptions for those families currently registered to attend the school within the boundaries of their residence.

Parents/Guardians or adult student have the responsibility to notify the Principal/Vice-Principal of changes to their residency status and/or circumstances for the initial attendance area exception request.

Approval for Out-of-Boundary requests will not be granted into:

- Schools identified by Board motion
- Schools at or above on-the-ground capacity (no surplus space) unless there is available childcare.

Any exemptions to these specific exceptions will require the approval of the Principal, the Family of Schools' Superintendent of Education and Senior Administrative Council:

- Out-of-Boundary approval will be granted with admission into a Board approved academic program that is not offered at the student's home school.
- Unless otherwise approved, transportation for an Out-of-Boundary Board approved academic program that is not offered at the student's home school shall be the sole responsibility of the parents/guardians or adult student.

NON-RESIDENT OF CANADA (VISA) STUDENT

The designated Superintendent of Education may approve the admission of a non-resident student in accordance with the Education Act. Such approval shall be reviewed annually.

- The student must obtain approval from the designated Superintendent of Education prior to admission into any school.
- The International Student Application form must be completed. Prior to admission into any school, a Visa student will be provided with a letter from the designated Superintendent of Education confirming attendance.
- A Visa student shall be charged the fee determined by the Board.

RESIDENTS OF ONTARIO BUT OUTSIDE OF THE NIAGARA REGION

Parents/Guardians or adult student who reside in Ontario, but outside of the Niagara Region, may request to register a student in a Niagara Catholic District School Board school in compliance with the Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students' Policy and the Attendance Areas Policy.

A student, whose legal residence is outside the jurisdiction of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, but within Ontario requesting admission to a school under the jurisdiction of the Board, may have fees paid by the resident Board. Such a request is to be accompanied by a statement from the resident Board indicating fees will be paid on behalf of the student. Where fees are not paid, approval must be obtained from the Director of Education and are reviewed on an annual basis.

EXCHANGE STUDENTS

A student approved as an Exchange Student will participate in reciprocal, school-based programs, provided in co-operation with the Canadian School Authorities and the foreign exchange partners of the International Student Exchange-Ontario (ISE) in compliance with the Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students' Policy.

STUDENTS WITH IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS

A student identified as a: Non-Landed Immigrant, Permanent Resident, Refugee, Work Permit, or Diplomatic Status, will be admitted in accordance to the Ontario Education Statutes and Regulations, following Immigration Canada Laws and procedures, and in compliance with the Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students' Policy.

A Principal/Vice-Principal who receives immigration documents from a student applying for admission will review the documents for eligibility and request completion of the Confirmation of Eligibility Form. The Principal/Vice-Principal will ensure that the information is completed according to the immigration documents provided.

ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

A student identified as Aboriginal Peoples will be admitted in accordance with the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, the Ontario Education Statutes and Regulations, and in compliance with the Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students' Policy.

EXPELLED STUDENTS

An expelled student will be referred to the Family of Schools' Superintendent of Education, who in consultation with the Principal/Vice-Principal, parents/guardians, the student or where applicable adult student will determine an appropriate placement recommendation.

EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

A request for school admission which has extenuating and/or compelling family circumstances shall be submitted in writing to the Family of Schools' Superintendent of Education for consideration.

ADMISSION APPEALS

Parents/guardians may appeal an admission decision in writing to the Family of Schools' Superintendent who will present the appeal to Senior Administrative Council. The decision of Senior Administrative Council will be communicated to the parents/guardians by the Family of Schools' Superintendent of Education.



“The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.”

Public Consultation on the Potential Move of the French Immersion Program from Notre Dame to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

**October 26, 2016
6:30 p.m.**

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education.

Staff in attendance included Superintendent Ted Farrell, Controller of Facilities - Scott Whitwell, Manager of Facilities - Kathy Levinski, Consultant for French Immersion - Roxanne Rees, Principal of Our Lady of Mount Carmel - Liz Davey, Principal of Notre Dame - Jeff LaFontaine and Mary Gallardi, - Recorder.

2. History of French Immersion Program

Superintendent Lefebvre outlined the history of the program and highlighted that it originated with Vision 2020. The initial rollout plan was to have one site in each of the Families of Schools. Subsequent enrollment into the program did not support this model.

Numbers in Niagara Falls supported a program at Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School beginning at the ELKP level. At Our Lady of Mount Carmel the numbers were only viable at the Grade 1 level based on the initial registration from St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary School.

Enrollment at entry points has varied. Some students have been moved from one Niagara Falls site to the other to maintain French Immersion classes.

3. Current Status of the Program

Superintendent Lefebvre reviewed current French Immersion enrolment figures for Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.

4. Long Term Accommodation Plan

Superintendent Farrell reviewed the development of the Niagara Catholic Long-Term Accommodation Plan 2016-2021 which was approved by the board at the Board Meeting in May, 2016.

Enrolment pressures at Loretto Catholic Elementary School currently exist with the school being at 160% of utilization with approximately 630 students attending a school that was built for 392. Nearby schools, Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Fr. Hennepin each have space to accommodate more students.

The Terms of Reference for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee approved at the Board Meeting in June 2016 were reviewed. Part of the terms include consideration of the “impact of moving the French Immersion Program from Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School.”

Projected enrolment charts for the French Immersion Programs each of the Niagara Falls sites were shown.

5. Consultation

Q: Is the driving force behind the move from Notre Dame to OLMC to fill up OLMC to get money to build new school?

TF: There are two forces. Consideration was given to move the program to increase enrolment at Our Lady of Mount Carmel which would support a capital application to the Ministry to relieve enrolment pressure at Loretto. One way to relieve pressure is with a new school.

The second issue is due to current enrolment in the French Immersion Program which, based on current projections might be better served at a single site due to limit the possibility of some students being in split classes for the remainder of their time in the program.

Q. Has any consideration been given for Loretto being over capacity to increase the boundaries to OLMC?

An Attendance Area Review Committee for Notre Dame, OLMC and Fr. Hennepin is currently examining this possibility.

Q: Started at St. Thomas More, then moved to OLMC then to ND and now you want us to come back? How do you think that moving a child 3 times by grade 3 doesn't affect them. Have you not thought about the effect on these children? Socially, emotionally?

ML: We have considered that and we want the best for our students. That is why we are consulting with you tonight.

Q: When you start a FI program ELKP with 10 or 11 how are you ever going to meet the 20 funding for grade 1?

ML: We attempt to keep the ELKP FI enrollment at the Board aggregate of 26 students.

Q: Seems like you are planning on building another school anyways and just move the students from ND to OLMC again. Why do we keep going down the same path?

ML: This is a consultation with the parents and no decisions have been made at this time.

Q: Why does Niagara Falls have 2 French Immersion schools and St. Catharines/Thorold/NOTL have one? What criteria did you use to make the decision? Numbers did they change?

ML: We looked at several entry points at a number of possible French Immersion sites across Niagara Catholic. We implemented French Immersion programs with sufficient enrollment at that time.

Q: I disagree with potential move from Notre Dame to Carmel due to the emotional and irreparable damage that can be caused. These implications are very well published:

- *Increased anxiety of students, increase of stress in students*
- *Increase in psychotic symptoms and delusion later in life*

Such a program has to be fostered, nurtured and provided to increase the trust level in the system and the program. We need to nurture and use this as an opportunity to build the French Immersion Program up rather than tear it down.

ML: Please share these articles. We are committed to the program.

Q: An hour bus ride from North End to South End was a nightmare, we were part of this. Teacher would call and say my child fell asleep on the carpet, well what do you think after sitting on a bus for an hour?

TF: We have met with Niagara Student Transportation Services and have requested information such as the impact of ride times on the move.

Q: Where do you envision the High School Program being? What location, Saint Michael? It would be over populated at Saint Michael and extremely underpopulated at Saint Paul.

ML: We will need to look at enrolment figures to determine that.

Comments:

- *Concern of separating my children and potentially jeopardizing the smaller school*
- *Notre Dame is a staple in that community*
- *Be cautious robbing Peter to pay Paul*
- *In terms of Notre Dame don't discount the fact that it is a lovely community*
- *While you people are figuring this out our children are suffering*

ML: We are committed to the program and concerned about the impact of a move. That is why we are here consulting tonight.

Q: Looking at numbers 13 here 17 there put them together there is 30. Now we are over the limit how would that work? What are you fixing by doing this? Do you have one class that runs at 20 and one that runs at 10?

TF: In primary this would still require two classes due to class size caps. Once the students reach Grade 4 class sizes are considered based on a board-wide average, which is higher than that of primary, which could result in split classes for the rest of elementary school.

Q: When are we going to hear when this decision being made?

TF: This information will be shared with Senior Administrative Council on Monday and with the Attendance Area Review Committee next Thursday. A specific date is not determined but we will get back to you once a decision is made.

Comment: Once the decision is made we need to follow through so that we are not moving the kids back and forth again.

Q: Presentation focused on the enrolment on the south end, what happens if you move French Immersion from Notre Dame? What happens to the North End schools? Now they are under capacity. In the long run what problems are you now causing for these students?

TF: There are enrolment issues in the North end which the Long Term Plan does consider. We need to be mindful of the impact of this move on the north end. While the move may help deal with an immediate problem it cause others. That is why we are here tonight.

Q: Why bus them to the end of the city that is already completely maxed? This is all caused by Loretto.

ML: We have not made a decision on the location of the program. A move at this point is only being considered.

Q: Have you considered an awareness campaign?

ML: We are open to all ideas to support the program.

Q: You are moving us here so you can build a new school...What happens to us, if the new school doesn't get built?

TF: If the program is moved, the intent is that it would remain. We do not want students moving from school to school.

Comment: You took the bus away from us so you forced us to bring our kids back to OLMC It's frustrating.

Q: When will new school be built?

TF: Building a school requires a number of steps. First we need to get funding. A site needs to be purchased, the site developed, an architect selected, consultation with the schools. It is an in-depth process that can take up to three years without any problems.

Q: We will be notified when this will be taken to the board?

ML: Yes.

Q: The Niagara Falls Review published that the FI program was being moved back in the spring, why are we meeting about this now?

TF: The newspaper reported out of the April Committee of the Whole Meeting that a move was being considered. It was one component of the entire plan. We are here tonight to collect your input.

Comment:

- *Everyone here wants to foster this program and make it successful. So use this as an opportunity to make this fantastic.*
- *Parents want to keep things where they are and keep it small and make it great*
- *FI Program should go to the North End*

Q: Went from St. Thomas More to OLMC as a parent my concern is what support is going to be there. Are we looking at building a new high school in Niagara Falls?

TF: Our projections, at this time, do not support the construction of a new high school.

Q: What are the new enrolments like for the FI in ELKP? Do we have the numbers and what do you expect in the next 3 years?

ML: We don't have the numbers for our incoming ELKP students. We do have our numbers for our Year 2. We hope the program grows.

Comment:

- *Numbers at both schools are not horrible I'd rather my child be in a smaller class than get lost in a large class*
- *As for the Board Meetings Ms. Davey is fantastic at notifying community as she sends stuff home.*

Q: If you build this other school and ND moves to OLMC are you planning on keeping all of the FI students at this school?

ML: We hear you with concerns about students moving. We will discuss our long term plan and will discuss impact once we make a decision.

Superintendent Farrell invited parents to add any comments, or further questions to the chart paper that was in the back of the gym.

Superintendent Lefebvre invited additional comments by email.

This meeting concluded ~ 8:45 p.m.

Comments from Chart Paper:

PAGE 1

1. Based on the number of ELKP 1 & 2 this year and projected in the near future, it stands to reason that 2 classes for each cohort will be required. Makes more sense to keep one in north and one in south to maintain enrollment to the program.
2. What high school? If you must consolidate keep it under the right high school.
3. You have no advertising campaign? Get one and grow BOTH programs.
4. Why move all children to the end of the city that is overall already over capacity? It makes more sense if it must be one location, it should be in the underserved NORTH END.
5. The program needs to be grown itself not used to get approval for a new build school.

PAGE 2

1. Loretto @ 160% capacity; extend Mount Carmel boundaries to include students from Loretto.
2. Moving Notre Dame will create an under capacity situation for ND @ <less than 65% capacity.
3. Having 2 kids, one is in ENGLISH and one in French Immersion; they will be in two different schools, this is NOT the schooling program that we expected for our kids.

4. Long-term plans cannot make the kids move schools again.
5. Many kids have moved multiple times, takes an emotional toll kids & the future development.
6. Increase/promote French Immersion to increase numbers to reach the minimum 20 for class size.
7. Have parent involvement in the Attendance Accommodation Committee, rather than just trustee's?
8. Keep parents informed and involved in decision making. Parents want to know once a decision has been made to ease transition for our children.
9. Why does Mount Carmel have a grade 3 FE class w/5 kids from Notre Dame and 15 kids @ Notre Dame?
10. Why didn't you just support the class and foster the Notre Dame class to keep capacity.
11. Wavering on the FI program will most definitely lead the NDCSD losing kids and families interested in the FI program.

PAGE 3

1. Grade 4 FI OLOMC have moved schools due to STM closure.
2. If Loretto is over capacity and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is not, wouldn't it make sense to shift resources all in the south end rather than displace French Immersion kids from multiple sites? If a new school is in the works, let's try to shift families as little as possible. Transportation costs would need to be considered. T. Hopkin

PAGE 4

1. Definitely do a boundary review
2. Long bus rides are not acceptable (1 hour either way)
3. Separation of siblings
4. Daycare concerns, especially mornings
5. Is there another option of school, somewhere in the middle? Build a new school in the middle of the city to help with FI re-boundary Loretto OLOMC?
6. Best to recruit from Loretto for French Immersion as there is a larger population.
7. If Gr. 9-12 FI may happen/is projected to operate out of St. Paul, would it be fair to have elementary students in South end to help make up for the time that may be spent in the North end later on.
8. Have we lost FI students to Prince Phillip in the Niagara Falls, would we get them back or will Notre Dame area remain low?
9. Would it be more beneficial to keep program in South end to entice more enrollment from Loretto area? Thereby increasing our numbers.
10. Split classes are better than no classes. Best of Luck!
11. Start a program with a long-term consideration for program (not how to get a new school).
12. Start ELKP1 only – to develop, grow and reach numbers is ideal (13 to start will never feed a future).
13. Financials are very important, but how do you now make children suffer due to Board's lack of insight, planning.
14. The kids are already expected to sit through a 6.5 hour day now having to bus

some one hour each way turns their day into an 8.5 hour day. Come adults can't concentrate that long!

PAGE 5

1. Army Brats – our kids have been bounced around more often than typical Armed Forces' families would be. Our kids also face continuing and ongoing uncertainty for their future attendance, friendships, classroom settings, loss of contact with beloved students and principals at a higher frequency than English students. The addition impact on families is daycare arrangements. With so much uncertainty it is impossible to predict to commit to daycare locations before/after school, which in turn makes it difficult for parents to commit to employers.
2. My child has already figured it out that she will be attending school with only one of her classmates/friends throughout her school to Grade 8.
3. Moving the program to an overcapacity area is short sighted, and a disturbing tactic just to get a new school in the south. If there is going to be any move that is short sighted as what is proposed, we are moving to PUBLIC.
4. Your real competition is the public school board. The North end of Niagara Falls already has a successful and long running French Immersion program at an Elementary and Secondary Public School. Not one of your fancy graph projects how many students you will lose to the public system.

PAGE 6

1. The movement could be trouble for our kids in the new school. Follow the rules, follow the God, not follow the money. Preference Catholic School over public school.
2. - Kelly, new to Niagara Falls
3. North end families will have two children in two separate schools.
4. Notre Dame could face closure; while South end students have a new school.
5. Social/emotional/mental health implications in moving from 200 student school to 600 student school.
6. Notre Dame is physically connected to the Parish.
7. Is it all about building a new school? My little one is moving out of the French Immersion she is staying at Notre Dame School with her big sister and her community.
8. Why don't you consider to build portables to grade 7 and 8 at Notre Dame? 100% no we don't want to move and not move.

PAGE 7

1. Having our children attend a school in their own neighborhood is extremely important to us. We chose ELKP-French at Notre Dame for the school, the staff and community just as much as for the French Immersion program. To keep our children in our own neighborhood where they have friends, daycare, family is IMPORTANT. We would be tempted to switch to the DSBN if our community's Catholic School is not supported.
2. Children enduring long bus rides across town will have a negative impact on their ability to focus and learn.
3. My child loves the sense of community at Notre Dame and the close connection

- to the parish.
4. I think that consideration needs to be put into promoting/marketing the French program. I have met many families who didn't know the ELKP-F was an option.
 5. Making the program more accessible to new families would help to nurture the program. Get parents of future ELKP students thinking and considering French Immersion. There are cost-effective ways to market the program via social media.
 6. Engage high school business students in creating promotional material at registration time.
 7. Please be transparent. You have our email addresses. We expect to be updated and involved in this decision.
 8. What will happen to the future of Notre Dame without French Immersion?
 9. Please share a long-term plan.
 10. Survey, welcome emails from parents who couldn't attend. Surveymonkey.com

PAGE 8

1. Do not disrupt French Immersion students at ND in order to fund a new school for other students.
 - Hinders education/socialization at the programme.
 - Causes further disruption to students when the new school is built.
 - Reduces confidence in your decision making ability and therefore reduces the viability of the programme at both schools.
2. Four years is not enough time to make decisions about long term enrollment. No census data has changed since this programme has launched.
3. Please provide decision criteria for how the French Immersion programme was launched in two schools for such a small population centre of Niagara Falls (approximately 85,000 vs. St. Catharines, 1 school for 150,000). If criteria haven't changed, the programme shouldn't change.
4. All North End school, with 1 glaring exception, are under enrollment, FI students should not be used as pawn to fund south end capacity issues. If there are south end capacity issues, they should be resolved with south end students and buildings – move Loretto students to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, not Notre Dame students.
5. These short sighted decisions may force us to consider the public system, since it was clear tonight that there is no long term FI Plan for Niagara Falls.
6. There is no daycare/after school care at OLMC and it was the FI parents who worked for two years to establish this programme at Notre Dame.



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MINUTES

Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools

Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee

Loretto Catholic Elementary School, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic
Elementary School
and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School

October 19, 2016

5:00 p.m.

FATHER KENNETH BURNS, csc BOARD ROOM CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE - WELLAND

Minutes of Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of October 19, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Superintendent Farrell.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education.

2. Roll Call and Attendance

Committee Members		Present	Excused	Absent
Kathy Burtnik	Trustee	x		
Frank Fera	Trustee	x		
Ed Nieuwesteeg	Trustee	x		

Resources to Committee		Present	Excused	Absent
Ted Farrell	Superintendent of Education	x		
Scott Whitwell	Controller of Facilities Services	x		
Kathy Levinski	Manager of Facilities Services	x		
Mary Gallardi	Recording Secretary	x		

The following staff were also in attendance:

Antonio Cardamone, Principal, Loretto Catholic Elementary School. It was noted that the Chairs of the Catholic School Councils at each of the schools has been invited to be resources to the Committee through the Principals.

Members of the public also attended and signed the attendance to the meeting.

3. Election of Chairperson

Moved by Trustee Burtnik and Trustee Fera

THAT Trustee Nieuwesteeg be named Chairperson of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee for the South Niagara Falls area.

CARRIED

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Burtnik and Trustee Fera

THAT the Agenda of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of October 19, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

5. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No Declaration of Conflict of Interest was declared with any items on the agenda.

B. TERMS OF REFERENCE (DRAFT) – REVIEW AND CONFIRMATION

Superintendent Farrell presented the Terms of Reference (Draft) for information and review. Committee members provided feedback and made recommendations for revisions.

Switch the language of Imagine Estates to refer to Garner South to encompass the whole area of new development:

“Provide recommendations to address the increasing enrollment in the Garner South Secondary Plan.

Provide recommendations to support temporary overcapacity at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School for students from the Garner South Secondary Plan until a new Catholic elementary school is built in Garner South area.”

Bring recommendation out of the minutes to the Board for approval.

Approval of Terms of Reference

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Terms of Reference of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of October 19, 2016 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

C. MEETING SCHEDULE (DRAFT) – REVIEW AND CONFIRMATION

Chair Nieuwesteeg presented the Meeting Schedule (Draft) for information and review.

Approval of Meeting Schedule

Moved by Trustee Fera

THAT the Meeting Schedule of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of October 19, 2016 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

The Meeting Schedule will be sent to Principals to share with their school communities and will also be posted on the Board website.

D. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Superintendent Farrell provided background information pertaining to the identified schools in the South Niagara Falls Attendance Area Review from the June 21, 2016 Board Report.

Historical information was shared which included that a Pupil Accommodation Review occurred in 2008 which resulted in the closure of St. Joseph (June 2009) and St. Thomas More Catholic Elementary School (June 2013). Following the closure of St. Joseph, the boundary was distributed between St. Mary (NF), St. Patrick and Father Hennepin. All students who previously attended St. Thomas More were to attend Our Lady of Mount Carmel following the closure. There were no other boundary changes.

The current boundaries map for each school were shared in addition to the potential students living in each elementary school boundary.

A catchment summary for Loretto Catholic, Father Hennepin and Our Lady of Mount Carmel was provided showing potential students who are currently attending a Niagara Catholic school. Additional information was requested regarding where the out of boundary students are coming from.

Enrolment Projections were reviewed for each of the three schools.

An Education Development Charge is available to the Board to purchase land and develop the site.

Kathy Levinski reviewed the areas that are being planned for development in south Niagara Falls:

- The Garner South Plan has ~2700 units approved by the city which is projected to result in ~400 students attending a Niagara Catholic Elementary School.
- The Oldfield subdivision was reviewed. Niagara Student Transportation Services recommends that the entire area be allocated to either Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School or Father Hennepin due to potential transportation efficiencies in terms of cost and travel times.
- Thundering Waters is in the early planning stages and will ultimately affect enrolment in the Father Hennepin and Our Lady of Mount Carmel boundary areas.

The Long Term Accommodation Plan for the Board recommended that the move of French Immersion from Notre Dame to Our Lady of Mount Carmel be considered.

E. REVIEW OF POTENTIAL ATTENDANCE AREA OPTIONS

Current enrolment pressure at Loretto Catholic (392 OTG On-the-Ground capacity/160% Utilization) needs to be alleviated. Space is currently available in neighbouring schools Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School (504 OTG capacity /75% Utilization) and Father Hennepin (282 OTG capacity /89% Utilization).

The Board needs to demonstrate a sustained need for a capital investment at Loretto Catholic given that neighbouring schools are projected to be 85-90% of OTG capacity for the foreseeable future.

Board staff presented 4 options to the Committee:

- Option 1 - E1 to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School
- Option 2 - E1 and E2 to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School
- Option 3 - E1 and partial E2 (Charnwood) to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School
- Option 4 - Out of Boundary students who currently attend Loretto Catholic from Our Lady of Mount Carmel be required to attend their home school

Discussion ensued on the options presented.

Recommended that Option 4 be revised to include all Out of Boundary Students.

Concern was expressed by the Committee that there are some students in E1 and E2 who currently walk to school that would now be bused to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.

Area W1 was noted by the committee due to distance from Loretto Catholic and that some students are bused to school. Bused students in this area should be considered to potentially move to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.

Committee requested that another option to consider be students eligible for bussing \geq 1.6 km in W1, E1 and E2 (Option 5) be required to attend Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.

Child care is currently provided at Loretto Catholic and Father Hennepin. The Committee requested staff investigate childcare possibilities at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School with Director of Children's Services.

Community partnerships were discussed as a possibility for Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School in lieu of a change in attendance areas. Scott Whitwell advised that a Community Partnership Meeting will be held in November for interested municipalities and community agencies.

F. FUTURE ACTION

On October 26, 2016 Mark Lefebvre, Ted Farrell, Scott Whitwell and Kathy Levinski will be meeting with community regarding the potential relocation of the French Immersion Program from Notre Dame to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. All information will be brought for consideration to the next Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting on November 3, 2016.

Summary of Information Requested by Niagara Falls AAR Committee:

1. Details on the impact of overcrowding at Loretto Catholic Elementary School such as:
 - Class size
 - Portables
 - Lockers
 - Washrooms
 - Lack of adequate gym time
2. Demographic impact of attendance area options.
 - a. Option 1 - E1 to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School - prepare projections as option
 - b. Option 2 - E1 and E2 to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School - prepare projections as option
 - c. Option 3 - E1 and partial E2 (Charnwood) to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School - prepare projections as option
 - d. Option 4 - Out of Boundary students who currently attend Loretto Catholic Elementary School be required to attend their home school.
 - e. Option 5 - Students eligible for transportation at \geq 1.6 km in E1, E2 & W1 be required to attend Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School
3. Out of boundary information for the three schools in the Attendance Area Review.

4. Information on reasons out of boundary students are currently attending Loretto Catholic Elementary School
5. Details on the impact to transportation costs/ride times for each attendance area option.
6. Details on the impact on transportation costs/ride times associated with a move of French Immersion from Notre Dame to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School
7. Details on the transportation costs of any potential boundary shift in Oldfield Estates.
8. Details of the October 26th, 2016 consultation with the parent communities from Notre Dame/Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School concerning the potential French Immersion relocation from Notre Dame to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.
9. Create Guiding Principles for the Committee for the Public Meeting:
 - open and transparent process
 - minimal disruption to the communities
 - not moving students more than once
 - must relieve enrolment pressures at Loretto Catholic Elementary School - would like input from parents
 - recognize needs of parents (i.e. childcare)
10. Consideration of potential partnerships for Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of October 19, 2016 be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.



“The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.”

MINUTES
Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary
Family of Schools
Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee
 Loretto Catholic Elementary School, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Elementary School
 and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School

November 3, 2016
5:00 p.m.

FATHER KENNETH BURNS, csc BOARD ROOM
CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE - WELLAND

Minutes of Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 3, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Superintendent Farrell.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Ted Farrell.

2. Roll Call and Attendance

Committee Members		Present	Excused	Absent
Kathy Burtnik	Trustee	x		
Frank Fera	Trustee	x		
Ed Nieuwesteeg	Chair/Trustee	x		

Resources to Committee		Present	Excused	Absent
Ted Farrell	Superintendent of Education	x		
Scott Whitwell	Controller of Facilities Services	x		
Kathy Levinski	Manager of Facilities Services	x		
Mary Gallardi	Recording Secretary		x	
Antonio Cardamone	Principal - Loretto Catholic	x		
Amanda Cybula	Principal - Father Hennepin	x		

Resources to Committee		Present	Excused	Absent
Elizabeth Davey	Principal - Our Lady of Mount Carmel			X
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Loretto Catholic	X		
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Father Hennepin			X
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Our Lady of Mount Carmel			X

The following staff were also in attendance:

Mark Lefebvre, Family of Schools Superintendent of Education, Christopher Moscato, Vice-principal, Carol Forster, Recording Secretary;

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Burtnik and Trustee Fera

THAT the Agenda of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 3, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No Declaration of Conflict of Interest was declared with any items on the agenda.

5. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Minutes of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of October 19, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

B. INFORMATION REQUESTED BY COMMITTEE ON OCTOBER 19TH, 2016

Superintendent Farrell indicated that there were several information items requested at the last Committee Meeting and suggested that in reviewing the presentation that the items requested be explicitly identified as the information was reviewed. The Committee agreed.

The information requested included:

1. Details on the impact of overcrowding at Loretto Catholic such as:
 - Classroom sizes
 - Portables
 - Lockers
 - Washrooms
 - Lack of adequate gym time
2. Demographic impact of attendance area options.
 - a. Option 1 - E1 to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School - prepare projections as option

- b. Option 2 - E1 and E2 to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School - prepare projections as option
 - c. Option 3 - E1 and partial E2 (Charnwood) to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School - prepare projections as option
 - d. Option 4 - Out of Boundary students who currently attend Loretto Catholic Elementary School be required to attend their home school.
 - e. Option 5 - Students eligible for transportation at ≥ 1.6 km in E1, E2 & W1 be required to attend Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School
3. Out of boundary information for the three schools in the Attendance Area Review.
 4. Information on reasons out of boundary students are currently attending Loretto Catholic
 5. Details on the impact to transportation costs/ride times for each attendance area option.
 6. Details of the impact on transportation costs/ride times associated with a move of the French Immersion from Notre Dame to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.
 7. Details on the transportation costs of any potential boundary shift in Oldfield Estates.
 8. Details of the October 26th, consultation with the parent communities from Notre Dame/Our Lady of Mount Carmel concerning the potential French Immersion relocation from Notre Dame to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.
 9. Create Guiding Principles for the Committee for the Public Meeting:
 - minimal disruption to the communities
 - not moving students more than once
 - open and transparent process
 - must relieve enrolment pressures at Loretto Catholic - would like input from parents
 - recognize needs of parents (i.e. childcare)

Committee requested that the second guiding principle be revised to: “Minimal movement of students.”

10. Consideration of potential partnerships for Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

C. REVIEW OF POTENTIAL ATTENDANCE AREA OPTIONS

The slideshow for the Public Meeting was presented and suggestions/comments encouraged. Suggested changes will be incorporated into the slideshow.

Input from the Public Consultation Meeting on French Immersion at Our Lady of Mount Carmel and email correspondence was reviewed. Input from Senior Administrative Council was also reviewed on the impact of moving the program from Notre Dame to

Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The Committee was advised that the French Immersion program would remain at both sites. A letter will be sent to the parents of students registered in French Immersion next week.

School information was shared with the committee. It was noted that Our Lady of Mount Carmel will be well over capacity by 2025-2026. Shortfalls in capacity will be addressed through the use of portables. In the long term, with additional development in the Thundering Waters area, relocation of programs may need to be considered along with capital options.

Each of the attendance area options was reviewed including the impact on future enrolment, transportation costs and ride times. The Committee suggested:

- Status Quo be presented as an option.
- Attendees at the Public Meetings next week be invited to provide other options for consideration.
- The focus on addressing accommodation issues at Loretto Catholic Elementary School not be restricted solely to out of boundary students due to the unique circumstances that lead to their admission.
- Equalization of enrollment across the schools be a focus.
- Parents be advised that no decision has been made at this point on preferred attendance area options and that this process is open and transparent.
- The potential boundary change affecting Oldfield Estates be resolved so that families are aware of boundaries when they move in.

The need for adequate spaces for childcare was discussed. It was noted that currently students requiring childcare at Our Lady of Mount Carmel are served at Father Hennepin and students are bussed between the schools. Facilities Services is investigating additional childcare options for children at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

D. FUTURE ACTION

- Public Consultation Meeting - November 9, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.
Loretto Catholic Elementary School
- Public Consultation Meeting - November 10, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School

E. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
THAT the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 3, 2016 be adjourned. Seconded by Trustee Fera
CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.



“The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.”

MINUTES
Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary
Family of Schools
Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee
 Loretto Catholic Elementary School, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic
 Elementary School
 and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School

November 15, 2016
5:00 p.m.

FATHER KENNETH BURNS, csc BOARD ROOM
CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE - WELLAND

Minutes of Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 15, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Trustee Burtnik. Trustee Burtnik offered apologies on behalf of Trustee/Chair Nieuwesteeg for his absence and agreed to act as Chair for this meeting.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Ted Farrell.

2. Roll Call and Attendance

Committee Members		Present	Excused	Absent
Kathy Burtnik	Trustee	x		
Frank Fera	Trustee	x		
Ed Nieuwesteeg	Chair/Trustee		x	

Resources to Committee		Present	Excused	Absent
Ted Farrell	Superintendent of Education	x		
Scott Whitwell	Controller of Facilities Services	x		
Kathy Levinski	Manager of Facilities Services	x		

Mary Gallardi	Recording Secretary	X		
Antonio Cardamone	Principal - Loretto Catholic	X		
Amanda Cybula	Principal - Father Hennepin	X		
Elizabeth Davey	Principal - Our Lady of Mount Carmel			X
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Loretto Catholic	X		
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Father Hennepin			X
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Our Lady of Mount Carmel			X

The following staff were also in attendance: Mark Lefebvre, Family of Schools Superintendent of Education, and Christopher Moscato, Vice-principal, Loretto Catholic Elementary School.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Fera

THAT the Agenda of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 15, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No Declaration of Conflict of Interest was declared with any items on the agenda.

5. Approval of Minutes

a) Moved by Trustee Fera

THAT the Minutes of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 3, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

b) Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Minutes of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Public Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 9, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

c) Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Minutes of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Public Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 10, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

B. REVIEW OF FEEDBACK FROM PUBLIC MEETINGS

Superintendent Farrell and Kathy Levinski reviewed feedback from both the November 9, 2016 and November 10, 2016 Public Meetings.

It was suggested that the Guiding Principles for the Committee be revised to reflect that students affected by a boundary change be supported by a transition plan that is developed and supported by the Catholic school community.

1. Putting an addition on Loretto Catholic (Option 12)
2. Is it possible to move Grade 7 and 8 students into Our Lady of Mount Carmel or Father Hennepin?
This violates the Planning Principles articulated in the Niagara Catholic Long Term Accommodation Plan stating the preferred model for an elementary school be ELKP-Grade 8.
3. Are other options possible that include areas like E4 and W4?
Students who reside in the E4 and W4 areas are well within 1.6 km of the school. The Committee decided against considering these zones any further.
4. Is it possible to exclude the walkers in considering the E1 area? (Options 9/10/11)
5. Is it possible for families that live in the walking area of W2 to go to a general pickup spot, like Forestview Blvd, and then be bussed to Our Lady of Mount Carmel?
There is a bus that runs through the area to pick up students who attend the French Immersion Program at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The Student Transportation Policy does not permit out of boundary students receive transportation through Niagara Student Transportation Services. Such a bus run would set a precedent that violates Board Policy.
6. Is status quo an option if combined with preventing future out of boundary registrations?
This option is most similar to Option 5 which was presented in the earlier Public Meetings. Option 5 has all current out of boundary students attending Loretto Catholic returning to their home school. Enrolment pressure will continue to exist at Loretto from within the existing boundary.
7. Are out of boundary students being returned to their home school? (Options 10/11)
8. Is it possible to not permit out of boundary students in the future?
It has been done in the past with a Board Motion as in the case of Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School and Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary School in 2009.
9. Has it been considered to offer parents the option of Loretto parents volunteering that their children go another school?
This is difficult to project the impact of an offer to return. It was noted that at the Public Meeting at Our Lady of Mount Carmel on November 10th, 2016 several comments were made by those attending that they did not know much about Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School and were pleased with what they saw that evening. It was suggested parents be encouraged to visit the school.
10. Why can't future students moving into the new areas be bussed to Our Lady of Mount Carmel instead of moving current students to a new school?

Students who move into Garner South should be attending Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School with transportation provided. These students are included in Our Lady of Mount Carmel enrolment projections.

11. Has it been considered that if students are within walking distance they be permitted to stay and students who live beyond 1.6 km of Loretto, within the Loretto boundary, receive transportation to Our Lady of Mount Carmel? Also, if you are out of bounds, to Loretto and are already going to Loretto Catholic, you get grandfathered in but new out of boundary students should not be accepted .

This option was discussed and the Committee requested it be considered.

C. REVIEW OF POTENTIAL ATTENDANCE AREA OPTIONS

Superintendent Farrell and Kathy Levinski presented a slideshow that incorporated the feedback from the Public Meetings as new options. Each option was discussed.

Option 8 – Return Out of Boundary Students from Garner South to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Additional information was requested on the number of families that 1) may be affected who have students currently attending Loretto as out of boundary students and 2) who currently live in the Garner South area who have students who already attend Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.

Option 9 – Students who reside more than 1.6 km from Loretto Catholic in E1 & E2B be required to attend Our Lady of Mount Carmel

No further information requested.

Option 10 - Students who reside more than 1.6 km from Loretto Catholic in E1 & E2B + return out of boundary students to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

No further information requested.

Option 11 – Students who reside more than 1.6 km from Loretto Catholic in E1 & E2B + return all out of boundary students to home schools

Discussion centred on the reasons why so many students attend Loretto who are from out of the area, including the availability of child care. It was noted that although the students currently reside out of boundary they are now part of the Loretto Catholic community.

Option 12 – Build 7 classroom addition onto Loretto Catholic

Discussion centred on the long term implications of an addition. While putting students in the building it does not address the current pressures on the gymnasium, library or reduce overcrowding. An addition would likely not be complete for three years following the application for funding, approval, design and build process and so the current pressures would continue to exist in the interim. The application for funding would be impacted by the current available space at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Elementary School. An addition would impact asphalt and grass play space with the building extending out.

An addition to Loretto would delay the need for the construction of a new school in the Garner South area which is projected to have sufficient enrolment for its own school.

The Committee decided that this option, while addressing current enrolment pressures, is not in the best long term interest of the Loretto Catholic Elementary School Community.

Other Information Requested by the Committee:

- Bus times for options presented at the upcoming Public Meeting be broken down into smaller blocks in the 16-30 minute time travel area.
- Map of the three school boundaries that reflects the smaller parcels of Loretto Catholic and includes the Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Father Hennepin boundaries.
- Boundary descriptions from allocating all of the Oldfield subdivision to Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School

Committee Recommendations for Consideration at the November 28, 2016 Public Meeting:

The Options 1-7 presented at the Public Meetings were reviewed. Discussions occurred about the best options to be presented at the next Public Meeting. The Committee recommended the following four options be presented to Senior Administrative Council for review. Any additional suggestions that evolve from Senior Administration can be presented for consideration at the Public Meeting on November 28, 2016, as well.

Consideration 1:

Area of change in Oldfield Estates from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School to Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School

North Side – East from Dorchester Road at Oldfield Road along powerline to projection of Wilson Crescent,

East Side – South on projection of Wilson Crescent to Oldfield Road (including),

South Side – West along Oldfield Road (including) to Dorchester Road,

West Side – to point of start at Dorchester and Oldfield Road

Consideration 2:

Status Quo with no consideration of new out of boundary requests

Consideration 3:

- i) ***Area of Change from Loretto Catholic Elementary School to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School (part of E1 & part of E2)***

North Side – East from Kalar Road on Lundy's Lane (centreline) to Montrose Road,

East Side – South on Montrose Road (centreline) to south entrance of Charnwood Avenue (including),

South Side – West along Charnwood Avenue (including), turning north on Charnwood Avenue to Alfred Street, west on Alfred Street (including) to Sherri Avenue (including), north on Sherri Avenue to Ethel Street (including), west on Ethel Street to Pitton Road

(including), north on Pitton Road to Catalina Street (including), west on Catalina Street to Kalar Road,

West Side – North on Kalar Road (including) to start at Lundy’s Lane

- ii) No new out of boundary requests will be considered*
- iii) Current Grade 7 students will be grandfathered and permitted to remain at Loretto Catholic.*

Consideration 4:

- i) Area of Change from Loretto Catholic Elementary School to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School (part of W1/part of E1 & part of E2)*

North Side – East from Garner Road (centerline) at Lundy’s Lane (centerline) to Montrose Road (centerline),

East Side – South on Montrose Road (centreline) to south entrance of Charnwood Avenue (including),

South Side – West along Charnwood Avenue (including), turning north on Charnwood Avenue to Alfred Street, west on Alfred Street (including) to Sherri Avenue (including), north on Sherri Avenue to Ethel Street (including), west on Ethel Street to Pitton Road (including), north on Pitton Road to Catalina Street (including), west on Catalina Street to Kalar Road (including), south on Kalar Road to Angie Drive (including) south to St. Michael Avenue (including) to Forestview Blvd. (centerline) west to Garner Road (centerline),

West Side – North on Garner Road (centreline) to start at Lundy’s Lane

- ii) No new out of boundary requests will be considered*
- iii) Current Grade 7 students will be grandfathered and permitted to remain at Loretto Catholic.*

Other Relevant Information:

- Students remain in the Saint Michael Catholic High School Family of Schools
- St. Thomas More remains the same parish for the students moving from Loretto Catholic to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

D. FUTURE ACTION

- | | | |
|----|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Public Meeting | November 28, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.
Saint Michael Catholic High School |
| 2. | Committee Meeting | December 6, 2016 - 4:00 p.m.
Fr. Kenneth Burns, csc Board Room
Catholic Education Centre - Welland |

E. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Fera

THAT the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 15, 2016 be adjourned. Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



“The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.”

MINUTES
Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary
Family of Schools
Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee
 Loretto Catholic Elementary School, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic
 Elementary School
 and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School

December 6, 2016
4:00 p.m.

VINCENTIAN SISTERS OF CHARITY
CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE - WELLAND

Minutes of Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of December 6, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Trustee Nieuwesteeg.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Ted Farrell.

2. Roll Call and Attendance

Committee Members		Present	Excused	Absent
Kathy Burtnik	Trustee	x		
Frank Fera	Trustee			x
Ed Nieuwesteeg	Chair/Trustee	x		

Resources to Committee		Present	Excused	Absent
Ted Farrell	Superintendent of Education	x		
Scott Whitwell	Controller of Facilities Services	x		
Kathy Levinski	Administrator of Facilities Services	x		
Mary Gallardi	Recording Secretary	x		
Antonio Cardamone	Principal - Loretto Catholic		x	

Amanda Cybula	Principal - Father Hennepin	x		
Elizabeth Davey	Principal - Our Lady of Mount Carmel	x		
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Loretto Catholic	x		
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Father Hennepin			x
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Our Lady of Mount Carmel			x

The following staff were also in attendance: Mark Lefebvre, Family of Schools Superintendent of Education, and Christopher Moscato, Vice-principal, Loretto Catholic Elementary School, Ken Griepsma, Principal, Saint Michael Catholic High School.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Agenda of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of December 6, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No Declaration of Conflict of Interest was declared with any items on the agenda.

5. Approval of Minutes

a) Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Minutes of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 15, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

b) Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Minutes of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Public Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 28, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

B. REVIEW OF FEEDBACK FROM PUBLIC MEETINGS

Superintendent Farrell and Kathy Levinski reviewed feedback from the November 28, 2016 Public Meeting.

- If out of boundary students are grandfathered, would younger siblings who are beginning school be permitted to attend Loretto Catholic?
- Will individual scenarios be considered? There are other students that are out of bounds to Loretto that live in other areas and don't go to their home schools.
- Aside from ELKP, is there an obligation for the Board to provide bus service?

- At what point will childcare become available at Our Lady of Mount Carmel?
- Is it possible to limit access to childcare providers at Loretto Catholic? That will create overflow that might help force parents to find alternative care for their children at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.
- Can a dual boundary be created? So boundary A, this is the walking boundary and boundary B these are your boundaries and if you don't bus to Loretto you bus to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.
- What are the reasons for applying for out of boundary status for the 95 students who are attending Loretto Catholic? What percentage of them use the before and after school daycare? Why are the students attending Loretto from out of boundary if not for childcare?
- Has the impact of school changes on children been considered?
- In the future, as the population around McLeod and Kalar increases and a new school is built in the future, what children will be filling that school? Will they be students from Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Father Hennepin?
- When families from Garner South area built homes the builder showed Loretto, Kate S. Durdan and where a new school would be built. Has the Board spoken to the builder so that when buyers come to the area they know their children should attend Our Lady of Mount Carmel?
- It doesn't affect me but the whole no grandfathering of siblings, any parent would agree that it's not beneficial for them to have the siblings continue at Loretto.
- If we recognize that there is an enrolment problem and the status quo doesn't address the issue, why even suggest it as an option? It should not be considered an option anymore.
- What is restricting the Board from looking at other schools? No matter what option is considered by 2020 there is overcapacity at all schools.
- Grandfather students in Options 15 and 16 without transportation to provide families a choice. If families are unable to provide transportation to Loretto Catholic, then transport to students to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.

Kathy Levinski indicated that she is in discussions with respect to before and after school care at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Correspondence received by Board staff was reviewed.

C. REVIEW OF POTENTIAL ATTENDANCE AREA OPTIONS

Superintendent Farrell and Kathy Levinski presented a slideshow that incorporated the feedback from the Public Meetings as new options. Options 13 to 16 were reviewed.

There have been no concerns expressed concerning Option 13. Based on the lack of input, Option 13 will be recommended.

Option 14 was ruled out because it does not address the enrolment pressure, at Loretto Catholic, coming from within the its boundary.

Discussion involved the siblings affected by any boundary change of grandfathered students at Loretto Catholic.

Do we know the number of Grade 7 Students that are being grandfathered, how many of them have younger siblings there?

Out of boundary requests are adding to the enrolment pressure at Loretto Catholic. While current students, from out of bounds are attending the school any grandfathering of siblings will undermine the effect of no longer accepting out of boundary students to the school.

D. RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE PRESENTED AT PUBLIC MEETING

It was agreed, by consensus, that the following options will be presented at the Public Meeting on December 14th, 2016 at Saint Michael Catholic Elementary School at 7 p.m.:

Option 13 - Area of change from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic to Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School:

North Side - Ease from Dorchester Road at Oldfield Road along powerline to projection of Wilson Crescent, East Side - South on projection of Wilson Crescent to Oldfield Road (including), South Side - West along Oldfield Road (including) to Dorchester Road, West Side - to point of start at Dorchester and Oldfield Road.

- *To be included to the areas considered in each of Option 15 and Option 16*

Option 15 - Area of Change from Loretto Catholic to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School (part of E1 and part of E2) and no new out of boundary requests will be considered, current Grade 7 students will be grandfathered:

North Side – East from Kalar Road on Lundy’s Lane (centreline) to Montrose Road, East Side – South on Montrose Road (centreline) to Charnwood Avenue, south entrance (including), South Side – West along Charnwood Avenue (including), turning north on Charnwood Avenue to Alfred Street, west on Alfred Street (including) to Sherri Avenue (including), north on Sherri Avenue to Ethel Street (including), west on Ethel Street to Pitton Road (including), north on Pitton Road to Catalina Street (including), west on Catalina Street to Kalar Road, West Side – North on Kalar Road (including) to start at Lundy’s Lane

- **Current Grade 7 students will be grandfathered**
- **No new out of boundary requests will be considered**

Option 16 - Area of change from Loretto Catholic to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School (part of W1/part of E1 & part of E2):

North Side – East from Garner Road (centerline) at Lundy’s Lane (centerline) to Montrose Road (centerline), East Side – South on Montrose Road (centerline) to Charnwood Avenue, south entrance, (including), South Side – West along Charnwood Avenue (including), turning north on Charnwood Avenue to Alfred Street, west on Alfred Street (including) to Sherri Avenue (including), north on Sherri Avenue to Ethel Street (including), west on Ethel Street to Pitton Road (including), north on Pitton Road to Catalina Street (including), west on Catalina Street to Kalar Road (including), south on Kalar Road to Angie Drive (including), and including Mildred Court to St. Michael Avenue (including) south to Forestview Blvd. (centerline) west to Garner Road (centerline), West Side – North on Garner Road (centerline) to start at Lundy’s Lane

- **Current Grade 7 students will be grandfathered**
- **No new out of boundary requests will be considered**

E. FUTURE ACTION

- Revised attendance area options being considered will be posted on the Board website and sent to families as part of a SchoolConnects message advising them of the upcoming Public Meeting.
- Transition plan will be developed for affected students will begin in February, 2017. Catholic School Councils, student, teachers, principals and parents will be involved.

- | | | |
|----|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Public Meeting | December 14, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.
Saint Michael Catholic High School |
| 2. | Committee Meeting | December 14, 2016 - Immediately Following
Public Meeting
Saint Michael Catholic High School |

F. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of December 6, 2016 be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.



“The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.”

MINUTES

Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools

Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee

Loretto Catholic Elementary School, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic
Elementary School
and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School

December 14, 2016

8:56 p.m.

SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Minutes of Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of December 14, 2016 at 8:56 p.m. at Saint Michael Catholic High School.

The meeting was called to order at 8:56 p.m. by Trustee Nieuwesteeg.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Ted Farrell.

2. Roll Call and Attendance

Committee Members		Present	Excused	Absent
Kathy Burtnik	Trustee	x		
Frank Fera	Trustee	x		
Ed Nieuwesteeg	Chair/Trustee	x		

Resources to Committee		Present	Excused	Absent
Ted Farrell	Superintendent of Education	x		
Scott Whitwell	Controller of Facilities Services	x		
Kathy Levinski	Administrator of Facilities Services	x		
Mary Gallardi	Recording Secretary	x		
Antonio Cardamone	Principal - Loretto Catholic	x		

Amanda Cybula	Principal - Father Hennepin	x		
Elizabeth Davey	Principal - Our Lady of Mount Carmel	x		
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Loretto Catholic	x		
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Father Hennepin			x
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Our Lady of Mount Carmel			x

The following staff were also in attendance:

Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education; Christopher Moscato, Vice-Principal, Loretto Catholic Elementary School; Ken Griepsma, Principal, Saint Michael Catholic High School; Domenic Massi, Principal, (Principal, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School effective January 9, 2017).

Six members of the public also attended and signed in to the meeting.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Agenda of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of December 14, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No Declaration of Conflict of Interest was declared with any items on the agenda.

5. Approval of Minutes

a) Moved by Trustee Burtnik and Trustee Fera

THAT the Minutes of the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of December 6, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

B. REVIEW OF FEEDBACK FROM PUBLIC MEETING OF DECEMBER 14, 2016

Discussions took place on feedback received from the Public Meeting. There was a preference expressed by those attending for Option 17. The meeting generated discussion on balancing the Guiding Principles of the Committee with the Terms of Reference outlined by the Board. Option 17 affects fewer students and families and, while not providing total relief, provides only 13% less than does Option 18.

Requests were made to consider grandfathering those affected by boundary changes. Family circumstances were provided for context for the Committee.

Concern was expressed that for each of the boundary options presented, students who are currently attending Loretto Catholic whose home residence is outside of

the existing boundary will be permitted to remain unlike students who currently reside within the current boundary changes to Loretto Catholic boundary who will be required to change schools. Members of the public commented that “this makes no sense.”

The Committee reviewed the impact of Option 17 and Option 18 and noted that there is projected to be a 13% greater impact in reducing enrolment at Loretto Catholic with Option 18. Option 18 better addresses the main Term of Reference for the Committee which is to “align student enrolment to facility capacity at Loretto Catholic Elementary School.”

Option 18 was selected by consensus. It was noted that once the minutes are approved by the Committee the community should be informed so that they are able to provide input.

Once the recommended boundary changes are approved by the Board, transition planning should begin promptly with community input.

C. CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATION(S) TO JANUARY 17, 2016 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Committee to present its recommendations to the Committee of the Whole for input prior to the Board Meeting on January 31, 2017.

1. Recommended boundaries for Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School, Loretto Catholic Elementary School and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary Schools effective September as presented in Option 18.
2. Motions to be drafted that capture:
 - Grade 7 students currently attending Loretto Catholic be grandfathered.
 - The siblings of these grandfathered Grade 7 students who are currently attending Loretto Catholic and reside in the area of change of Loretto Catholic Elementary School to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School, be permitted to remain at Loretto Catholic for September 2017, and receive transportation for the 2017-2018 academic year, only.
 - The siblings of these grandfathered Grade 7 students who remain at Loretto Catholic Elementary School, for 2017-2018, be permitted to apply to attend Loretto Catholic for September 2018, as per the usual Out of Boundary process but not receive transportation.
 - Only students who currently attend Loretto Catholic, and reside in the proposed area of change for 2017-2018 from Loretto Catholic Elementary School to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School, be permitted to apply to attend Loretto Catholic for September 2017, as per the usual Out of Boundary process but not receive transportation. Siblings of these students be permitted to apply for out of boundary status to Loretto Catholic to attend beginning September 2017, only.
 - The siblings of students who currently reside outside the current boundary of Loretto Catholic Elementary School be permitted to apply for out of boundary status to attend Loretto Catholic in September 2017, but not receive transportation, and

- No new out of boundary requests for students, without siblings who currently attend Loretto Catholic, will be accepted using the existing boundary.
- No new initial out of boundary registrations to attend Loretto Catholic Elementary School will be accepted for students registering to attend beginning September 2017 using the revised boundary.

D. APPROVAL PROCESS FOR DECEMBER 14, 2016 PUBLIC AND COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

It was agreed by the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Committee that the Minutes of the Public Meeting and the Minutes of the Committee Meeting of December 14, 2016 will be approved via email and immediately posted thereafter.

E. FUTURE ACTION

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Report to the Committee of the Whole | January 17, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.
Fr. Kenneth Burns csc Board Room
Catholic Education Centre - Welland |
| 2. | Board Meeting | January 31, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.
Fr. Kenneth Burns csc Board Room
Catholic Education Centre - Welland |

F. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Burtnik
THAT the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of December 14, 2016 be adjourned.
CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 10:03 p.m.



“The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.”

MINUTES

**Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary
 Family of Schools
 Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee
 Loretto Catholic Elementary School, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic
 Elementary School
 and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School**

**November 9, 2016
 7:00 p.m.**

LORETTO CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Minutes of Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Loretto Catholic Elementary School.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Trustee Nieuwesteeg.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education.

2. Roll Call and Attendance

Committee Members		Present	Excused	Absent
Kathy Burtnik	Trustee	x		
Frank Fera	Trustee		x	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	Trustee	x		

Resources to Committee		Present	Excused	Absent
Ted Farrell	Superintendent of Education	x		
Scott Whitwell	Controller of Facilities Services	x		
Kathy Levinski	Manager of Facilities Services	x		
Mary Gallardi	Recording Secretary	x		
Antonio Cardamone	Principal - Loretto Catholic	x		

Resources to Committee		Present	Excused	Absent
Amanda Cybula	Principal - Father Hennepin	x		
Elizabeth Davey	Principal - Our Lady of Mount Carmel		x	
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Loretto Catholic	x		
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Father Hennepin			x
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Our Lady of Mount Carmel			x

The following staff were also in attendance:

Mark Lefebvre, Family of Schools Superintendent of Education; Christopher Moscato, Vice-Principal, Loretto Catholic Elementary School; Ken Griepsma, Principal, Saint Michael Catholic High School.

Thirty-four members of the public also attended and signed the attendance to the meeting.

B. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Superintendent Farrell presented the Terms of Reference for information. It was noted that the Terms of Reference initially suggested to “consider the impact of moving the French Immersion Program from Notre Dame.” Following public consultation on the issue, the decision was that the program would remain at Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School.

C. MEETING SCHEDULE

Superintendent Farrell presented the Meeting Schedule for information.

D. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Kathy Levinski and Superintendent Farrell provided background information pertaining to the identified schools in the Attendance Area Review from the June 21, 2016 Board Report: Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School, Loretto Catholic Elementary School and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.

The current boundaries map for each school were shared in addition to the potential students living in each elementary school boundary.

A catchment summary for Loretto Catholic, Father Hennepin and Our Lady of Mount Carmel was provided showing students who are currently attending a Niagara Catholic school. Also included was information on out of boundary students.

Enrolment Projections were reviewed for each of the three schools.

An Education Development Charge, which is used to purchase land and develop school sites, was reviewed as it relates to south Niagara Falls.

Kathy Levinski reviewed the areas that are being planned for development in south Niagara Falls:

- The Garner South Plan has approximately 2700 units approved by the city of Niagara Falls. The area is projected to result in close to 400 students attending a Niagara Catholic Elementary School.
- The Oldfield subdivision was reviewed. The area is currently split between Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School and Father Hennepin

Catholic Elementary School. Thundering Waters is in the early planning stages and will ultimately affect enrolment in both the Father Hennepin and Our Lady of Mount Carmel boundary areas.

E. ATTENDANCE AREA OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Option 1 – Status Quo

Principal Cardamone presented the current issues at Loretto Catholic, Superintendent Farrell presented the current issues at Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Principal Cybula presented the current issues at Father Hennepin.

Kathy Levinski spoke about the child care program at Loretto, Father Hennepin and Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Kathy encouraged parents to sign up for childcare on the Onelist in order for the Board to determine if there is viability for childcare in the school.

Comments/Input/Feedback:

David Corfield, Father Hennepin:

Just wondering why did you close down St. Thomas More School if you are having such issues here? Why are we in this panic mode?

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

St. Thomas More was vastly underutilized and we essentially had two schools basically on the same site. When we needed to get the enrolment up at Our Lady of Mount Carmel with the addition that the Ministry funded, it didn't make sense to us to keep St. Thomas More essentially on the same site. When the Ministry looks at funding, they look at utilization of classroom space and it works against you if you have unused classrooms in a school. The Ministry actually penalizes you if have unused classrooms.

David Corfield, Father Hennepin:

I'm getting the impression here so far that you are going to shuttle kids from this school to Father Hennepin or Mount Carmel, is that correct?

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

The intention, or how it plays out in the end is as Superintendent Farrell alluded to a few minutes ago is that the enrolment here at Loretto is way beyond the capacity of the school. It is incumbent upon us as a school board to do something, acknowledging the great work that Mr. Cardamone and Mr. Moscato are doing to serve the students here to the best of our ability. We have 600 plus students in a school that was built for 400 students. You also heard from Ms. Cybula and Mr. Farrell about the facilities at the other schools, including a double gymnasium at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. I don't know if you had a chance to look at those other schools but both schools are fabulous facilities. What we are trying to do is minimize the impact we are going to have on school communities but really it is our job as a committee to come up with ways to alleviate the pressure that Loretto Catholic is feeling right now. Mr. Farrell will present some of the options. Something has to be done and we do have to do something soon.

David Corfield, Father Hennepin:

I was trying to suggest that you already had a school available for these students which wouldn't have had any any impact and you shut down that school.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

St. Thomas More was a JK to Grade 3 school. It wasn't a JK to Grade 8 School so it was fairly easy for us to make the transition over to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. We are in a catch-22 situation here with the surplus space in some of the south Niagara schools. Loretto parents are living this right now with the issues related to washrooms and gym time. Our goal is to minimize the disruption and the effects of overcrowding on the school and community. Children are going to benefit from the move and I hope that you don't think of it as a detrimental situation. All I can tell you from past experience, and I've been on the Board for a very long time, is that this is never an easy decision. Our job is not to disrupt families or students and cause anxiety; that is not something that we want. It is a function of demographics and demographics that we have to deal with.

Trustee Burtnik:

I would like to point out that St. Thomas More was a JK to Grade 3 School and then it became one family in joining Our Lady of Mount Carmel under one roof. The Board is trying to model keeping families together from JK to Grade 8 rather than in two separate schools. There is going to be a conversation taking place in Thorold shortly as they have a JK to 3 school and a Grade 4 to 8 school. Families have asked us to give consideration to consolidation because it is very difficult for mom, dads and caregivers to be actively involved in two school communities. That is part of the rationale that the St. Thomas More decision was made.

Option 2 – Area E1 to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Kathy Levinski and Superintendent Farrell presented Option 2

Comments/Input/Feedback:

Catie Sirie, Loretto:

I want to know that for each of the options you are looking at are you considering the same percentage of out of bounds students per year?

Superintendent Farrell:

Students that are out of bounds are counted in the projections for the school that they are currently attending. Future students are projected to attend their resident school: that is, they are allocated to the school that they should be going to.

Kathy Levinski:

When we provide the number of out of bound students we are using this year's numbers.

Sandra Elia, Loretto:

The kids that you were just talking about being moved are those kids currently bussed to Loretto?

Superintendent Farrell:

Some are bussed and some are walkers. Area E1 includes the whole area, not just bussed students.

Option 3 – Areas E1 + E2 (A&B) to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Superintendent Farrell presented Option 3

Comments/Input/Feedback:

Lucy Ioannoni, Loretto:

Is the goal to reduce enrolment at Loretto to its capacity?

Superintendent Farrell:

If we were to go back to the Terms of Reference for the committee, one of the goals is to try to align the enrolment with the facility size at Loretto Catholic. If we were to solely focus on that, we require approximately 220 students move from Loretto Catholic. We don't have 220 pupil spaces at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. All we would be doing is moving students from a portable here to another portable over there. The best case scenario is that we reduce, as best we can, the enrolment pressure here from 160%. We are going to need to get to a point where Our Lady of Mount Carmel is getting close to 100%. Are we going to get to 100% capacity at Loretto? I don't see that as being one of the options as we go from one portable city to another portable city. We are trying to be fair to all school communities. We are looking long term at essentially having 15 portables between the three schools. We don't feel it's fair to have them all at one school.

Derek Szolucha, Loretto:

I did not understand the piece about the the cost of moving or adding portables here?

Superintendent Farrell:

If we were to add portables here, in the near future we need to upgrade the electrical system due to the increased load. The cost of doing so could run anywhere from \$50,000 to \$100,000. That is in addition to the cost of the portable and having it transported to the site.

David Woods, Loretto:

What level of enrolment are you trying to get Loretto down to? Earlier on you were discussing the opportunity for children for exercise, for staff to gather. What level does Loretto need to get down to provide a similar environment for the staff and students across all three schools?

Superintendent Farrell:

Ideally we need to get each school to 100% capacity. That is not possible just with the number of children that reside in the catchment areas. What we are working towards is to try provide the same quality programs to all three school communities.

Trustee Burtnik:

I don't know that there is a magic number. This is the really great problem to have for Catholic Education. We have so many kids that want to experience the quality of education in all three of our schools that we're discussing here. I would hope all of our schools would be at 100% at some point. We all know that as soon as we build a school we are overcrowded, that's just the way it is. The government only funds for those pupils that you absolutely know are certain that they are coming so that the disconnect between what we know what is going to happen and what the government funds for the build of a school.

I think what we are really trying to do is balance the schools so that all of our schools are at least at capacity so that if we continue to see the enrolment grow through projections, through the growing community in this area that we have to build another Catholic School. It is not a matter of continually putting portables on top of portables on this site. This particular location is the hot spot due to demographics. This is where the development is and if we knew when we built Loretto what we now know we still would have only been funded for the size that Loretto currently is. We couldn't have built for more at the time than we were funded.

There is no magic number. As far as getting Loretto closer, and bring the others closer or even just slightly over the hundred, to give students in the area the same opportunities to experience all the good things in program and for our staff to have the same opportunity to engage in professional dialogue with colleagues, etc. etc.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

Just a follow up to that so you don't think we are being short sighted. As Kathy mentioned, we are only allowed to build schools based on what the government says the size of the school should be. If we were able to build based on our projections and what we thought was going to happen, Saint Michael Catholic High School would have been a lot bigger from the start. When we closed Saint Michael on Valley Way, there were only 800 students enrolled so we were funded to build a high school to house 800 students. A lot of people saw that right away we were putting portables on the property and said we should have thought about that and built a bigger school. Unfortunately, as Kathy mentioned we could only build for what the government allowed.

I'm sure all of you have an appreciation for the problem that we are struggling with but at the end of day want to do what's best for the majority of our kids, and we want to make sure that whatever decision we come to that the parents can live with and the school communities can live with it. That is really the goal of the committee.

Jason Cukierski, Loretto:

Just in terms of realistically changing the boundaries, if the boundaries aren't shifted then a new school will not be built. Is that the bottom line?

Superintendent Farrell:

When the Board applies for funding for a new school the Ministry takes a look at space available in nearby schools. Here we have space at two schools close to Loretto Catholic. The Ministry wants to see school boards using their resources efficiently. We need to address available space nearby before we can apply for funding for a new school, that option is years down the road.

David Corfield, Father Hennepin:

Loretto is not the only school with this issue. Forestview is having the issue too. Can we push to take over Kate S. Durdan which is attached?

Superintendent Farrell:

No, we are not able to take over Kate S. Durdan. It is the growth in the area that is creating the pressure.

Frank Mancuso, Loretto:

My kids are out of bounds and grandfathered in. Are students still going to be allowed to do this and why wasn't this brought up in 2010?

Trustee Burtnik:

When we look at the notion of out of boundary it's strictly for mapping right now. When you are a student at Loretto Catholic it doesn't anymore matter where you live. You are a student and you are part of the community. We want to dispel the notion that the easy answer, mathematically, is to send all those out of boundary kids back to their home school. This is their home school right now.

Frank Mancuso, Loretto:

Is there an Option 6?

Trustee Burtnik:

There is. We have to consider every option. If we didn't then we wouldn't be doing our due diligence. But the notion of an out of boundary is for the mapping purposes. We cannot capture them as a dot within the boundaries. When you are a student at Niagara Catholic and you are given a letter of permission to attend a school, outside of the school boundary you live in, you become a part of that community. One of the options we need to look at is, do we send everybody to their home school? This is your home school right now. When we considered this and everyone was grandfathered we knew there would be a point in time that we had to look at it again, and this is that point in time. We couldn't fix it then and we are not going to be able to fix it 100% right now because this community, this neighbourhood is busting and thank God it's busting with kids that want to come to a Catholic School.

We are very aware that right here, right next door there is an option. Your decision will be is Catholic education the thing that you value most? If so, you will work with us in

whatever difficult decision we have to make. We really hope that your first priority is for you to have your child educated in a Catholic School and that it simply isn't just a matter of convenience for you. I think I've gone a little further than where you wanted me to go but I wanted to make the point clear that it is very important to all of us and to our Board.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

Just a further point with respect to out of boundary students, one thing we pride ourselves on as a Board is that every student and family situation is looked at individually. Out of boundary situations are looked at for compassionate reasons, for example child care needs or single parent families. Every child in Niagara Catholic has a story and we like to think that we listen to that and does that cause problems for us, yes.

As Kathy had alluded to, it's easy to say every out of boundary student go to their in bound school but every child in our system has a story and it is incumbent upon us as a Catholic School Board to look at all these stories and say this child needs to be here for this or that reason. If you look at out of boundary numbers there are 95 out of boundary students currently attending Loretto Catholic which is a huge number, probably the highest number in all of our elementary schools. I just want you to be aware of that, that as a Board we look at it from a compassionate standpoint.

Superintendent Farrell:

Just to pick up on that point, the 95 out of boundary students attending Loretto is mitigated by a number of students who live in Loretto Catholic boundary but attend other schools. The net effect is approximately 30 students. It is not the out of boundary students are not the sole cause of enrolment pressure at Loretto Catholic.

Option 4 – Areas E1 + E2B to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Superintendent Farrell presented Option 4.

Comments/Input/Feedback:

No questions on this scenario.

Option 5 – All Out of Boundary Students Attending Loretto Catholic Returned to Home Schools

Superintendent Farrell presented Option 5.

Comments/Input/Feedback:

No questions on this scenario.

Option 6 - Students bussed greater than 1.6 km from Loretto Catholic in areas W1 + E1 + E2 (A&B) to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Superintendent Farrell presented Option 6.

Comments/Input/Feedback:

No questions on this scenario.

Option 7 – Open Option Discussion

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

Catholic School Council Chairs act as a resource to the committee. If you have any questions you can direct them to the Chairs and they will make sure that whatever feedback you provide will be brought to our next committee meeting.

Sabrin Fabbro, Co-Chair Loretto:

We can all agree that not acting is not an option. Status quo is not an option and a decision needs to be made. It is a difficult decision but there are options and we are here to discuss what the other options could possibly be.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

The process from here moving forward, there will be further discussion between the committee and it is open to the public. All of you are invited to attend any of the meetings that we have and there will be a further public consultation on the plan to have something enacted in early January. It seems like a fairly tight time frame but the mandate of the committee is to come up with some kind of solution or resolution before the next school year so that's what we are trying to do and in fairness to the parents and the school communities we have to get that information to them so they can make appropriate plans for their children for next year.

Catie Sirie, Loretto:

Is the reason we are not considering sending some of the Loretto students to Father Hennepin solely due to transportation time?

Superintendent Farrell:

We did make reference to the Oldfield Estates development earlier. The area is currently designated to both Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Father Hennepin. One-half of this area has just begun construction and the other side of the development has just been serviced. It makes sense to us to have these students attend Father Hennepin and increase the size of its boundary. This would support an increase in enrolment at Father Hennepin and reduce the enrolment pressure due to growth at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. That was one of the questions that we need to address.

Lindsay Jones, Loretto:

I live in the Imagine area. I will be registering my child for school in November of this year. When will the decision take effect?

Superintendent Lefebvre:

By policy we are over capacity at Loretto. You can put an out of boundary application in and we would consider it but because the numbers are so large at Loretto there would have to be extraordinary circumstances.

Lindsay Jones, Loretto:

Regarding daycare at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, has there been consideration to offering it there? That really is my main concern.

Kathy Levinski:

You will receive information at registration regarding childcare and you will need to sign up on Onelist and indicate where you want to go. At Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School last year there was no child care, but numbers came in showing there was a need. Consequently, they were able to get a child care provider at the school.

If we show support for a child care, demonstrate need and have the numbers we can work something out in the end. We will continue to work with our partners and the Ministry to find ways to to accommodate. We do this on a continual basis with all of our schools.

Dan CuvIELLO, Loretto:

Have they looked at putting an addition on this building?

Superintendent Farrell:

With our current projections, we feel there will be sufficient growth in south Niagara Falls so that once we equalize enrolment across the schools we will be in a very good position to make application to the Ministry to fund a new school. We are going to continue to have growth in this area. If we replace portables with the addition we would be taking away from play space. The preferred option that we have considered is to equalize enrolment, demonstrate sustainability and apply for funding for a new school.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

Earlier in the presentation we talked about sq ft. per pupil, if we were able to consider an addition, that would severely impact the play area for the students if we put an addition on. I really think that this is not a viable option for us at this point.

Trustee Burtnik:

We still need to show balanced enrolment in order to get funding whether it is an addition or new build. You have to have managed your assets the best way before you will get funding because the government would simply say that you have empty spaces over there and until they are balanced we are not giving you money. Funding is critically important.

Dan CuvIELLO, Loretto:

When you are saying balancing populations, is that what you mean by funding?

Trustee Burtnik:

In order to show that we have utilized our resources to the best of our ability, without putting kids on busses from Niagara Falls to St. Catharines, within the community we need to minimize the number of empty spaces at 1 or 2 schools to alleviate the pressures here at Loretto. We hope that down the road we are in a position, as the south Niagara Falls keeps growing to be able to build a school somewhere within that community.

David Corfield, Loretto:

Going back to my point about St. Thomas More.

Trustee Burtnik:

The facility of St. Thomas More was too expensive to repair.

Dave Corfield:

In a dangerous sense or aesthetics sense?

Trustee Burtnik:

In the sense that it was not worth repairing to put kids in it. Value per dollars and that is determined by the government, not by the Board. They come in and there are studies that are done, I'm sure they are all available if you would like to look at the state of that school before it was closed, and they did a report on Our Lady of Mount Carmel's ability to house those students in one facility.

David Corfield:

What is the cost of the portables? Is cost of portables as much as new addition?

Trustee Burtnik:

No.

Controller Scott Whitwell:

Fair to say that portables provide temporary relief. In terms of moving individual portables around the costs is approximately 25 thousand dollars but then there are costs associated with having it connected to services, skirting and other costs. There is a cost to adding portables here due to the electrical. For us to have it wired properly, it could run somewhere between \$50,000 - \$100,000.

Frank Mancuso, Loretto:

I know that families don't want kids split up but what if they ship Grade 7 and 8 students off site to Our Lady of Mount Carmel or Father Hennepin. It would alleviate some of the enrolment issues at Loretto. I'm just throwing this out there. Could be some compromise with the school board where parents can drop off their kids here to be transported to another school and then they are brought back at the end of the day to this school.

Unnamed Speaker:

My Niece goes to school where all 7 and 8 are together and then all go to high school together and then the grade 9s are all together as they were all together in grade 7 and 8.

Frank Mancuso, Loretto:

I get what you are all trying to do. We all want what's best for our kids and everyone here will say what's best is that our kids stay here at Loretto. At the end of the day the Grade 7's and 8's won't have an issue going to another school.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

What we have found is that when a child has been at a school for 6-7 years it becomes part of their identity. Parents in the past say please don't move/uproot my child in Grade 8, a year before high school. It would be unfair from our perspective to tell students to go to another school for the next two years. I really don't think that is an option that we would consider but thank you.

Trustee Burtnik:

What we are going to do is take note of ideas and take them back to committee and have discussion and make a response that considers the pedagogy and the Mission of our Board.

Superintendent Farrell:

Staff did consider at the outset the possibility of having Grade 7 and 8 students attend Saint Michael Catholic High School but that just didn't work based on the numbers of students attending Saint Michael. They are nearly full already.

Paula Willms, Loretto:

My children are in Grade 4. My concern is that my husband and I play by the rules. We were out of bounds and then we bought a home in the area. With your options, my area (E1) is in them. With E1 being in all four options, are there other areas that can be considered not including E1?

Superintendent Lefebvre:

I know this answer is not helpful but just to the north of Lundy's Lane is the Cardinal Newman community and they have more than 500 kids so we don't want to move between these two school communities because they are both over capacity. If we start to change around here to make space you are going into another full school.

Paula Willms, Loretto:

Why do almost all the options have E1? Why focus on that section? Wouldn't it be fair to take in all areas?

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

Due to the proximity of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Paula Willms:

When you go back to the Board, my concern is that most of the options have E1 and E2. I would like to see more options with other areas considered as well, like E4 and W4.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

We will consider that.

Superintendent Farrell:

With regards to transportation, E4 and W4 are almost all walkers. If we have area E1 attend Our Lady of Mount Carmel, we will need to put 27 students on a bus who are currently identified as walkers in E1.

Suggest that E1 Students and W1 is close to E1 and double the students

Trustee Burtnik:

When we were coming up with the options, the Committee looked at the option of moving to Our Lady of Mount Carmel anyone who is bussed, instead of taking kids who are walking which flies in the face of physical fitness.

We know for sure that a number of parents in the walking zone actually drive their kids to school. (Trustee Burtnik asked for a show of hands of who lives in the walking area but still drives their kids to school.) It's something we are talking about at the Committee. It didn't make sense to us to put students on the bus to Our Lady of Mount Carmel who can see Loretto and literally walk across the street to school.

We will go back and discuss it further. This decision is going to affect some parent somewhere and what we really don't want to have parents say is create an option that affects somebody else but not me. At the end of the day, somebody will be affected. Unless everyone says Option 1 is the best option, somebody will be affected. It is not personal it is a practical decision.

Paula Willms, Loretto:

I'm concerned that most of the options include E1 and the 41 students. We need to broaden this.

Trustee Burtnik:

That is why we are here, to listen to your concerns and go back and talk about that.

Superintendent Farrell:

One consideration could be to exclude the walkers in E1.

Paul Willms, Loretto:

I moved into E1 to stay at Loretto and now you are going to move us out.

Superintendent Farrell:

We have not made a decision. This is part of the process.

Jason Cukierski, Loretto:

More of a suggestion. There is something attractive about a smaller school. I'm in the walking area of W2. Let's say my kids walk to Forestview Blvd. Could they be bussed to Our Lady of Mount Carmel?

Superintendent Farrell:

That is an option that we can consider.

Josephine CuvIELLO, Loretto:

My concern is with the 81 students at the top. How many of those are going to go to the new school? The reason we moved to that area was to go to Loretto and now we have to start over with everything. It's a lot to our kids.

Superintendent Farrell:

Students will be affected by a change of schools and transitions can be difficult. Rest assured, between the three schools, that a very strong transition plan will be put in place to ensure a smooth transition. We believe children are very resilient and that although they enter as strangers at a new school on the first day these strangers will very quickly become friends.

Davie Woods, Loretto:

Is there an opportunity in this building given we are sharing the roof with another school? I don't know their situation. Are they suffering the same issues as we are? Could we look at leasing some space on the other side to offset the expenditures needed if we add more portables? We don't want kids displaced. Could available space at Kate S. Durdan be utilized to reduce the number of kids you need to be moved?

Superintendent Lefebvre:

Mr. Whitwell, myself and the Board Lawyer and Trustee Burtnik met with DSBN and made that request and the answer was not interested in leasing that space, due to the conditions for that kind of situation, we were able to gain access to one class two years ago. They will not give us any more space. They are now over capacity and have one portable.

David Szolucha:

Please return to the slide with the development information on the Garner South area. What would happen if we look at Phase 3 and 4 and send 50% of these students to Our Lady of Mount Carmel?

Superintendent Farrell:

The first thing we need to know is the type of construction being built in Phases 3 and 4. There is a different pupil yield factor used in calculating future enrolment. For example, there is a different calculation depending on whether it is a single family home, semi-detached, townhomes or highrises. The pupil yield varies based on the type of dwelling. Our consultant was provided with all of this information. These students have been factored in.

David Szolucha:

So 5% of this population would be sent to Our Lady of Mount Carmel?

Trustee Burtnik:

We work on about one-third of the overall projected overall number of school-age children attending Catholic schools. So when you look at the overall projections we anticipate 400, or so, over the lifetime of its development.

Superintendent Farrell:

In determining the number of students from an area attending, from single family homes a very rough calculation is to take the number of units and multiply by .66 and then divide by 3 to determine the number of students we would receive. That, however, is a very rough calculation.

Mr. Szolucha:

So 80 students will be sent to Our Lady of Mount Carmel from that area.

Superintendent Farrell:

Those students are in fact already in the Our Lady of Mount Carmel area and are factored into its projected enrolment. Students who are currently attending Loretto are factored into its projected enrolment.

Dorothy Graham, Loretto:

I don't know if it makes sense or not, but could one option be status quo and stop any other future registration? Eighty students isn't going to make a difference. How much is that going to lessen it?

Superintendent Lefebvre:

We understand that and we are looking at that. We also have to look at the siblings of those out of boundary students.

Superintendent Farrell:

What you have suggested is one of the grandfather options that we proposed for consideration.

Lisa DiPietro, Loretto:

If we decide on one of the options and you are now going to move these kids out then you are going to get parents fighting with the board. This is what happened in 2010. John Crocco met with them and said ok you can stay, okay you can stay, okay you can stay too. Now our kids are suffering and paying the price. We are over capacity and these kids now have no gym time. Are you prepared when all these parents from W1 and E1 come to you that they are already at Loretto and want to stay? What are you prepared to say to these parents? We were shipped out then shipped back in when they changed the boundary. So what are you going to say? It all comes down to you guys. It comes from you saying ok? What happens when you kick these kids out?

Trustee Burtnik:

I promise you we will not be kicking any kids out. We have a problem and we have to solve it, and the solution lies somewhere between what we have presented and the conversations that are going to come to light. There is the option of grandfathering students that are in. Every child's story will have a chance to be told. It is not simply mathematical, where we take this chunk and move them. If it was that easy we would have done it and all of the moves that we tried to make in 2010 would have been made. So as far as what are we prepared to say, it depends on the student, the human story of each child and each parent.

Lisa DiPietro, Loretto:

We keep listening and we keep accepting more kids. It's the same thing. We have been doing this since 2010 and now it just got worse. I have to worry about the safety of my kids, with the bathroom situation - waiting to go to the bathroom and no one is going to leave. It has to come from you guys.

I have to worry about my kids' education as we are over capacity and there are classrooms sitting empty at St. Vincent de Paul, at Our Lady of Mount Carmel and we have kids sitting in portables because we are way over capacity. What about our bathroom situation? Kids have to wait. And I get it that no one is going to want to leave. You don't understand that.

Trustee Burtnik:

Are you suggesting everyone from out of boundary go back?

Lisa DiPietro, Loretto:

Maybe everyone out of bounds from now on.

Trustee Burtnik:

Okay the message has been written down and will go back to Committee.

Lisa DiPietro, Loretto:

I appreciate what you are saying. You can tell how emotional everyone is. Every option is best case scenario and I don't think one stand alone option will truly work; one option

reduces by 30%, another by 10%. My point is I think we need stronger criteria for looking at out of bounds students.

Superintendent Farrell:

We will bring that back. One other thing to note about the Loretto boundary area is that we would have the school at capacity with just the area west of Kalar Road. East of Kalar Road simply adds to the enrolment in the school.

Sabrina Fabro, Loretto:

Have we considered the option of parents who would want to volunteer their students to go to another school? Some families may want to go to another school. Two parents here are willing. Maybe we should see if there are more families.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

One point I want to make is if a child gets moved they will be going from a wonderful facility to another wonderful facility. There are a lot of positives to each of the schools. Your children, wherever they end up, will be well served. We do not like having to make these decisions but it is a necessary part of our mandate, to serve all of our students. I thank all of you for your attendance this evening and your passionate input. It is your input that will help us make our final decision.

Dan CuvIELLO, Loretto:

Why can't we just keep everyone here? If there are only 40-80 kids leaving here they will have no friends. Why can't we keep everyone happy and just keep them here. Be patient and allow development to happen. Send new out of boundary students to Carmel and then we don't have to move anyone. It will take a year to two to happen.

Trustee Burtnik:

So you are saying basically status quo? The status quo reflects a bigger problem and further growth here if we do nothing.

Dan CuvIELLO, Loretto:

If we are patient when all those homes fill up then Our Lady of Mount Carmel will be full. It saves kids from being taken from this school.

Amy Malvaso, Loretto:

We should explore a little further just asking parents if they are interested, or will consider leaving Loretto. We know this is going to be a touchy subject. Already tonight we had two parents speak up and entertain this option, maybe there is group of parents interested. We should explore that and see where we go from there. Maybe we only get two parents, but who knows.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

Great thought. Did not think of that. Through school council if you could get this message to the parents.

Paula Wilms, Loretto:

This is to take effect next September right? When will the decision be made?

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

The final recommendation will go to the Board in January.

Dave Woods, Loretto:

Are the slides available on the website?

Superintendent Farrell:

They will be up tomorrow

F. COMMENTS/INPUT/FEEDBACK

G. FUTURE ACTION

Superintendent Farrell outlined upcoming meeting dates and highlighted the three upcoming Public Meetings dedicated to receiving public input. Committee Meetings are open for the public to attend.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 9, 2016 be adjourned.

CARRIED

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



“The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.”

MINUTES
Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary
Family of Schools
Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee
 Loretto Catholic Elementary School, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic
 Elementary School
 and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School

November 10, 2016
7:00 p.m.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Minutes of Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 10, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Loretto Catholic Elementary School.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Trustee Nieuwesteeg.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education.

2. Roll Call and Attendance

Committee Members		Present	Excused	Absent
Kathy Burtnik	Trustee	x		
Frank Fera	Trustee		x	
Ed Nieuwesteeg	Trustee	x		

Resources to Committee		Present	Excused	Absent
Ted Farrell	Superintendent of Education	x		
Scott Whitwell	Controller of Facilities Services	x		
Kathy Levinski	Manager of Facilities Services	x		
Mary Gallardi	Recording Secretary	x		
Antonio Cardamone	Principal - Loretto Catholic		x	

Resources to Committee		Present	Excused	Absent
Amanda Cybula	Principal - Father Hennepin		x	
Elizabeth Davey	Principal - Our Lady of Mount Carmel	x		
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Loretto Catholic			x
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Father Hennepin			x
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Our Lady of Mount Carmel	x		

The following staff were also in attendance:

Mark Lefebvre, Family of Schools Superintendent of Education; Christopher Moscato, Vice-Principal, Loretto Catholic Elementary School; Ken Griepsma, Principal, Saint Michael Catholic High School.

10 members of the public also attended and signed the attendance to the meeting.

B. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Superintendent Farrell presented the Terms of Reference for information. It was noted that the Terms of Reference initially suggested to “consider the impact of moving the French Immersion Program from Notre Dame.” Following public consultation on the issue, the decision was that the program would remain at Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School.

C. MEETING SCHEDULE

Superintendent Farrell presented the Meeting Schedule for information.

D. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Kathy Levinski and Superintendent Farrell provided background information pertaining to the identified schools in the Attendance Area Review from the June 21, 2016 Board Report: Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School, Loretto Catholic Elementary School and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.

The current boundaries map for each school were shared in addition to the potential students living in each elementary school boundary.

A catchment summary for Loretto Catholic, Father Hennepin and Our Lady of Mount Carmel was provided showing potential students who are currently attending a Niagara Catholic school. Also included was information on out of boundary students.

Enrolment Projections were reviewed for each of the three schools.

An Education Development Charge, which is used to purchase land and develop school sites, was reviewed as it relates to south Niagara Falls.

An Education Development Charge is available to the Board to purchase land and develop the site.

Kathy Levinski reviewed the areas that are being planned for development in south Niagara Falls:

- The Garner South Plan has approximately 2700 units approved by the city of Niagara Falls. The area is projected to result in close to 400 students attending a Niagara Catholic Elementary School.
- The Oldfield subdivision was reviewed. The area is currently split between Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School.
- Thundering Waters is in the early planning stages and will ultimately affect enrolment in both the Father Hennepin and Our Lady of Mount Carmel boundary areas.

E. ATTENDANCE AREA OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Option 1 – Status Quo

Vice-Principal Moscato presented the current issues at Loretto Catholic;
Principal Davey presented the current issues at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School;
Superintendent Farrell presented the current issues at Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School;

Kathy Levinski spoke about the child care program at Loretto and Father Hennepin. Kathy encouraged parents to sign up and let your needs be known with respect to before and after child care.

Comments/Input/Feedback:

Josie CuvIELLO, Loretto:

I also attended last night's meeting and I have spoken with neighbours that have experienced going back and forth between Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Loretto. In 2012, why were we not told that you would bus our children to Our Lady of Mount Carmel? Now my child is in grade 5 we will have to uproot our children. Is there something we can do to allow our children to stay at Loretto and the new ones coming into the area have them bussed to the other schools? Why now are we going to have these children moved and upset them?

Superintendent Farrell:

We do have tremendous pressure at Loretto Catholic and the effect of adding students was foreseeable. However, for every 3 students coming into Loretto Catholic there are 2 going out. Principal Cardamone and Vice-Principal Moscato have indicated that it is a very safe school. As far as grandfathering, we are taking all the suggestions and meeting again as a committee on Tuesday to discuss all suggestions and options.

Trustee Burtnik:

Just for clarity, when you mention my area, does your area get transportation right now or is it a walking zone?

Josie CuvIELLO, Loretto:

Yes they are getting transportation. I'm in that E1 or Charnwood area. What I'm saying is that, in 2012, if they said we are almost at capacity and recommended we go to Our Lady of Mount Carmel or else come a few years you will have to change schools I would

not have done that to my son or daughter, that is not in my children's best interest. I do receive a bus but I'm saying that the kids that were already there received a bus to Loretto and mine could have received one to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. I would not have minded that. The issue is the fact that now they are in the higher grades and you want to change boundaries.

Trustee Burtnik:

I understand, I'm looking for clarity on your suggestion so that we can take it into consideration.

Josie Cuviallo, Loretto:

I know it doesn't sound right but it doesn't sound right to me to move children from one school that is booming to other schools that are not as full in order to fill them up so that we can build a new school in another area. What I'm saying is having kids that are going to Loretto Catholic now bussed to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, sounds a little silly. To have two buses going to two different schools is silly. I just feel everything can develop around you and you can see Loretto students that will be going to the new school.

Trustee Burtnik:

Thank you for the clarity.

Superintendent Farrell:

You mentioned area E1. We are getting to the areas now for those of you who did not attend last night.

Option 2 – Area E1 to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Superintendent Farrell presented Option 2.

Comments/Input/Feedback:

Unnamed Speaker, Loretto:

Do you have detailed maps with the streets that are affected that include the street names?

Superintendent Farrell:

The E1 area includes Lundy's Lane, Montrose, Westwood, Charnwood, Kalar Road.

Trustee Burtnik:

Because no decision has been made your child may or may not be affected.

Alexandria Attree, Loretto:

So what they are telling you is not set in stone. The reason we are here is to hear all the options and we make suggestions that they take back to the Committee meeting which we

are allowed to go to. They can then sit down and say this is what was said by the parents and discuss what the options are and figure out what is the best solution. There are six options and then you can make a seventh option. This is probably what happened in 2012 they took feedback and went from there. One beautiful thing about Niagara Catholic is that they work with us, So this is the thing, we don't need to get upset, they are saying there is a school in need that needs relief and there are two other schools that give the relief. Please come to the meetings because they need to hear you.

Charles Baker, Loretto:

My son is diagnosed with autism and he has transition issues. Part of the reason we kept our son at Loretto was because of the Boys and Girls Club and he has been successful on the bus. Transitions can be huge for him. Parents are worried about our kids being able to adapt or adjust to our needs. Kids will surprise us. They adapt better than we do. They have new students in different classes every year and they adapt. The school and the classroom teachers adapt and make things work. We need to focus a lot less on whether we can adapt and more on what the schools can offer and what the board can offer. I live in Imagine and it's a two minute drive. With respect to special needs at the Catholic Board do they have the model at other schools? Will the services be same for these kids? Are these issues at the Catholic Board identical or similar to the public board? You take in non-catholic and out of boundary students we needed permission for both for our child. Are these things that you would stop granting acceptance for by restricting those?

Superintendent Farrell:

As far as students with special needs, we provide a similar model at each of our schools which is based on student need. As students migrate from school to school those needs are examined on a school by school basis annually so that students receive the same level of service. We cannot promise the same Educational Assistant but we do promise the same quality of education.

As far as whether the pressure is identical at the other board, we have ten portables at Loretto and there is one at Kate S. Durdan. Similar enrolment pressure but not to the same extent. At Forestview there are at least five portables. Niagara Falls is the place to be. Families want to move here.

In regard to your out of boundary comment and religion, the request is based on the unique needs that the family presents in meeting with the Principal. Following that meeting, with the support of the Principal the request and that is passed on to Superintendent Lefebvre. On a go-forward basis, we can look at the out of boundary.

Angela Lubocki, Loretto:

I have 2 children in E1 and they walk to and from school every day. They are too close to get a bus and now are you are saying we are too far from Loretto to stay? There are other kids in that area that take a bus.

Superintendent Farrell:

Is the suggestion that we isolate E1 to include only the bussed students?

Angela Lubocki, Loretto:

I'm just saying that we are so close and moving them would affect child care. We live in that area because we love the school, one child is in Grade 8 and another in Grade 5. Not to mention that my parents moved into the neighbourhood. They are so close.

Trustee Burtnik:

We have broken it down on that map to show what the impact would be. The suggestion is that the the walkers stay at Loretto so that they won't be bussed. We have it down and will look into that that suggestion.

Angie Bertone, Loretto:

I'm in the same area as Angela and my kids walk as well. It just seems to me that it looks like it's just in with the new out with the old, so the kids living on the old side get shipped out. Why can't the new kids coming in be bussed out as they won't be affected as opposed to our kids being uprooted? Mine are going into Grade 8 and Grade 5, to have to them move is very upsetting. They are very happy at Loretto.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

Valid consideration. Please keep in mind the options being presented tonight are not a final list of options. We could have had seven or eight options. Nothing is etched in stone. This is not an easy process to go through and any time a child is affected and parents are upset we are concerned. We are not trying to solve a problem at the expense of your child or someone else's child.

We are trying to alleviate the issues at all schools. If I said to you we are leaving it status quo and there are going to be 900 kids a Loretto in the next three years, your children would not be any better served by us allowing that problem to continue to grow. We are going to look at a full range of options, bussing, taking kids, potential walkers, bussers, out of boundary students, exceptions and we are going to look at all of those things. This is an open process. We do this because that is what Niagara Catholic does. We try our very best to do our best for all kids that are affected by this decision. Unfortunately it is a fact of life and we have to deal with it. Your patience and understanding as we go through this process is greatly appreciated.

Charles Baker, Loretto:

With new subdivisions coming in, in terms are the pressure on the builders, is there an obligation that requires that if you want to keep building here then you need to build a new school? Is there a projected date for a new school to be built?

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

Are you referring to the Education Development Charge that homeowners will have to pay in new developments? That is part of what we as a Board implemented in June, 2015 with the idea that as the population increased in these areas there will be a need for a new school. There is no current timeline as we first have to demonstrate to the Ministry of Education that we have balanced the enrolment across the neighbouring schools. The Ministry will not consider a request until we balance it out. No specific timeline. We have to get our ducks in a row.

Trustee Burtnik:

Can I just get clarity with the statement that was made, out with the old, in with the new. What area are you referring to?

Angie Bertone:

The Charnwood area in E1 are older homes.

Trustee Burtnik:

So E1 in your mind is the old?

Angie Bertone:

It's a more established neighbourhood.

Option 3 – Areas E1 + E2 (A&B) to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Superintendent Farrell presented Option 3.

Comments/Input/Feedback:

Alexandria Attree, Loretto:

For this particular option, instead of doing all of E1 and E2, why don't you do it so you include only those students who currently receive a bus. Take all the bussers from E1 and E2 and allow them to bus to Our Lady of Mount Carmel and allow the walkers in E1 and E2 to continue to go to Loretto?

Superintendent Farrell:

Very reasonable suggestion.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

As we move through you will see another option that addresses the point that you just addressed.

Option 4 – Areas E1 + E2B to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Comments/Input/Feedback:

No questions on this scenario

Option 5 – All Out of Boundary Students Attending Loretto Catholic Returned to Home Schools

Comments/Input/Feedback:

Alexandria Attree, Loretto:

The last grandfather option makes sense but you have to consider, my one daughter is in grade 3 and other in grade 1 one would be affected, you would have to add in siblings to the policy. If it is going to keep going up and up and up, it will affect them. My one daughter does not like change, the ones in ELKP will be fine. They will make new friends.

Superintendent Farrell:

We always consider how difficult this is for the children and parents. Any move would include a solid transition plan for students. For students coming into new schools and meeting strangers, the strangers will quickly become friends.

Alexandria Attree, Loretto:

It's not like my children will be affected by this as we live in another area, so my kids may be going to a new school with new friends; but people that live in these 3 areas will probably have friends that will be going to a new school as well. It is an option that, as a parent, I would consider.

Option 6 - Students bussed greater than 1.6 km from Loretto Catholic in areas W1 + E1 + E2 (A&B) to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Comments/Input/Feedback:

No questions on this scenario

Option 7 – Open Option Discussion

Comments/Input/Feedback:

Alexandria Attree, Loretto:

I think it should be if you are within walking distance you should stay and if you are bussed you go to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. If you are out of bounds and already going to Loretto Catholic you get grandfathered in but if you are new then you go to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

At the end of the day when you look at all these options it will probably be a hybrid, I think. It won't just be one option. Everything is on the table.

Charles Baker, Loretto:

What is the capacity at Saint Michael Catholic High School? What is the projected enrolment at the high school?

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

I'll direct that to Mr. Griepsma.

Principal Griepsma:

I'm new to the school, don't have raw numbers in front of me but will bring to the next meeting.

Charles Baker, Loretto:

Okay. I guess why I am asking is because among the 3 schools what is the percentage of students in those 3 schools do Grade 7 and 8 students represent? Is there space there to move them to a middle school. I've only known Loretto and what Loretto offers. I think a lot of the families from Loretto don't know what the other schools offer like the two periods of gym here and music. Why do I think this is the lesser of the schools? If I knew what this school offered I would be more likely to say ok I'll drive the extra five minutes or he can take an extra ten minutes on the bus.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

Thank you for that point. There will be a very strong transition plan for any student that moves. Open Houses are an opportunity to see what each school offers. We had St. Joseph, Niagara Falls close and the students there were sent to three different schools. There was a very strong transition plan. We don't want parents to feel that their child will land on the doorstep of a different school and be lost.

Charles Baker, Loretto:

I know my kid will adapt. I think parents need to understand that this is what we have to do in order to have our kids better served. This point needs to be made. That message needs to be addressed. As a parent I understand that.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

I like the point that kids will adapt; kids seem to adapt better than the parents do. These kids are very resilient. Parents sweat all the details for all the right reasons but I think once the kids get to their new school they will adapt.

Vice-Principal, Moscato:

Loretto does have instrumental music at the school delivered by an itinerant arts teacher. Music is just not taught in a designated room.

Tanya Fusco, Father Hennepin:

When I was a student this happened to myself and I started at one school and got shipped away in grade 2 and I think I turned out fine. For parents it's a lot harder to adapt.

Alexandria Attree, Loretto:

We actually belong to St. Vincent de Paul. Is there a comparison chart to let all parents know what all schools offer? Is there an ability to know how many times a week students get physed? Is there a chapel? etc. This was an eye opener to me when you compared the schools.

Superintendent Farrell:

Be assured that each of our of our 49 elementary schools is excellent.

Trustee Burtnik:

In every one of our Catholic Elementary schools whether it has 600 students or 100 the students are blessed by the staff that lead it. I would be hesitant to start comparing our schools. As far as the special education and programming you wouldn't know the difference between schools in St. Catharines, Thorold, Grimsby, any school in Niagara Falls. It is all Niagara Catholic. We care about kids first and their Catholic Education.

This facility comparison was to demonstrate the real on the ground impact of the 160% overcapacity at Loretto Catholic. The solution to this problem in your minds shouldn't be don't do it to me, do it to someone else. We are not protecting our own self interest. We are thinking of the broader Catholic Community. Trustee Fera, Trustee Nieuwesteeg and myself, all of us up here, we are charged with finding a solution that will help us balance the enrolment in south Niagara Falls so that when the time comes we will be ready to build a new school where it needs to be and we will fill those spaces and address the enrolment pressures that way. So the goal of this isn't to build a new school. The goal of this is to make sure Loretto can continue to offer what they need to offer. That this school can be closer to the 100% or a little over. A lot of our schools are a little over and that's good news. That's the best thing that can happen to us is to have overcapacity at all of our schools and have portables because everybody wants Catholic Education.

Charles Baker, Loretto:

Would there be room at the high school for the grade 7 and 8 students and would that be the best thing for the children?

Principal Griepsma:

There are two issues with that. First, would there be room at Saint Michael based on current projections and, second, even if space was available is that the best thing to do for the children from a pedagogical or community perspective. We wouldn't even get to step two there because in step one, although there was a major addition done a couple years ago the school itself is essentially full. Projections for the growth in that area are very high for the next five to seven years. This growth will impact the high school and it is highly unlikely that we would be able to absorb these students.

Charles Baker, Loretto:

Maybe take one of the other two schools and make a middle school with the Grade 7 and 8 students. Would a middle school make a difference?

Superintendent Farrell:

That suggestion came up last night as well. One of the thing articulated in the Long Term Accommodation Plan is that the preferred model for schools in Niagara Catholic has ELKP-Grade 8 for elementary and Grade 9-12 for secondary With respect to Saint Michael, the on-the-ground capacity is for 950 students. Projections indicate that two years down the road we will be full. We currently have a lot of people moving into the area which we expect to continue. At the outset of this process, staff did consider moving Grade 7 and 8 students into Saint Michael, but it just won't work.

Charles Baker, Loretto:

There were specialized programs when I went to school. Are there any such programs in this board that might help shift students into other schools?

Superintendent Farrell:

We don't have schools that offer regional programming to attract students in the Arts, for example. We don't subscribe to that model.

Unnamed Speaker - Loretto:

Have Cardinal Newman or St. Vincent de Paul reached capacity? It's easier for me to get my kids there than to my home school.

Superintendent Farrell:

Cardinal Newman is at capacity, St. Vincent de Paul is not. As far as out of bounds, there is a process families go through, each case is considered on an individual basis.

Charles Baker, Loretto:

Financially what is the bottom line between the six options? How different are all 6 options cost wise?

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

The biggest cost would be transportation.

Superintendent Farrell:

There are some additional costs that could be saved with a reduction in portables. They are costly to maintain due to the time for cleaners to go outside and between the rooms. As well you have a steady stream of students in the warmer weather, from the portables, going to the water fountain and students going inside to use the washrooms. This requires almost a cleaner at Loretto essentially be stationed between the water fountain and the bathroom on the first floor. As well, when we fill the schools up the per pupil cost of running the school is reduced.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Any other suggestions you want to make can be sent by email to nfaar@ncdsb.com. Thank you on behalf of committee and choosing Niagara Catholic for your children. Parents like you help make our schools better.

F. COMMENTS/INPUT/FEEDBACK

G. FUTURE ACTION

November 15 - Committee Meeting
 November 28 - Public Meeting at Saint Michael
 December 6 - Committee meeting

December 14 - Public Meeting followed by Committee meeting
January 17 - CW Meeting
January 31 - Board Meeting

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 10, 2016 be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.



“The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.”

MINUTES
Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary
Family of Schools
Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee
 Loretto Catholic Elementary School, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic
 Elementary School
 and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School

November 28, 2016
7:00 p.m.

SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Minutes of Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 28, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Saint Michael Catholic High School.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Trustee Nieuwesteeg.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education.

2. Roll Call and Attendance

Committee Members		Present	Excused	Absent
Kathy Burtnik	Trustee		X	
Frank Fera	Trustee	X		
Ed Nieuwesteeg	Trustee	X		

Resources to Committee		Present	Excused	Absent
Ted Farrell	Superintendent of Education	X		
Scott Whitwell	Controller of Facilities Services	X		
Kathy Levinski	Administrator of Facilities Services	X		
Mary Gallardi	Recording Secretary	X		
Antonio Cardamone	Principal - Loretto Catholic	X		

Resources to Committee		Present	Excused	Absent
Amanda Cybula	Principal - Father Hennepin	x		
Elizabeth Davey	Principal - Our Lady of Mount Carmel	x		
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Loretto Catholic			x
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Father Hennepin			x
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Our Lady of Mount Carmel			x

The following staff were also in attendance:

Mark Lefebvre, Family of Schools Superintendent of Education; Christopher Moscato, Vice-Principal, Loretto Catholic Elementary School; Ken Griepsma, Principal, Saint Michael Catholic High School.

Fifteen members of the public also attended and signed in to the meeting.

B. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Superintendent Farrell reviewed the Terms of Reference for information. It was noted that the Terms of Reference initially suggested to “consider the impact of moving the French Immersion Program from Notre Dame.” Following public consultation on the issue, the decision was that the program would remain at Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School.

C. MEETING SCHEDULE

Superintendent Farrell presented the Meeting Schedule for information.

D. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Kathy Levinski and Superintendent Farrell provided background information pertaining to the identified schools in the Attendance Area Review from the June 21, 2016 Board Report: Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School, Loretto Catholic Elementary School and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.

The current boundaries map for each school were reviewed in addition to the potential students living in each elementary school boundary.

A catchment summary for Loretto Catholic, Father Hennepin and Our Lady of Mount Carmel was provided showing students who are currently attending a Niagara Catholic school.

Enrolment projections were reviewed for each of the three schools.

An Education Development Charge, which is used to purchase land and develop school sites, was reviewed as it relates to south Niagara Falls. The areas of development in south Niagara Falls were reviewed: Garner South Oldfield Estates, and Thundering Waters.

E. ATTENDANCE AREA OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Superintendent Farrell and Kathy Levinski reviewed the Attendance Area Options presented at the Public Meeting on November 9th, 2016 at Loretto Catholic Elementary

School and the Public Meeting on November 10th, 2016 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School.

Option 1

Status Quo

Option 2

Area E1 to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School

Option 3

Areas E1 + E2 (A&B) to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School

Option 4

Areas E1 + E2B to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School

Option 5

All Out of Boundary Students Attending Loretto Catholic Returned to Home Schools

Option 6

Students bussed greater than 1.6 km from Loretto Catholic in areas W1 + E1 + E2 (A&B) to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School

Option 7

Open Option Discussion

Superintendent Farrell explained that feedback for each of Options 1-6, and the suggestions received as part of the Open Option Discussion at each of the Public Meetings.

Feedback from the two Public Meetings included:

1. Consideration of options to deal with current and potential out of boundary students to Loretto Catholic.
2. Consideration of including areas other than E1, in Loretto Catholic.
3. Having parents volunteer to have their children attend Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School who reside within the Loretto Catholic Elementary School boundary and be provided transportation.
4. Building an addition at Loretto Catholic Elementary School to accommodate students.
5. The Committee should not restrict consideration to the options in isolation but should look at combining options to achieve the desired effect on enrolment at the schools.

The feedback was used by Board Staff to prepare additional attendance area options to be considered. Options 8-12 were presented at the Committee Meeting on November 15th, 2016 for consideration.

Option 8

Return Out of Boundary Students from Garner South to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

The Committee determined that the option of returning students to their home school lacked sensitivity for the underlying basis of the application for out of boundary status due to child care needs and other family situations. The Committee also decided that it was not fair to isolate students from one neighbourhood.

Option 9

Students bussed greater than 1.6 km from from E1 & E2B to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

The Committee noted that this option minimized the effect on students in the walking boundary of Loretto Catholic. It was recommended that this option be presented to the public in combination with immediate restriction of out of boundary students. Grandfathering of current Grade 7 students, affected by the boundary change, at Loretto Catholic should be considered.

Option 10

Students bussed greater than 1.6 km from E1 & E2B + return out of boundary students to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

The Committee noted that this option minimized the effect on students in the walking boundary of Loretto Catholic, similar to Option 9. However, it was decided that this option not be considered given that it restricted its focus to students from one neighbourhood and did not give due consideration to the unique circumstances that precipitated the request for out of boundary status to Loretto Catholic.

Option 11

Students bussed greater than 1.6 km from E1 & E2B + return all out of boundary students to home schools

The Committee noted that this option minimized the effect on students in the walking boundary of Loretto Catholic, similar to Option 9. However, it was decided that this option not be considered given that it did not give due consideration to the unique circumstances that precipitated the request for out of boundary status to Loretto Catholic.

Option 12

Build 7 classroom addition to Loretto Catholic

The Committee noted that while this option puts more students in the building it does not address the overcrowding issue. There will continue to be pressure as students try to access the gym, library and washrooms. Parking will continue to be an issue. There would be a reduction to the available square footage of asphalt and grass play space for children.

An application to fund the construction of an addition would require that the Board still address underutilization at both Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary Schools. If approved, it is likely that an addition would not be completed for at least 3 years. Enrolment pressure would continue in the interim.

The construction of an addition to Loretto Catholic would delay the need for construction of new school in the Garner South area, which is projected to have sufficient enrolment for its own school, approximately 400 students.

The Committee decided that although this option would reduce the on the ground capacity issues at Loretto Catholic it was not in the best interest of the school over the long term and was not to be considered.

The Options provided the basis for Options 13-16 to be presented at the next Public Meeting for feedback at Saint Michael Catholic High School on Monday, November 28th, 2016.

F. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Superintendent Farrell presented the following recommendations by the Committee:

Option 13 – Area of change from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic to Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School

No questions or comments on this option. Superintendent Farrell indicated that given families have not moved into the Oldfield Estates area and the transportation efficiencies that could be realized with bus runs that this option should be considered realized with the following options.

Option 14 – Status Quo at Loretto Catholic and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary Schools with no consideration of new out of boundary requests at Loretto Catholic

This option does not result in any boundary changes, grandfathers out of boundary students currently attending Loretto Catholic but does not permit future students from outside the Loretto boundary to attend the school.

Charla Mannell - Loretto:

Regarding the out of boundary students that are grandfathered, would younger siblings who are beginning school be permitted to come to Loretto Catholic?

Superintendent Farrell:

The way this is written there would be no new students admitted from outside the Loretto Catholic boundary. Students who are currently attending the school would be allowed to remain. The younger sibling would be required to attend the home school.

Charla Mannell:

Do you take case by case scenarios because I know there are other students that are out of bounds to Loretto that live in other areas and don't go to their home schools? I'm on the border of Welland and Niagara Falls. I pay taxes to Niagara Falls but my school board is suppose to be Welland, so it doesn't make sense to me, I'm kind of a different case, so that is why I am wondering why do you say home school?

Superintendent Farrell:

We have students attending Loretto Catholic who based on their address should be attending other schools. It is the home address that determines the home school. So if the home address where the family lived was in, the St. Mary area, for example, then the younger sibling would go to St. Mary and the older sibling would be permitted to remain at Loretto Catholic.

There is no dispute that there is overcrowding at Loretto Catholic. With the out of boundary condition families would need to make a decision as to what was more

important; to keep their child at Loretto Catholic or to have the siblings together at the home school.

Option 15 – Area of change from Loretto Catholic to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School (part of E1 and part of E2) and

- **No new out of boundary requests will be considered**
- **Current Grade 7 students will be grandfathered**

This option removes some of the enrolment pressure from Loretto Catholic from within the boundary and removes future enrolment pressure due to out of boundary students.

Charles Baker - Loretto:

Two questions for consideration: Aside from ELKP, is there an obligation for the Board to provide bus service? So if you didn't offer bus service at all to anyone over ELKP, how could that affect enrolment at Loretto? So basically if you walked or could walk, when moving into the Garner South area it is an understanding that you drive your children because they don't qualify for bussing, we provide our own transportation. So that's question one.

My second question deals with child care, or no child care, at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School. The reason, if I am not mistaken, is because there wasn't enough interest by the parents in that school for those services. At what point would you determine whether or not there is enough of a demand to make that available. How much of an effect would that have?

Kathy Levinski:

Thank you for that question. We have been working since the committee was struck on making childcare available at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. In the past, there has not been sufficient interest when we put out the surveys. There is childcare available for Our Lady of Mount Carmel students but it is provided at Father Hennepin and students are transported back and forth. We are working hard to get childcare right in Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Typically, for before and after school care, providers need fifteen children before and fifteen children after school. The number of children needs to be consistent for financial viability. The providers are not for profit organizations.

Charles Baker:

I know that the Board sends out a survey which parents may, or may not, look at. If childcare service was actually offered families would take advantage of it. If you were to send out the survey demanding a yes or no response, it might help you to get them to give you an answer. So in other words, get them to give you an answer and what percentage is responding?

Kathy Levinski:

That is a good question. Right now we ask parents to sign up on the Region's Onelist, which is a childcare survey. In the past, we have had to provide the results of our surveys to the Ministry of Education. We don't have to do that this year in the same way, but we are going to survey those schools that do not have childcare yet to gauge interest. Regardless, we are working with the Regional Director of Children's Services to get childcare services at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, at least before and after school.

Charles Baker:

My last question is with respect to childcare. Part of the reason we took my son to Loretto was because of the YMCA Daycare which is in the building. Even the childcare providers are quite full. There aren't enough room for the providers which means that they get spread out to different classrooms. If you limit the access to childcare at Loretto Catholic, that will create an overflow that might help force parents to find alternative care for their children at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The issue with Loretto has to do with the enrolment pressures. It is a very full before and after school program. Are we able to limit the number of classrooms we make available to the childcare providers?

Kathy Levinski:

That is not something we have done in the past.

Superintendent Farrell:

The Board is obligated by our policy to provide transportation to students Grade 1-8 who live more than 1.6 km from the school and are within the school boundary.

Charles Baker:

Okay so you can't say we are not offering bus services to Loretto and if you are going to be bussed we are going to bus you to Our Lady of Mount Carmel?

Superintendent Farrell:

All school boards deal with temporary capacity issues with portables before looking at adjusting attendance areas. These options that we have presented reduce the number of portables at Loretto Catholic but if students live within 1.6 km of the school they would walk. Students who live within the 1.6 km boundary of the school would be entitled to receive transportation to Loretto. If we adjust boundaries, and move students from Loretto Catholic to Our Lady of Mount Carmel they would receive transportation to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. School boundaries and Board policy determine bus transportation. Part of our mandate is to reduce enrolment pressure at Loretto Catholic which would increase the number of students bussed to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Charles Baker:

Can you create a dual boundary, like a boundary A and boundary B. So boundary A, this is the walking boundary and boundary B these are your boundaries and if you don't bus to Loretto you bus to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Basically what I am saying is that we don't bus to Loretto, take out bussing all together, except for the ELKP. Any busses in the current boundary should have students transported to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Superintendent Farrell:

Every school within the board does have a walking boundary and a bus boundary. Any movement of the boundary from Loretto Catholic would result in more students who would be bussed to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

More than 70% of the students who reside within the Loretto Catholic boundary are walkers. Many of the areas that we investigated in looking at potential boundary

changes, such as W3/W4 and E3/E4, are within 1.6 km of the school. In these areas students can walk to the school. The Committee has tried to minimize the effect of boundary changes to students within the walking boundary of Loretto Catholic.

Kevin Olesen - Loretto:

Of the 95 of the students of the 610 population are out of boundary, do you have numbers on what percentage of them use the before and after school daycare? I assume that is the number one draw for Loretto students.

Kathy Levinski:

No we do not have that information. The childcare provider is unable to tell us who is out of bounds and who is within the boundaries.

Kevin Olesen:

I appreciate the answer, I guess what I was trying to do is flush out some kind of response as to why they are attending Loretto from out of boundary, excluding childcare reasons

Superintendent Farrell:

We have a process for admission as an out of boundary student that we follow at each of the schools in Niagara Catholic. Every family has a story and every parent acts in what they feel is the best interest of their child, especially at a time when they are moving into the area. Some families have moved in and their children have attended Loretto from out of bounds and their children have had a very good experience at Loretto, despite the overcrowding. There has been good word of mouth in the neighbourhood due to the care and attention that students receive at the school. Other out of boundary parents have moved into the area and have applied to Loretto Catholic because they want their child to have that same experience. Every out of boundary application is thoughtfully considered. There is an out of boundary form that needs to be completed, they meet with the Principal and with the Principal's support it is then provided to Superintendent Lefebvre to have that student approved. There are times when families and children are not admitted. Every family situation is considered individually due to unique circumstances

As far as the 95 students attending Loretto Catholic from out of bounds, it is not fair for us to say the enrolment pressure at the school is due solely to the 95 students. If you recall on the boundary map shown earlier, the school would be near capacity solely with students west of Kalar. There is enrolment pressure at the school from within the boundary.

Charles Baker:

What are the capacity of the schools just outside of these three schools boundaries? Are they at capacity or below? Like if you were to add, like go further than just these three schools, like what are the capacities just further up.

Superintendent Farrell:

The nearest school, Cardinal Newman is full. St Mary is nearly full. As we go further north to St. Vincent dePaul there is some space.

A note on bussing, looking at this proposal, we have no students on the bus for longer than 20 minutes.

Josie CuvIELlo - Loretto:

My children and I are part of area E1. It is nice that you have considered current grade 7 students at Loretto. There was a letter sent home in October about the attendance areas that said you could transfer children to Father Hennepin and Our Lady of Mount Carmel and later on in the future you would have a new school built. I'm just wondering when you are going to consider my children's feelings caused by being brought back and forth between Loretto & Carmel due to the section of growth?

Superintendent Farrell:

Our intention is to minimize the movement of students with boundary changes. Once students are moved to Our Lady of Mount Carmel that would become their home school through to graduation. Our intent is not to return students to Loretto if a new school is built, which would be a few years down the road.

Josie CuvIELlo:

I am just wondering later on, as the population around McLeod and Kalar increases and a new school is built in the future, what children will be filling that school? Will they be students from Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Father Hennepin?

Superintendent Farrell:

Earlier a map was shown that used dots to depict where students lived in south Niagara Falls in the different catchment areas. The map that showed the Garner South area had several dots depicting the anticipated 400 students who will be attending a Niagara Catholic school. Discussions of boundaries are premature but it is reasonable to anticipate that the majority of these students would come from the Garner South development, which is currently in the Our Lady of Mount Carmel boundary.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

Some of the parents express that we are doing this because we want to build a new school in Niagara South. We can't just do that. We need to realign the enrolment in all our schools to fill up the vacant seats. Some parents have said that Loretto is a great school and we don't want you to move any of our kids. The reality is, do you want the enrolment up to 800 students at a school only built for 400? There are issues with the washroom facilities and other issues. We need to realign enrolment before we can even make an application to the Ministry for a new school. For us to even suggest that we are going to change boundaries if and when the new school is built, that is so far down the road right now. That can't be part of our committee's mandate right now or the way we think. What we are here for now is to reduce the enrolment pressure at Loretto Catholic. I think all of you parents understand that.

Josie CuvIELlo:

I'm not disagreeing with that. I just disagree that my children have to go to another school after they have been at Loretto for the last seven years.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

I completely understand what you are saying. One of the things I have said many times is that this is not an easy thing for us to do. I thank all of you parents as this is a difficult process to go through. You are emotionally involved and we get that. We don't like to uproot children and move them to different schools, that is not what we do as a school board; however, we do realize that we have some difficult decisions to make, we make them because they are the right thing to do.

Every student in our school board has a story. One thing that we pride ourselves on is that we do look at each child. A lot of these kids that have been given out of boundary status are because their grandmother lives close to the school and they provide day care. Those are the types of things we are not going to overlook. In the broader picture, we need to look the 600 plus kids at Loretto who are in a school that was built for less than 400. We are not servicing these kids and the parents of our children with such an overcrowded situation. We know that but we want to do it in a very humane, very sensitive way and that is all we are trying to accomplish right now.

Superintendent Farrell:

Any movement of students would be based on a strong transition plan involving principals and teachers.

Charles Baker

This is more of a comment, I think. My son is in grade 2 and has difficulty with transitions. My wife and I have been extremely surprised at how well he transitioned in going from the school to Y daycare and being bussed to the Boys and Girls Club. He's adjusted to being with different people and different teachers. As a parent of a child with autism, I'm more worried than my kid is. Our kids will probably transition a lot better than we think they will. There are supports in all of the schools, more gym time, more room, and more availability to washrooms. I need to look at that; he has done very well. We need to give our kids more credit.

Trustee Fera:

There is a growing concern with the number of portables at Loretto and I'm sure that the parents that are here tonight if you have a child in a portable at Loretto you must be concerned about it. These children have to line up to go to bathroom, half their recess is probably gone by the time they get there. Building a new school in the south end will alleviate the growing population and will get rid of those portable classrooms. All students should be and will be housed in the main building. The only possible way to receive funds for a new school from the Ministry of Education is to fill up the empty classrooms at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. It's as simple as that. I know a lot of parents are upset, but we are in a tough situation here and have to make these decisions.

I'll just give you an example. When I was Principal, years ago at Cardinal Newman School, we had 10 portables at that time. The Ministry does not give you funds for the projected number of students. They give you funds for the actual number that you have. A year or two down the road, when a school goes from 400 to 600 students we are left no option but to bring in portables. So when I was Principal at Cardinal Newman, in order to alleviate the enrolment pressure and reduce our portables, the Board took 150 students from the school and had them attend Notre Dame. That was the solution to that

problem. This would not be the first time that we have had to move students from one school to another. I hope you can understand that.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

For those of you not familiar with Father Hennepin and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, they are two wonderful school facilities. Our Lady of Mount Carmel has two gymnasiums. There are a lot of pluses to that school community as well as the Father Hennepin school community. It is not a situation where children are being moved from Loretto to a substandard facility; that is not at all the case. When your children ultimately have to be moved we want you to know they will be well cared for and that there will be a very, very strong transition plan in place. As I mentioned at an earlier meeting, when we closed St. Joseph School in Niagara Falls, the kids from there went to either St. Mary, Father Hennepin or St. Patrick. Three different school communities. There was a welcome ceremony for students that was part of a very, very strong transition plan. I think it went very smooth and this is coming from a school that at one time we actually had added a gymnasium onto. Ten years later because of the shifting enrolment we had to close the school. That's demographics. That's what we are dealing with. I want you to understand that for any students that may be affected by boundary changes that there will be a very strong transition plan put in place so that your children will feel welcome and secure in their new school environment. I want you to know they are going to facilities in our board that we are very proud of.

Option 16 – Area of change from Loretto Catholic to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School (part of W1/part of E1 & part of E2) and

- **No new out of boundary requests will be considered**
- **Current Grade 7 students will be grandfathered**

This option provides greater relief due to enrolment pressure at Loretto Catholic from within the existing boundary and removes future enrolment pressure due to out of boundary students.

No questions or comments on this option.

G. OTHER

Berta Nasic - Loretto:

Just a little background, we are from the Garner South area, and when we built our home the builder showed us Loretto and the public school and where a new school would be built. They never even showed us Our Lady of Mount Carmel or told us that was the school the children should attend. So Loretto was the school we thought our children would be going to from day one. Have you spoken to the builder so that when buyers come to the area they will know about Carmel? I think that is a big issue.

Kathy Levinski:

Thank you, I have spoken with the developer and I will certainly speak to the developer again.

Berta Nasic:

Just one more thing. It doesn't affect me but the whole no grandfathering of siblings, any parent would agree that it's not beneficial for them to have the siblings continue at Loretto.

Superintendent Farrell:

The options we have presented attempt to address enrolment pressure at Loretto Catholic. We have heard concerns from out of bounds families about not permitting their children to continue at the school. What we have presented requires that parents/families make the decision as to what is more important to their family, to have their child continue at Loretto or to have all the siblings together at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

The whole issue of grandfathering hasn't been finalized. We haven't finalized anything yet. Nothing has been decided. We have another Public Meeting coming up on December 14th. We are sensitive to the needs of parents who may have two children at two different schools, such as parent teacher interviews. When the final recommendation comes down please rest assured all those things will have been taken into consideration.

Sandra Elia - Loretto:

Now there are 16 options? Or are just the new options up for grabs?

Superintendent Farrell:

Staff started with six that were brought to the Committee and discussed. The initial six options were then presented at the two Public Meetings. Staff incorporated the feedback from these meetings and then designed four additional options (Options 8-12) for the Committee. The Committee revised these options and recommended that Options 13-16 be presented for Public Input at tonight's meeting. We are down to these four options.

Sandra Elia:

I have one child left going into Grade 8 next year, so this it seems like we are okay, like this won't affect me.

Superintendent Farrell:

No final decision has been made yet but two of Options 15 and 16, that changes the Loretto Catholic boundaries, permit current Grade 7 students remain.

Angela Cacerb:

I don't understand. If we recognize that there is an enrolment problem and the status quo doesn't address the issue, why suggest it as an option?

Superintendent Farrell:

Status quo is an option in terms of the physical boundaries but Option 14 would through board motion would not permit students attend Loretto Catholic from out of bounds.

Angela Cacerb:

I don't think it shouldn't be considered an option anymore.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

It was presented as an option tonight because of input we received from the public at previous meetings. It is something we have to present.

Josie CuvIELLO - Loretto:

Just wondering, when Saint Michael Catholic High School moved here, I had one sister in Grade 9 going into Gr 10 and they allowed her to continue to go here and then changed the boundaries. Just wondering if that is it still an option that if children are here now stay?

Superintendent Farrell:

The options presented tonight include Students in Grade 7 staying so they could graduate at Loretto Catholic. In options 15 and 16 current Grade 7 students would be grandfathered. Students below Grade 7 would be required to attend Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Josie CuvIELLO:

So is Option 14 still on the table for consideration?

Superintendent Farrell:

We are taking all of the input from tonight and discussing it at the next Committee Meeting on December 6th. The Committee will then make recommendations for the next Public Meeting on December 14th for input.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

Committee Meetings are open to the public. If you have other input or anything further to tonight's meeting you can email us at NFAAR@ncdsb.com. The plan is to bring our recommendation to the Board in January to make a decision to take effect September, 2017.

Jim Karagiannis - Loretto:

At best, with all your options we are still overpopulated at Loretto.

Superintendent Farrell:

Yes. We will still have enrolment pressure at Loretto Catholic with all the options. The school would be full today if we use the current boundary and included everything west of Kalar Road. If we used Kalar Road as a boundary line and had students move to Our

Lady of Mount Carmel we would simply be moving students from portables at Loretto to portables at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. From a long term perspective, we anticipate 400 students will be attending Niagara Catholic schools from Garner South. That area is projected to be able to sustain its own school.

Jim Karagiannis:

So the portables will still be there.

Superintendent Farrell:

Portables will still be there in the interim until we are able to longer term deal with the enrolment issues.

Jim Karagiannis - Loretto:

You talk about the other schools, just past Cardinal Newman we have St. Vincent de Paul. How is the population there?

Superintendent Farrell:

It has space.

Jim Karagiannis:

It has space so move them there.

Superintendent Farrell:

The Terms of Reference, approved by the Board this past June, requires that the Committee focus on equalizing enrolment using the three schools identified.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

We try to minimize disruption to school communities, as much as possible; so we don't want to disrupt seven or eight school communities due to an issue at one. In a perfect world, all 24000 students in Niagara Catholic we would say, 300 in this school and, 300 in that school. Understand that what we try to do as a committee is to minimize disruption. I agree with your point 100%. We are not going to eliminate the overcrowding at Loretto but if we can even the flow of students across the south Niagara schools, then and only then, will the Ministry consider funding for a new school in the South End. Until we demonstrate to the Ministry that we are trying to maximize capacity at our schools in the southern Niagara Falls the Ministry won't even consider it.

By the way, this is not the primary function of this committee. Our primary function is to try to alleviate the pressure at Loretto Catholic and we are doing that to our utmost best. Please understand that we are trying. With the help of parents like yourselves we are coming up with more options.

Charles Baker:

What is restricting you from looking at the other schools? No matter what option you look at by 2020 you are over capacity at all schools.

Superintendent Farrell:

What is restricting us here are the Terms of Reference set by the Board. The Committee was asked to consider these three schools and try to do the best you can to equalize enrolment.

Charles Baker:

Can you go back to Board and ask them to change the mandate to increase the area?

Superintendent Farrell:

In restricting our focus to these three schools, we keep students together when they come here to Saint Michael. Each of the schools in the Review are associated with this high school. If we include schools in north Niagara Falls some students might need to attend a different high school. With these three schools we don't end up with additional transition issues where you have students growing up with one set of friends for ten years then going off to a different high school. Niagara Catholic is not unique in facing challenges due to declining enrolment.

Charles Baker:

I don't know if you can ask this question, but how many of the families currently within this community are actively practicing the Catholic faith. I'm not Catholic and so in terms of where my kid goes it doesn't so much matter. I don't think it matters where my child will go for high school. I am from Toronto and we could choose which of the five high schools we wanted to go to. Don't know if that would alleviate or even make it an option.

Superintendent Farrell:

We believe in Catholic Education and we hope that families that are sending our children to us feel the same and are going to be committed and continue with Niagara Catholic. Loretto has been very successful with that to the point of over capacity. We are trying to do the best we can with the mandate that was provided to us.

Jim Karagiannis:

Behind Garner Road, the old sugar plant, across Lundy's Lane, where are students going to go?

Superintendent Farrell:

Cardinal Newman is their home school.

Jim Karagiannis:

Do you guys take care of high schools? Are we addressing St. Michael?

Superintendent Farrell:

Our long term plan is on our board website for you to look at. We are projecting that St. Michael's will be full in the future, but we not to the point of over capacity.

Jim Karagiannis:

All those kids will be going to one high school.

Ken Griepsma:

Cardinal Newman is associated with Saint Paul. Students attending Cardinal Newman will be going to Saint Paul.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

It's a problem. We knew when we built Saint Michael and needed portables almost immediately, as Trustee Fera stated, it's the way the Ministry funds school boards. We monitor the enrolment and do the best we can with the Ministry Funding. The kids from the south schools will be well accommodated at Saint Michael.

H. FUTURE ACTION

Superintendent Farrell outlined upcoming meeting dates and highlighted the upcoming Public Meeting on December 14th dedicated to receiving public input. Committee Meetings are also open for the public to attend on December 6th and following the Public Meeting on December 14th, 2016.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of November 28, 2016 be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.



“The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.”

MINUTES

Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools

Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee

Loretto Catholic Elementary School, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic
Elementary School
and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School

December 14, 2016

7:00 p.m.

SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Minutes of Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of December 14, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Saint Michael Catholic High School.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Trustee Nieuwesteeg.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education.

2. Roll Call and Attendance

Committee Members		Present	Excused	Absent
Kathy Burtnik	Trustee	x		
Frank Fera	Trustee	x		
Ed Nieuwesteeg	Trustee	x		

Resources to Committee		Present	Excused	Absent
Ted Farrell	Superintendent of Education	x		
Scott Whitwell	Controller of Facilities Services	x		
Kathy Levinski	Administrator of Facilities Services	x		
Mary Gallardi	Recording Secretary	x		
Antonio Cardamone	Principal - Loretto Catholic	x		

Resources to Committee		Present	Excused	Absent
Amanda Cybula	Principal - Father Hennepin	x		
Elizabeth Davey	Principal - Our Lady of Mount Carmel	x		
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Loretto Catholic	x		
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Father Hennepin			x
CSC Chair/Co-Chair	Our Lady of Mount Carmel			x

The following staff were also in attendance:

Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education; Christopher Moscato, Vice-Principal, Loretto Catholic Elementary School; Ken Griepsma, Principal, Saint Michael Catholic High School; Domenic Massi, Principal, (currently St. Gabriel Lalemant Catholic Elementary School) Principal, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School effective January 9, 2017.

24 members of the public also attended and signed in to the meeting.

B. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Superintendent Farrell reviewed the Terms of Reference for information. It was noted that the Terms of Reference initially suggested to “consider the impact of moving the French Immersion Program from Notre Dame.” Following public consultation on the issue, the decision was that the program would remain at Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School.

Superintendent Farrell indicated that all information is on the Board website and that all meetings were open to the public.

Superintendent Farrell presented a map of the current boundaries for each of the three schools.

C. MEETING SCHEDULE

Superintendent Farrell presented the Meeting Schedule for information. Superintendent Farrell indicated that all information obtained from the Public Meetings were brought back to the Committee for consideration.

D. REVIEW OF POTENTIAL ATTENDANCE AREA OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Superintendent Farrell presented a detailed map of the Loretto Boundary and reviewed the following options that were presented at previous meetings.

Option 1

Status Quo

Option 2

Area E1 to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School

Option 3

Areas E1 + E2 (A&B) to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School

Option 4

Areas E1 + E2B to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School

Option 5

All Out of Boundary Students Attending Loretto Catholic Returned to Home Schools

Option 6

Students bussed greater than 1.6 km from Loretto Catholic in areas W1 + E1 + E2 (A&B) to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School

Option 7

Open Option Discussion

Option 8

Return Out of Boundary Students from Garner South to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Option 9

Students bussed greater than 1.6 km from from E1 & E2B to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Option 10

Students bussed greater than 1.6 km from E1 & E2B + return out of boundary students to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Option 11

Students bussed greater than 1.6 km from E1 & E2B + return all out of boundary students to home schools

Option 12

Build 7 classroom addition to Loretto Catholic

Option 13

Area of change from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic to Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School

Option 14

Status Quo at Loretto Catholic and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary Schools with no consideration of new out of boundary requests at Loretto Catholic

Option 15

Area of change from Loretto Catholic to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School (part of E1 and part of E2) and

- No new out of boundary requests will be considered
- Current Grade 7 students will be grandfathered

Option 16

Area of change from Loretto Catholic to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School (part of W1/part of E1 & part of E2) and

- No new out of boundary requests will be considered
- Current Grade 7 students will be grandfathered

E. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Superintendent Farrell presented the following recommendations from the Committee that were discussed at the December 6, 2016 Committee Meeting.

Option 17 (combination of Option 13 and 15)

- Area of change from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School (Oldfield Estates) to Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School
*North Side – East from Dorchester Road at Oldfield Road along powerline to projection of Wilson Crescent,
 East Side – South on projection of Wilson Crescent to Oldfield Road (including),
 South Side – West along Oldfield Road (including) to Dorchester Road,
 West Side – to point of start at Dorchester and Oldfield Road*
- Area of change from Loretto Catholic to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School (part of E1 and part of E2) and
*North Side – East from Kalar Road on Lundy’s Lane (centreline) to Montrose Road,
 East Side – South on Montrose Road (centreline) to Charnwood Avenue, south entrance (including),
 South Side – West along Charnwood Avenue (including), turning north on Charnwood Avenue to Alfred Street, west on Alfred Street (including) to Sherri Avenue (including), north on Sherri Avenue to Ethel Street (including), west on Ethel Street to Pitton Road (including), north on Pitton Road to Catalina Street (including), west on Catalina Street to Kalar Road,
 West Side – North on Kalar Road (including) to start at Lundy’s Lane*
- **No new out of boundary requests will be considered**
- **Current Grade 7 students at Loretto Catholic will be grandfathered**

Superintendent Farrell opened the floor for questions or comments.

No questions or comments from the public.

Option 18 (expands Option 17 to include the north west area of Loretto Catholic)

- **Area of change from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School (Oldfield Estates) to Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School as described in Option 17**
- **Area of change from Loretto Catholic to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School (part of W1/part of E1 & part of E2)**
*North Side – East from Garner Road (centerline) at Lundy’s Lane (centerline) to Montrose Road (centerline),
 East Side – South on Montrose Road (centreline) to Charnwood Avenue, south entrance, (including),
 South Side – West along Charnwood Avenue (including), turning north on Charnwood Avenue to Alfred Street, west on Alfred Street (including) to Sherri Avenue (including), north on Sherri Avenue to Ethel Street (including), west on Ethel Street to Pitton Road (including), north on Pitton Road to Catalina Street (including), west on Catalina Street to Kalar Road (including), south on Kalar Road to Angie Drive (including), and including Mildred Court, south to St. Michael Avenue (including) to Forestview Blvd. (centerline) west to Garner Road (centerline),
 West Side – North on Garner Road (centreline) to start at Lundy’s Lane*
- **No new out of boundary requests to Loretto Catholic will be considered**
- **Current Grade 7 students will be grandfathered**

Superintendent Farrell opened the floor for questions or comments.

Louie Cavezza, Loretto Catholic:

I'm currently out of bounds, I live on the other side of Lundy's Lane. Are Options 17 and 18 the only two proposals now being considered?

Superintendent Farrell:

We started with six options for the Committee and brought them to the public. Staff made changes and they were reviewed by the Committee and then new options were brought to the public. Following public input, staff made additional changes that the Committee considered. We are now considering Options 17 and 18, or some variation.

Neither Option 17 or 18 have students currently attending Loretto Catholic from outside of the school boundary return to their home school. Both options as written would require new students, not currently attending Loretto, attend their home school. Families in that situation would be required to make a choice. The new student will be required to attend Our Lady of Mount Carmel, for example, whereas the current siblings are permitted to remain at Loretto Catholic. Families would need to make the decision to either have current students remain at Loretto Catholic or keep the siblings together at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Louie Cavezza, Loretto Catholic:

So under your current proposal everyone that is currently part of Loretto and part of that community and going to the school, are they being asked to move?

Superintendent Farrell:

As you can see from the review of the options considered, the thinking of the Committee evolved with public input and consideration by the Trustees. One of the early options, that provided relief to enrolment at Loretto Catholic was to have all students currently attending the school, living outside the school boundary, return to their home school; however, with input from the public and consideration by the Trustees, that was not an option that we wanted to continue to pursue because it ignored the human element of the families who are now part of the Loretto Catholic family. The families made application and went through the approval process with Principal Cardamone and subsequently received Superintendent approval. So the way things are written now, students who live outside the school boundary and currently attend Loretto Catholic are able to remain.

Charla Mannell, Loretto Catholic:

I have two children at Loretto in Grade 2 and ELKP 2 and I have one more that is due to register and I'm just wondering if it's all or nothing. Are there any compassionate reasons for allowing a new sibling to come into the school. I don't like to state my case publicly but I lost my husband. I use the daycare that I rely heavily on trying to make my life work. To change schools or disrupt our lives any further would be very hard on our family. I want the best for my kids and to be able to make our situation work. Is it an all or nothing or would it be possible for special consideration?

Superintendent Farrell:

I'm very sorry to hear your situation. This whole process is very, very difficult for families who may be affected. That is the purpose of meetings like this where we can hear input on the impact of potential decisions. We have a Committee Meeting immediately following this meeting tonight and we will take all this information and potentially revise the options we have presented. At the end of the day we do expect there will be some unhappy people with the recommendations. These are difficult situations and we certainly do want to be compassionate. In part we are in this predicament because we have been potentially too compassionate in considering individual family stories.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

I believe we spoke last week. We pride ourselves at Niagara Catholic, as a Board, that we have 22,000 individual stories. As I told you on the phone, nothing is etched in stone. We look at these things as Mr. Farrell just alluded to, on a case to case basis, but we want you to understand that we do have empathy for people in difficult situations, such as yours. I understand you are quite far out of boundary.

Charla Mannell, Loretto Catholic:

Yes I'm in boundary for a Welland school but I pay City of Niagara Falls taxes. Having my kids go to school in Welland is not an option. I am very frustrated right now and have to take things step by step.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

Nothing will be decided tonight. There are still further opportunities for public input. What you have seen and heard here tonight is the best thinking of the Committee considering the public input to this point. We started with six options and went up to sixteen. We went here, we went there. I want to praise the Committee. They have done their due diligence in terms of coming up with what we think are the best two options we can present to the public. We still have a little work to do before we can present the final recommendation to the Board. I don't want you to think that your concerns are going to fall on deaf ears because obviously they haven't. I am glad that you are able to come and share your story with us tonight.

Ben Abucay, Loretto Catholic:

I have two children in ELKP at Loretto. We made the choice to move here from the GTA to be closer to our family. We chose this specific community because of Loretto Catholic and Saint Michael. We did our research and built our house where our kids could go to these schools. It's a little disconcerting to see that we may have to go to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. There is nothing wrong with Carmel. I went to Carmel and it was a great school. We have a 3rd child that will be going to the same daycare that our others went to. We are hoping she will be able to attend Loretto in the future. We are in the W1 boundary right by Forestview and I just want to mention that. Were there any other considerations on the east side of Kalar Road and having them go to Carmel. Visually, as I look at it, they are closer to Carmel. I had no idea about the 1.6 boundary, but just visually and geographically they seem closer to Carmel. I was thinking that would make more sense.

Superintendent Farrell:

We did consider other areas east of Kalar Road. We had all of area E1 attending Our Lady of Mount Carmel in our first iteration. At our first Public Meeting at Loretto Catholic we were asked this as well. The issue with the east side of Kalar Road is that the majority of students are walkers. The Committee tried hard to not put existing walkers on a bus to a different school.

We certainly appreciate your comments about Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Our Lady of Mount Carmel is a gem of a school and it has thrived under the leadership of Principal Davey. We have an alumnus, Domenic Massi going to Carmel after Christmas, as Principal. His heart is there and he is committed to ensuring, as we all are, that the transition for students who move will be successful.

We did consider the area of W2 that qualifies for transportation. There may be concerns from people who reside in this area. We are aware that we are crossing the psychological barrier of Kalar Road which has three elementary schools east of Kalar Road. So, we are aware of it; however, based on public feedback we decided not to pursue other areas in part of E2 and E3 & E4. The Committee could not come up with a rationale to move these students.

Ben Abucay, Loretto Catholic:

I understand what you are saying. We live on Connor Crescent right. The second question, if Option 18 is chosen, so obviously I'm rooting for Option 17, there are going to be people wanting to applying to attend Loretto Catholic through the out of boundary process due to special circumstances. Could we ask to continue to attend Loretto? Is that a possibility?

Superintendent Farrell:

None of the options, as currently written, permits this.

Zak Rochon, Loretto Catholic:

On the list that showed number of people with the bus times. Who are these people?

Superintendent Farrell:

These are the families within the area of change from Loretto Catholic to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Zak Rochon, Loretto Catholic:

So they are students who might have to move?

Superintendent Farrell:

Yes. The transportation options includes students in Option 17 and Option 18 that are affected by proposed areas of change. The options don't include students who currently attend Loretto Catholic from outside of the existing boundary.

Ben Abucay, Loretto Catholic:

So if we become out of boundary, we have to change schools right?

Superintendent Farrell:

Yes.

Ben Abucay, Loretto Catholic:

So if Option 18 is chosen we become out of bounds, can we apply as out of boundary, will we have the option to apply as out of bounds?

Superintendent Farrell:

That is not the way it is currently written but we will bring that input and we will discuss it at the meeting right after this one.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

One of the reasons we have this predicament at Loretto is that currently we have 95 out of boundary students attending Loretto, which is a huge number percentage wise relative to the overall population of the school. It is a monster that grew over the years because we have allowed that. One of the things that we as a committee need to look at is how to stem the flow of out of boundary students into the school because if we allow it to continue the problem will just be exacerbated and in three or four years from now we could have a thousand students at Loretto; that is not going to serve any of you or any of the children. We need to find a way to address that.

Trustee Burtnik:

The rationale for the Committee not to have that as a recommendation is that we know how difficult it will be for the Principal to look at all these families, knowing them, as he knows the stories, puts an awful lot of pressure on him to say yes to some and no to others. The problem never gets solved. It would be unfair for the principal to have to answer yes or no. We felt we would take that responsibility. Maybe we move it to the Superintendent level or look at a different process. I think everybody would agree that it would be unfair to the current Principal to answer yes or no to your personal requests for out of boundary status.

Dave Cristelli, Loretto Catholic:

I noticed two of Guiding Principles that you outlined at the beginning of your presentation are minimal movement of students and minimal community disruption. As I look at proposal 18 it disrupts more students in terms of movement and it disrupts communities more. I live right on the boundary of the walking area in W1. We are like five feet inside of it. Having my 3 year old attend a different school than my 6 and 8 year old next year would be a challenge on a variety of levels. In terms of dividing the family and having us make a decision, they go to the neighbourhood park they won't be playing with the neighbourhood kids that they go to school with. As part of a community they will be separated by three major intersections, Kalar, Montrose and Dorchester, in order to get from home to school. So those are all challenges. Looking at the projections the Board has the ultimate goal to have all schools fully attended which would allow for a new school to be built in the area as growth continues. Projections for, both for Option

17 and 18 get the schools full; however, proposal 18 disrupts more students and more families. Since they both end up accomplishing the same goal in 2020-21 then the one that disrupts the least amount of people seems to be the better step forward, which is Option 17.

Superintendent Farrell:

I appreciate your comments. Some of the Guiding Principles do in fact conflict with the Terms of Reference as far as aligning the enrolment at Loretto Catholic. For example, our Guiding Principle of trying to disrupt as few as possible conflicts with the Term of Reference to align student enrolment to capacity at Loretto Catholic. Unfortunately there will be some disruption as we try to balance the Terms with the Guiding Principles. We will ensure there is a good transition plan for those students that are affected by the final recommendation. We appreciate your input.

Louie Cavezza, Loretto Catholic:

I just want to reiterate, current out of boundary students under this proposal are they staying where they are? I'm on the other side of Lundy's Lane and the children currently have permission to attend Loretto Catholic as out of boundary students. Under this proposal are we safe?

Superintendent Farrell:

As it is currently written, for students that are currently attending Loretto and live outside the boundary, yes.

Zak Rochon, Loretto Catholic:

Using that example, one of the earlier scenarios was that current approved out of boundary students wouldn't have to move. When you change the boundaries, we become out of boundary and all of sudden now our kids have to change schools. So already out of boundary families don't have to change schools too?

Superintendent Farrell:

Existing out of boundary families that have already gone through the application process to attend Loretto Catholic from out of boundary that have been approved with our options for 17 and 18 would not be asked to change. The ones that would be affected would be in those areas of change that we have proposed.

Zak Rochon, Loretto Catholic:

So just the families that are in boundary now that become out of boundary with the change have to leave? So the only comment I would add to that is, in agreeing with wise gentlemen in the front, I think the least disruption would be Option 17. At least that way that children play within their community, so if you are drawing lines my comment would be that I think that children that play together should probably go to school together.

Superintendent Farrell:

Thank you.

Danielle Perrotta, Loretto Catholic:

I'm in W1. For the kids that are bussed, are you looking at the bussed children in that area or just the ones that are walking?

Superintendent Farrell:

We have included students that are currently bussed and also some students who walk. All of the students would now qualify for transportation to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Danielle Perrotta, , Loretto Catholic:

I agree that Option 17 is less disruptive. I live a two minute drive to Loretto and it makes no sense. I have 3 kids at Loretto, one in Grade 8, one in ELKP and one coming in September. I don't need this disruption so I'm for Option 17 and I hope 17 sticks.

Mike Lambert, Loretto Catholic:

We have a 3 year old who is registered to attend Loretto Catholic next September. About a year and a half ago we moved into the E2 area on your map to Armstrong Drive. We are within the current Loretto Catholic boundary. When we purchased we did our due diligence on that and now we are being told we will need to move to Mount Carmel. Some of the reasons we wanted to go to Loretto Catholic were so that they could go to school with their cousins and get daycare. Can you tell me about the daycare options at Mount Carmel? As I understand it, there isn't a daycare there. If we do go to Mount Carmel, with the other young families, would a daycare option be provided?

Kathy Levinski, Administrator of Facilities:

Currently the students at Our Lady of Mount Carmel are bussed to Father Hennepin for childcare.

Mike Lambert, Loretto Catholic:

I don't like that option.

Kathy Levinski, Administrator of Facilities:

The reason that childcare is provided that way is there was insufficient interest in childcare by the other families at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. We are pursuing having a childcare provider there and have talked to the Director of Childcare Services at the Region. We are talking to childcare providers and are trying to get before and after school childcare there for this September.

Mike Lambert, Loretto Catholic:

Can you make that part of the option? It's pretty difficult to agree to go to a school not knowing if there is a day care provided.

Kathy Levinski, Administrator of Facilities:

There currently is a childcare option at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The child would be bussed from Father Hennepin to Our Lady of Mount Carmel in the morning.

We will put out surveys to gauge interest in childcare being provided at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. We have your input on childcare. We are working on it. It is important that when you are surveyed that you request childcare at the school. That is the information we rely on and what childcare providers go by.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

Maybe you can touch on the numbers that are required.

Kathy Levinski:

In order for a childcare provider to have a viable program, they require a minimum of 15 children in the morning and 15 children in the afternoon on a regular basis. Providers are not for profit and need to have enough children to make their business work. Obviously more is better but they have to have a minimum of 15 to consider.

Lindsey Horton, Loretto Catholic:

I've missed previous meetings. I don't know if I'm out of line going here but have non-Catholic children been addressed at all? Have we looked at that yet? Have non-Catholics leave before Catholics?

Superintendent Farrell:

The option was not brought up by Board staff nor was it suggested at any of the public meetings. Children of Catholic parents have the right to attend. Non-Catholics apply to attend the school through the same application process we use for out of boundary students.

All parents want the best possible education for their children and they seek schools that are able to do that. Our Catholic schools are exceptional and families see that and want to be a part of it. Loretto Catholic is no exception. In part, it is a victim of its own success. Some of the enrolment pressure is created by out of boundary students, some of whom are non-Catholic. These students are part of the Loretto Catholic family. It is not something that we would now want to do, remove a child who is there based on religion.

Danielle Perrotta, Loretto Catholic:

They why do you ask for a Baptismal Certificate when you have to register if there is no religion? Why do you do that?

Superintendent Farrell:

Children of parents who are Catholic have the right to attend Catholic schools. That is why we ask for the certificate.

Danielle Perrotta, Loretto Catholic:

So we have no priority out of the non-Catholics? It's a Catholic School.

Trustee Burtnik:

The Committee has not discussed this. I'm going out on a limb and just expressing my own personal opinion here rather than the opinion of the Committee. The next step with that line of thinking would be to ask for your Parish involvement as far as the Catholicity as a Catholic. I think we would be going down a slippery road for us to start judging others based on anyone's faith, whether they have been baptised or whether they participate in Mass or all of those things. It is not something the Committee would engage in. The out of boundary process relies on our policy. We have the right of refusal in the elementary school if they are non-Catholic. The notion of us refusing to share our spiritually with any person who is a child of God is not something we would contemplate doing. Does that answer your question?

Danielle Perrotta, Loretto Catholic:

Yes

Jim Karagiannis, Loretto Catholic:

Option 17 removes roughly 35 kids correct? Option 18 removes 82 kids. We are disrupting all the kids that are in bounds now and we are keeping the kids that are out of bounds. Is that correct?

Superintendent Farrell:

Current students who have gone through the out of boundary process are permitted to remain.

Jim Karagianni, Loretto Catholics:

So we are taking kids that are a further distance away from the school and kids that are already attending we are taking out?

Superintendent Farrell:

In both of the suggested options, the only students affected are the students that are currently within the Loretto Catholic current boundary.

Jim Karagiannis:

Option 18 has how many kids we are taking out?

Superintendent Farrell:

There are 82 students that are affected.

Jim Karagiannis, Loretto Catholic:

So we are taking 82 kids that are in boundary out of boundary and the ones that are out of boundary we are keeping them, it doesn't make sense.

Superintendent Farrell:

Is there a question there?

Jim Karagiannis, Loretto Catholic:

It makes no sense, makes no sense at all. You are taking kids that are close to the school and pushing them away and the ones that are further away you are not moving. Makes no sense.

Superintendent Farrell:

We have gone through several options leading to Option 17 and Option 18. This is not an easy process and regardless of what we do there are going to be unhappy parents. We currently have over 90 students attending Loretto Catholic from out of boundary. The impression that current enrolment pressure is due entirely to students coming from out of boundary is mistaken. There are currently 58 students from within the Loretto Catholic boundary that leave, so we have a net effect of just over 40 students that put pressure on the school.

Kevin Olesen, Loretto Catholic:

Building off Jim's comment, what would the rationale be for retaining the current out of boundary students while eliminating some current inbound students? Is it because of the application process? What's the rationale to maintain those students?

Superintendent Farrell:

Those students who have applied to attend Loretto Catholic have provided their story to either the Principal or Vice-Principal. They have been accepted for a particularly unique reason and those family stories have been heard and those families have been granted admission to the Loretto Catholic.

Tonight we discussed how the thinking of the Committee evolved. Early in the process that option was on the table and was then removed. Remember we have enrolment pressure that is not entirely coming from outside of the Loretto boundary. Remember that within the boundary, everything east of Kalar Road puts the school above capacity. We are within 10 students of having the school full within the boundary west of Kalar Road. If we look at the boundary differently and go north, the school is full without the enrolment from W1, E1 and E2B. Everything south of that fills the school up. There is tremendous enrolment pressure coming from within the boundary as well.

Jim Karagiannis, Loretto Catholic:

So we are moving 57 families? Fifty-seven families and you think they don't have stories as well?

Superintendent Farrell:

Every family has a story. Every child has a story.

Jim Karagiannis, Loretto Catholic:

And at the end of the day both schools with your move are going to be over capacity. Good job.

Superintendent Farrell:

At the end of the day, yes, the schools will be full.

The Garner South area over the long term there will put enrolment pressure at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. We are projecting to see over 400 students from that area attend Niagara Catholic schools. We see that area as being able to sustain its own elementary school. This enrolment pressure will be relieved with the construction of a new school. Until we allocate our resources to the point where we have filled all of the schools in the area we are not able to apply for any capital funding. The same would hold for an application for an addition to Loretto Catholic.

Dave Cristelli, Loretto Catholic:

In order to apply for funding to get another school, the third school-when I say the third school I mean Carmel plus Loretto plus the third, to get that third school built is the requirement that both Loretto and Carmel be at 100% capacity or do they have to be over capacity. What is the threshold?

Superintendent Farrell:

You need to actually have the students in there. It is not based solely on projections. You have to have enrolment pressures at schools and you have to be able to show that over the long term that enrolment pressure will continue. Neighbouring schools need to be close to full.

Dave Cristelli, Loretto Catholic:

Do you have a sense of what threshold you would need to meet in order to prove that or demonstrate that to the Ministry in order to get funding?

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

The threshold or target, I think, is approximately 90%, so you have to have pretty much 90% capacity in all the schools before the Ministry would even consider looking at an application to build a new school. But that is not our primary focus here. Our primary focus is not to build a new school. I want everyone here to know that. We have a problem at Loretto Catholic that we need to address, a very large problem as you all know and that is our first priority. The funding from the Ministry, if and when that comes, will take several years. We can't begin to do that until we demonstrate that we have eliminated the enrolment pressure at Loretto and we have equalized some of the enrolment across the south Niagara elementary schools. But 90%, I believe, is pretty much the target.

Dave Cristelli, Loretto Catholic:

Is it possible to see difference in projections between Option 17 and 18 so we can get a better sense of what the differences are?

Superintendent Farrell:

Option 18, in 2020-21 would have Loretto Catholic with 514 students at 131%. The school remains overcapacity. Our Lady of Mount Carmel, which is a larger facility with two gyms and a Chapel is projected to have 598 students, that would leave it around 120%. And we currently have Father Hennepin operating at 90% and the small change we made from Oldfield that will help to ensure that that school continues to remain at that level.

At the point when we do make an application to the Ministry, the Ministry will say that the Board has done a decent job equalizing enrolment between neighbouring schools. With status quo and continuing to let out of boundary students in, if we went to the Ministry with Loretto sitting at 800 students the Ministry would say "That's nice but you have space over there and you need to get that filled up."

Dave Cristelli, Loretto Catholic:

And what would Option 17 project out as?

Superintendent Farrell:

Loretto Catholic 566 students at 144% and Our Lady of Mount Carmel 545 at 108%.

Dave Cristelli, Loretto Catholic:

It would seem to me though that Option 18 results in two schools being overpopulated by a significant amount. Option 17 doesn't, you've got one school overpopulated to a significant amount. Based on the community response and concerns over disruption of the community and students, the hope is that you would take Option 17 as greater consideration given that there has been no objection to it, at least in this forum today.

Superintendent Farrell:

Thank you.

Zak Rochon, Loretto Catholic:

Just wondering, what is the impact on the projected number of students when you shrink the boundary in Option 17? Over time you are letting less and less students in at Loretto. Was that considered?

Superintendent Farrell:

Yes, it was. The Ministry has given boards the legal authority to determine school boundaries so that they can effectively plan and deal with accommodation pressures. The difficulty with out of boundary students coming into a school is that they are not factored into the enrolment projections. This makes it very difficult to plan from an accommodations' perspective. So new students from out of boundary are not factored into these numbers nor are students who are currently within the boundary that would be changing schools to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Those students have been removed from the Loretto Catholic enrolment figures but included in Our Lady of Mount Carmel projections.

Zak Rochon, Loretto Catholic:

Right, okay, thanks.

Trustee Fera:

I would like to make a positive statement here. I trust that you as parents understand that the Committee attempted to provide the greatest happiness to the greatest number of students that are affected. At the end of the day we hope that your children will continue to receive a Catholic education regardless of the school that they attend. Children are resilient and will adapt to new surroundings making new friends easily. If it is any consolation, you will be glad to know that we have transferred one of our finest principals to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, to replace also a fine Principal, Ms. Davey who is retiring. The new Principal is Mr. Massi, he is a product of Our Lady of Mount Carmel as a former student and teacher. He is a devoted and dedicated principal who will look after your children with care and compassion. He is the former Principal of Mary Ward school and his reputation precedes him. As indicated by Mr. Farrell, Mr. Massi is here this evening and you may want to speak with him if you so desire. Thank you.

Kevin Olesen, Loretto Catholic:

I think there maybe some value in maybe describing some more of the physical and cultural good points of the prospective schools these students will be moving to. Perhaps there is not a lot of knowledge of what is being offered there and it might be helpful.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg:

Thank you for that point. At previous meetings we had Principal Cybula, Principal Davey and Principal Cardamone speak about their schools. We can have them give an overview now.

Principal Davey, Our Lady of Mount Carmel:

Our Lady of Mount Carmel was built in 1965 and has been very well maintained over the 51 years. It has four brand new ELKP classrooms. The intermediate wing for Grade 7 and 8 classes has brand new classrooms with Smartboards and whiteboards, two gymnasiums, wide hallways, and two sets of bathrooms. I have been in an administration for 18 years. The students that attend the school, love the school and their teachers. Outside they have a large blacktop and play space, brand new kiss-and-ride, and a dedicated bus zone. It is a very beautiful facility.

St. Thomas More Church is right across the parking lot. The children go there once a week and the Priests come to the school and celebrate a service in the school's Chapel. The school has a lot of advantages.

I know this is a difficult thing for you. As a parent I would prefer to have my children in a classroom rather than a portable. Kids are very resilient and they adapt very well and the kids at Our Lady of Mount Carmel will be very accepting of them.

Superintendent Farrell:

If you go to the Board website we have the slide decks from our first two Public Meetings on November 9th and 10th posted. We have a comparison of the three schools in terms of washroom information, locker information, portables and room for portables. You will see that much of their Loretto Catholic has used up much of their play space. Students there also get less gym time.

Principal Cybula, Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School:

I agree with what Liz has mentioned on how students are very resilient and making sure your children are learning in school. Father Hennepin is also another extraordinary school. We have the Ontario Early Years Centre, the YMCA Daycare, a kitchen that provides for our Breakfast Club. We have a fantastic staff, an enormous playground, and technology in our schools. It is a very friendly community. As a team we will work very closely to make sure that the transition for affected students is seamless. I hope this helps with some of your concerns. Our Lady of Mount Carmel has a wonderful facility too and if you are worried about it you should go visit the school.

Principal Cardamone, Loretto Catholic Elementary School

We have some challenges with respect to lockers. We have 635 students in a school built for 392. We have 285 students in portables. That number is higher than the enrolment of 27 of our elementary schools. We do have line ups for a washrooms. At Our Lady of Mount Carmel it is one washroom for 13 students at Loretto Catholic we have one washroom for 32 students. A big disadvantage for Loretto Catholic students is the gym time. At Our Lady of Mount Carmel they have two gyms and there are many open periods for gym time. For parking we have people who are parking around the corner and in fire lanes. We do not have adequate parking here.

Superintendent Farrell:

Despite all the challenges at Loretto Catholic they make it work. Each of the schools are wonderful schools. The transition will be well thought out and start in February to make sure that the transition will be very smooth.

F. OTHER

G. FUTURE ACTION

Trustee Nieuwesteeg outlined upcoming meeting dates and highlighted the upcoming Report to the Committee of the Whole on January 17, 2017 and the Board Meeting on January 31, 2017.

Trustee Nieuwesteeg indicated that no decision has been made.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Ad Hoc Attendance Area Review Committee Meeting for the Saint Michael Catholic and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools of December 14, 2016 be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.



SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC AND SAINT PAUL CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS AD HOC ATTENDANCE AREA REVIEW COMMITTEE

Good Evening

As you are aware, the Niagara Catholic District School Board is currently conducting an Attendance Area Review for the Loretto, Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School communities to equalize enrolment.

The Committee has completed its work and has recommendations for Trustee consideration, including revised attendance boundaries for each of the schools. Trustees will discuss the report from the Attendance Area Review Committee at the next Committee of the Whole Meeting on Tuesday, January 17th at 7 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre, located at 427 Rice Road in Welland.

The Committee's recommendations are included as an attachment to this email. (Voice- The Committee's recommendations are available on the Board website www.niagaracatholic.ca through the South Niagara Falls Attendance Area Review banner.)

In the interim, if you have any questions on the recommendations from the Committee, feel free to email NFAAR@ncdsb.com or call Kathy Levinski, Administrator of Facilities Services @ 905-735-0240, ext. 273 or Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education, @ 905-735-0240, ext. 230.

All information on the Attendance Area Review, including the recommended options, can be found on the Board website.

Again, for those interested the Committee of the Whole Meeting is next Tuesday, January 17th @ 7 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre, located at 427 Rice Road in Welland.

We thank you for your participation and interest in this process.

SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC AND SAINT PAUL CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS AD HOC ATTENDANCE AREA REVIEW COMMITTEE 2016-2017 RECOMMENDATIONS

Loretto Catholic Elementary School:

As of February 1, 2017 the boundary description for Loretto Catholic Elementary School be revised from:

East: Commencing on Montrose Road (centreline) at Lundy's Lane (centreline) to

South: McLeod Road (centreline) to

West: Thorold Townline Road (centreline)

North: Lundy's Lane (centreline) to the point of commencement on Montrose Road

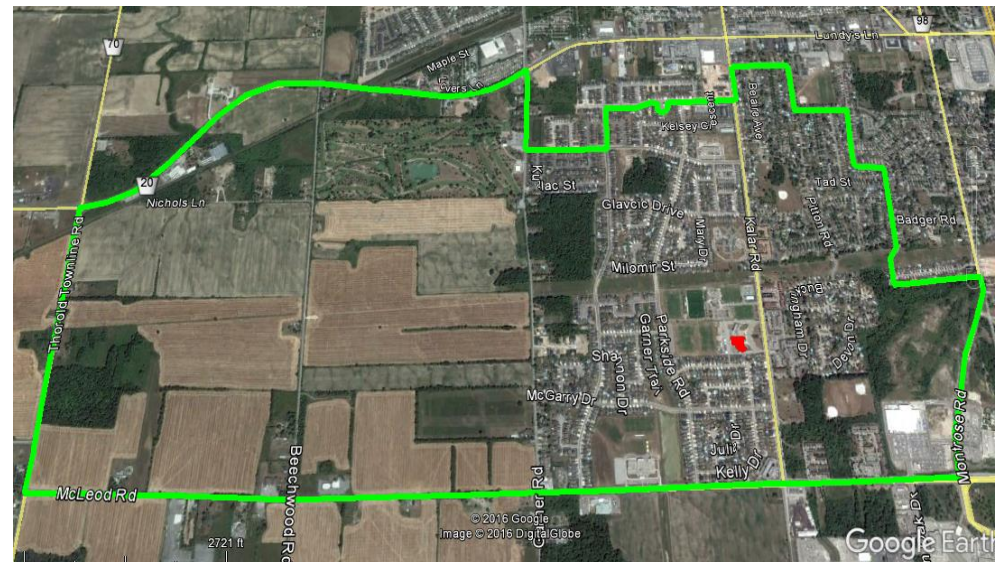
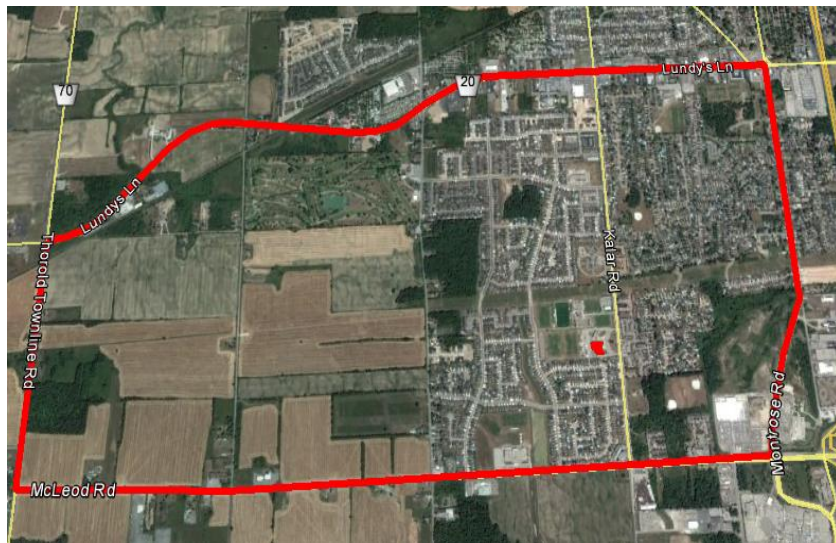
To now be described as:

East: Commencing on Kalar Road at Catalina Street, east on Catalina Street (excluding) to Pitton Road, south on Pitton Road (excluding), to Ethel Street (excluding) to Sherri Avenue (excluding) to Alfred Street (excluding) to Charnwood Avenue, east along Charnwood Avenue (excluding) to south entrance and Montrose Road, Montrose Road to McLeod Road,

South: McLeod Road (centerline) to Thorold Townline Road,

West: North on Thorold Townline Road (centerline) to Lundy's Lane, west on Lundy's Lane (centerline) to Garner Road, **south on Garner Road (centerline) to Forestview Boulevard**

North: **east on Forestview Boulevard (centerline) to St. Michael Avenue (excluding), north to Angie Drive, east along Angie Drive (excluding) and excluding Mildred Court, to Kalar Road, north on Kalar Road (excluding) to point of commencement at Catalina Street.**



**SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC AND SAINT PAUL CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
FAMILY OF SCHOOLS AD HOC ATTENDANCE AREA REVIEW COMMITTEE
2016-2017 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Recommendation 2:

Students, who are currently in Grade 7 at Loretto Catholic and have been affected by the proposed boundary changes be grandfathered, including siblings, until completion of Grade 8 commencing September 2017. If required, transportation will continue until the current Grade 8 student graduates from Loretto Catholic.

Recommendation 3:

In compliance with Board Policy 301.1 Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy, the siblings of the grandfathered students for the 2017-2018 school year at Loretto Catholic may apply to continue to attend Loretto Catholic commencing in September 2018 as an Out of Boundary student without transportation.

Recommendation 4:

In compliance with Board Policy 301.1 Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy, effective for September 2017 only, students who currently attend Loretto Catholic Elementary School from outside the current and revised attendance boundary of Loretto Catholic Elementary School, and their school age siblings, be permitted to apply for out of boundary admission to Loretto Catholic Elementary School without transportation.

Recommendation 5:

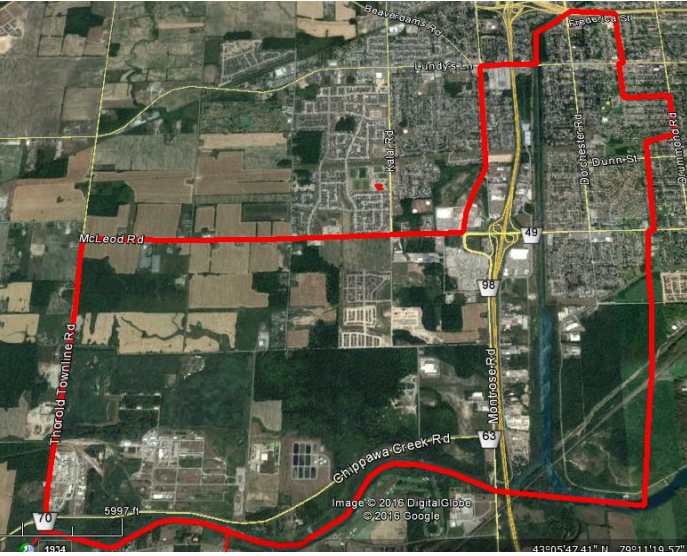
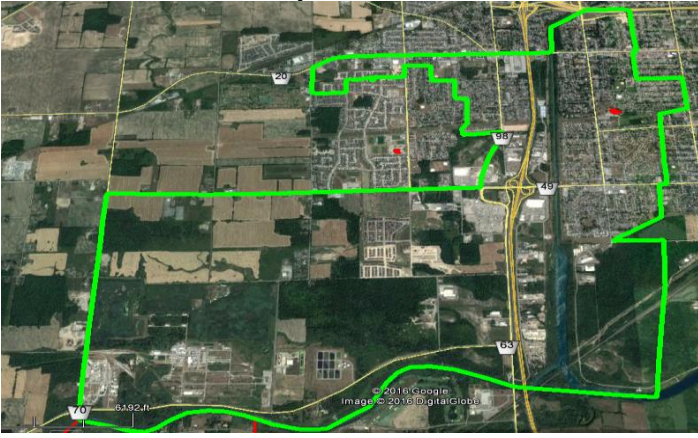
In compliance with Board Policy 301.1 Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy and Board approved motions for Loretto Catholic Elementary School, effective February 1st 2017, out of boundary requests for Loretto Catholic Elementary School boundary will not be granted.

Recommendation 6:

In compliance with Board Policy 500.2 Student Transportation Policy, during the transition of school boundary descriptions from February 1st, 2017 to June 30th, 2017, transportation will continue to be provided for students who have been affected by the attendance boundary changes.

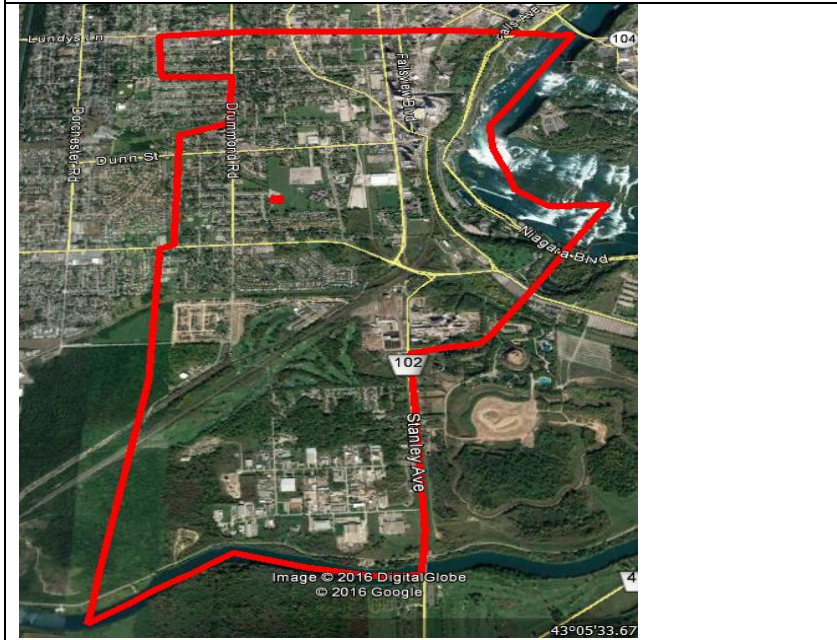
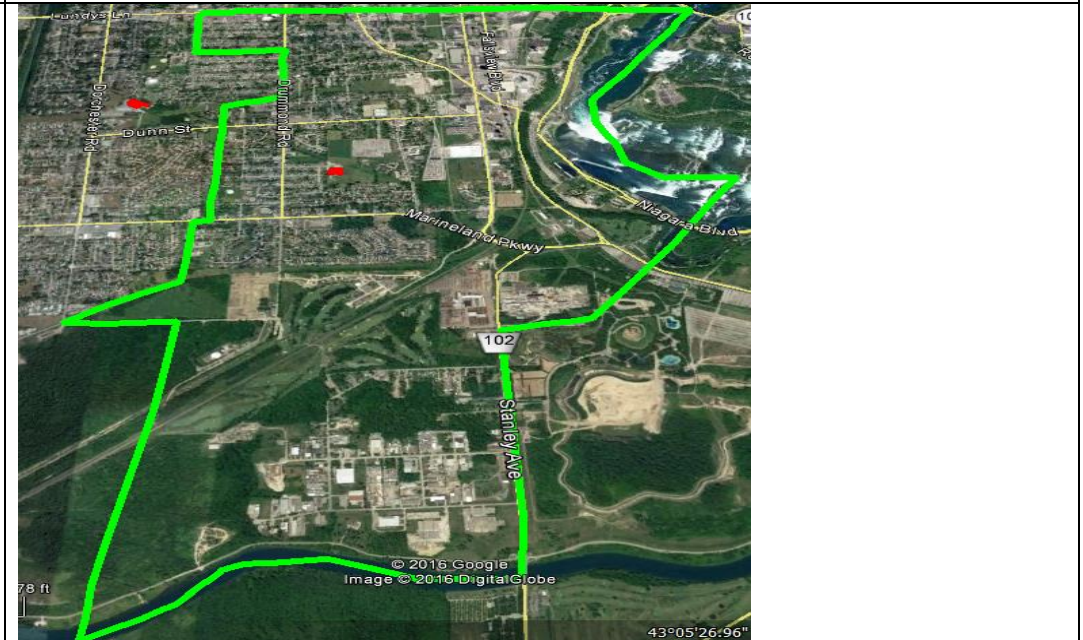
SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC AND SAINT PAUL CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS AD HOC ATTENDANCE AREA REVIEW COMMITTEE 2016-2017 RECOMMENDATIONS

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School:

As of February 1, 2017 the boundary description for Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School be revised from:	To now be described as:
<p>East: Commencing on Glenholme Ave. (excluding – and its projection) to Lundy’s Lane (centreline) to Franklin Ave (excluding) to Culp St. (excluding) to Drummond Rd (excluding) to the power transmission lines to Dell Ave. (excluding – and its projection) to McLeod (excluding) to Wilson Cres. (excluding – and its projection) to</p> <p>South: the Welland River to</p> <p>West: Thorold Townline Road (centreline) to</p> <p>North: McLeod Road to Montrose to Lundy’s Lane (centreline) to the hydro canal to Hwy 420 to the point of commencement on Glenholme Ave</p>	<p>East: Commencing at Hwy 420 to Glenholme Avenue (excluding and its projection) to Lundy’s Lane (centreline) to Franklin Avenue (excluding) to Culp Street (excluding) to Drummond Road (excluding) to the power transmission lines to Dell Avenue (excluding – and its projection) to McLeod Road (excluding) to Wilson Crescent (excluding – and its projection) <u>to power transmission lines and projection to Dorchester Road where it meets Oldfield Road, east along Oldfield Road (excluding)</u> to projection of Wilson Crescent, to Welland River</p> <p>South: Welland River to Thorold Townline Road</p> <p>West: Thorold Townline Road (centreline) north to McLeod Road (centreline), east to Montrose Road (centreline), <u>north to Charnwood Avenue, south entrance, west on Charnwood Avenue (including), north on Charnwood Avenue (including) to Alfred Street, west on Alfred Street (including) to Sherri Avenue, north on Sherri Avenue (including) to Ethel Street, west on Ethel Street (including), to Pitton Road, north on Pitton Road (including), to Catalina Street, west on Catalina Street (including) to Kalar Road, south on Kalar Road to Angie Drive (including) and including Mildred Court, to St. Michael Avenue (including), south to Forestview Blvd. (centreline) west to Garner Road (centreline), north on Garner Road (centreline) to Kalar Road (including)</u></p> <p>North: East from Kalar Road on Lundy’s Lane (centreline) to the hydro canal to point of commencement at Hwy 420.</p>
	

SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC AND SAINT PAUL CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS AD HOC ATTENDANCE AREA REVIEW COMMITTEE 2016-2017 RECOMMENDATIONS

Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School:

As of February 1, 2017 the boundary description for Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School be revised from:	To now be described as:
<p>East: Commencing on the Niagara River to</p> <p>South: Corfield St. (and its projection) to Stanley Ave to the Welland River to</p> <p>West: Wilson Cres. (and its projection) to McLeod Rd to Dell Ave (including) (and its projection) to the power transmission lines to Drummond Rd to Culp St. to Franklin Ave (including)</p> <p>North: to Lundy's Lane (centreline) to Ferry Ave. (centreline) to the extension of Magdalen St. to the point of commencement on the Niagara River.</p>	<p>East: Commencing on the Niagara River to Corfield Street (and its projection) to Stanley Avenue (including), south to the Welland River,</p> <p>South: Welland River to the projection of Wilson Crescent,</p> <p>West: <u>Projection of Wilson Crescent north to Oldfield Road, Oldfield Road (including) to point where it meets Dorchester Road</u>, northeast along power transmission lines, north to projection of Wilson Crescent, north on Wilson Crescent (including) to McLeod Road (centreline) to Dell Avenue (including) and its projection to the power transmission lines to Drummond Road (including) to Culp Street west on Culp Street (including) to Franklin Avenue north on Franklin Avenue (including) to Lundy's Lane</p> <p>North: east on Lundy's Lane (centerline) to Ferry Avenue (centerline) and its projection to the point of commencement at Niagara River</p>
	

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SYSTEM PRIORITIES AND
BUDGET 2016-2017 UPDATE**

The Committee of the Whole System Priorities and Budget 2016-2017 update report is presented for information.

Prepared by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer
Senior Administrative Council

Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer
Senior Administrative Council

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: January 17, 2017



**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
JANUARY 17, 2017**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SYSTEM PRIORITIES AND BUDGET
2016-2017 UPDATE**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At each month's Committee of the Whole meeting, the Director of Education and members of Senior Administrative Council will provide a verbal update on the implementation of the annual Board approved System Priorities and Budget 2016-2017.

This monthly report information, will be provided through a visual presentation.

This monthly report will provide an opportunity for dialogue with the Committee of the Whole on the status of the implementation of the annual System Priorities and Budget.

The Committee of the Whole System Priorities and Budget 2016-2017 update report is presented for information.

Prepared by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer
Senior Administrative Council

Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer
Senior Administrative Council

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: January 17, 2017

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: DESIGN OF SYSTEM PRIORITIES AND BUDGET 2017-2018
CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION SCHEDULE**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the report on the Design of System Priorities and Budget 2017-2018 Consultation and Collaboration Schedule, as presented.

Prepared by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer
Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services

Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: January 17, 2017



REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE JANUARY 17, 2017

DESIGN OF SYSTEM PRIORITIES AND BUDGET 2017-2018 CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION SCHEDULE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Niagara Catholic has been recognized by the Ministry of Education and other leaders in education for the annual consultation and collaborative process in designing the Board's annual System Priorities and Budget to achieve the Board's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan.

Monthly at each Committee of the Whole Meeting, Senior Administrative Council provides a report and an opportunity for dialogue with Trustees on the status of achieving the Board's current System Priorities and balanced Budget. At monthly Board Meetings, the Superintendent of Business & Financial Services provides the Board with a detailed Financial Report as of that month. Both of these monthly reports provides Trustees with accurate and timely information and an opportunity to engage in dialogue as a Committee of the Whole and with the Director of Education and Senior Administrative Council as part of the Board's continuous monitoring and governance of the achievement of its System Priorities and balanced Budget.

In January of each year, the Board and Senior Administrative Council collaboratively begin the process to design the following year's System Priorities and balanced Budget. The focus of the consultation and collaboration is to ensure the continued achievement of the Board's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan, its Mission, Vision and Values, the two Strategic Directions and the four goals of the Ministry of Education in providing programs, services and supports for all students.

The Director of Education and Senior Administrative Council continue to be committed to two fundamental principles in preparing the 2017-2018 System Priorities and Budget:

- a) A continued commitment to providing Catholic educational excellence through programs and services for all students.
- b) A continued commitment to achieving the Board's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan and Annual System Priorities through balanced and financially sustainable annual budgets.

In preparing recommendations for the 2017-2018 System Priorities and balanced Budget for the consideration of the Board, the Director of Education and Senior Administrative Council continually monitor and review an extensive range of data and information about Niagara. The data includes population demographics, economic and employment statistics and trends; current and projected enrolment in elementary, secondary and continuing education schools; provincial educational directions; provincial Grants for Student Needs (GSN), Educational Funding Other (EPO) grants and capital funding of district school boards.

As part of the design, consultation and decision making process for 2017-2018, the Director of Education, the Superintendent of Business and Financial Services and members of Senior Administrative Council will continue to engage, update and inform, through graphical reports, each months Committee of the Whole Meeting from January to May 2017.

System Priorities and Annual Budget 2017-2018 Consultation Process

As previously approved by the Board, the collaborative consultation and decision making process towards finalizing the Board's System Priorities System Priorities and the Annual balanced Budget for 2017-2018 is as follows:

Decision Making Process

- ❖ Vision 2020 Strategic Plan Implementation Consultation – January to May 2017
- ❖ Consultation and Collaboration to design the System Priorities within the seven Enabling Strategies of the Board's System Priorities 2017-2018 – January to May 2017

System Priorities Enabling Strategies

- Provide Supports for Success
 - Enhance Technology for Optimal Learning
 - Building Partnerships and Schools as Hubs
 - Strengthen Human Resource Practices and Develop Transformational Leadership
 - Create Equity and Accessibility of Resources
 - Ensure Responsible Fiscal and Operational Management
 - Address Changing Demographics
-
- ❖ Committee of the Whole Information Updates, Collaboration and Discussion – January to May 2017
 - ❖ Presentation of 2017-2018 System Priorities – Committee of the Whole, May 9th, 2017
 - ❖ Presentation of Balanced 2017-2018 Budget – Board Meeting, May 23rd, 2017

Continuous discussion and consultation – January 2017 to May 2017

- ❖ Committee of the Whole – Trustees
- ❖ Senior Administrative Council
- ❖ Principals at Director's Meetings
- ❖ Family of Schools Meetings
- ❖ Secondary Principal Meetings
- ❖ Academic Council
- ❖ Elementary and Secondary Curriculum Councils
- ❖ Management Council Meetings
- ❖ School and CEC Staff Meetings

In collaboration with our partners – January 2017 to May 2017

- ❖ Student Senates – Elementary and Secondary
- ❖ Catholic School Councils
- ❖ Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)
- ❖ Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC)
- ❖ Niagara Catholic Alliance Committee (NCAC)
- ❖ OECTA - Niagara Elementary Unit
- ❖ OECTA - Niagara Secondary Unit
- ❖ CUPE 1317

Consultation and Recommendation Schedule

Through the extensive opportunity provided to fully engage Trustees, staff and our partners in the design of the System Priorities and Budget for 2017-2018, the following are the timelines established towards meeting the Ministry of Education requirement for Board's to submit a balanced budget by June 30th, 2017.

- System Priorities and Budget Consultation
– January 2017 to May 2017
- Submission of System Priority and Budget Recommendations to Senior Administrative Council
– April 21st, 2017
- Presentation of Recommended System Priorities 2017-2018
– May 9th, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting
- Presentation of Recommended Balanced Budget 2017-2018
– May 23rd, 2017 Board Meeting

As we progress towards a final report and recommendation of the System Priorities and Balanced Budget 2017-2018 to the May 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting and Board Meeting, the Director of Education and Senior Administrative Council will continue to update, inform and engage in collaborative discussions with the Board.

A visual component to this report will be presented at the Committee of the Whole Meeting to commence the design of the specific System Priorities within the seven Enabling Strategies of the Board's System Priorities and a balanced Budget 2017-2018.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the report on the Design of System Priorities and Budget 2017-2018 Consultation and Collaboration Schedule, as presented.

Prepared by: John Crocco, Director of Education, Secretary/Treasurer
Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education, Secretary/Treasurer

Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education, Secretary/Treasurer

Date: January 17, 2017

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
JANUARY 17, 2016**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
SPOTLIGHT ON NIAGARA CATHOLIC – DECEMBER 20, 2016**



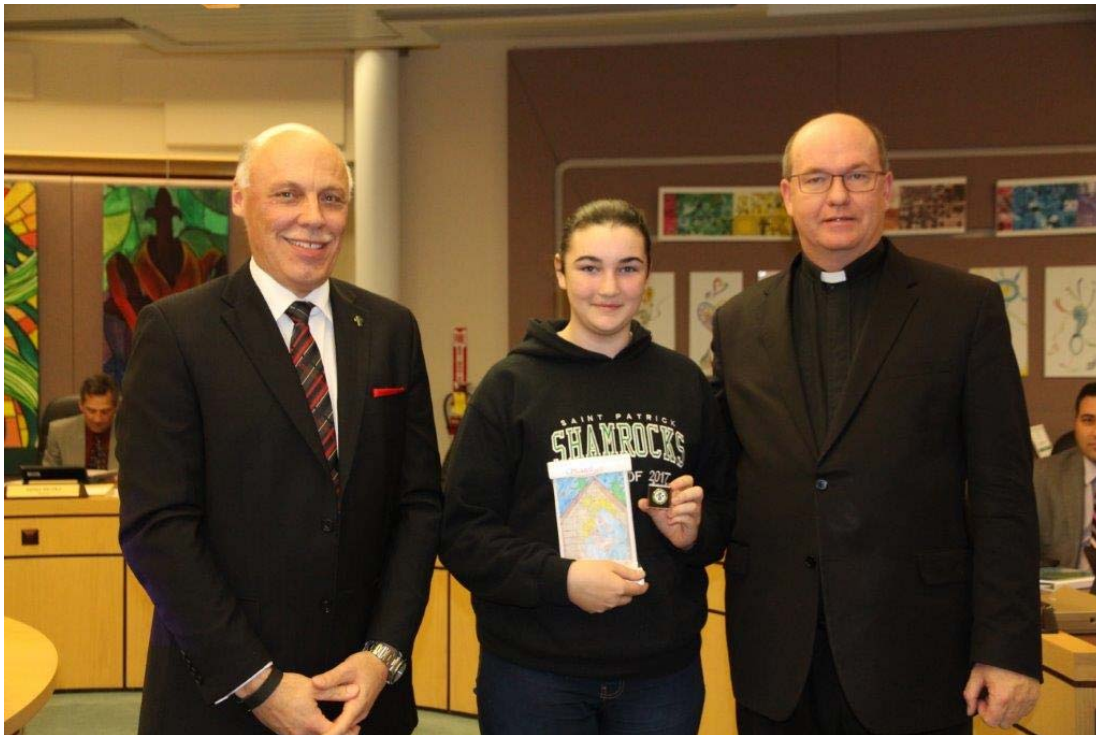
December 20, 2016

Student Christmas Card Artists

Each year, Niagara Catholic students are invited to design Christmas cards, which are distributed to our trustees, members of Senior Staff and parish priests for use during the Christmas season.

This year, eight cards were selected from students in grades six through 12 at our Catholic elementary and secondary schools. You may view a full gallery of photos of our student artists and their designs on our [Facebook](#) page.

The students were recognized during December 20 Board Meeting, each receiving a plaqued version of their card and an Excellence in the Arts pin, presented by Director of Education John Crocco and Chair Father Paul MacNeil.



Director Crocco, Teagan Atkinson and Chair of the Board, Fr. Paul MacNeil

St. Theresa in the Spotlight

Each month, Niagara Catholic shines the spotlight on one of its schools. This month, it was St. Theresa Catholic Elementary School in St. Catharines.

Principal Deborah Mercnik told the Board about what makes St. Theresa – Niagara Catholic’s last open-concept elementary school – the indispensable choice for the families of the 179 students it serves.

Her School Excellence Program focused on the efforts staff have put toward continues education, particularly in math. She said students and staff have embraced technology as a way of grasping new concepts, which will help prepare students for their future education and careers in the 21st century.

Mrs. Mercnik also touched on the ways in which St. Theresa students and staff give back to the community, supporting causes at home and around the world. She is especially proud of the way extended families support these causes, too.

During her presentation, Mrs. Mercnik was joined by students Makayla Regehr, a Grade 8 student who sang Silent Night, and Robbie Csordas, a Kindergarten student who explained how he set up a restaurant.



Turf Field Agreement for Saint Paul Catholic High School

During the December 20 Board Meeting, trustees received a report from Director of Education John Crocco and Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services, outlining the current agreement between Niagara Catholic and the City of Niagara Falls for a new turf field at Saint Paul Catholic High School.

The report shared information that during the December 13 Council Meeting, the City of Niagara Falls councillors unanimously approved setting aside \$500,000 in the 2017 budget as a contribution to the field at Saint Paul.

With this contribution, a \$200,000 contribution from the Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education and a matching \$200,000 from the Niagara Falls Soccer Club, \$900,000 of the anticipated \$1-million cost has been covered.

The Foundation is currently working to raise additional funds for this project through its Turf Field Campaign.

Read the complete report in the [December 20 agenda](#).

Good News!

Have you checked out the [Good News](#) section of the Board website lately? If not, you're missing some great stories and photos about our students. Be sure to check it out often to keep up to date on the fantastic things happening in our schools and across the system. There's also some great stories on the In the News section of our website, accessible through the [home page](#).

Follow us!

To ensure you stay connected with Niagara Catholic news and events, please be sure to like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), and check our website often for updates and breaking news. It's the best way to stay in the know.

Merry Christmas!

On behalf of everyone at Niagara Catholic, we wish you all the best for a wonderful Christmas with family and friends, and for a happy, healthy 2017. Please note that the Catholic Education Centre, and all schools and sites, will be closed from December 26, 2016 through January 2, 2017. Have a blessed Christmas, everyone!



**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
JANUARY 17, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
CALENDAR OF EVENTS JANUARY 2017**



JANUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1 Happy New Year!	2	3 Christmas Break from December 24, 2016—January 8, 2017					7
8	9 Welcome back to school!	10	11 SEAC Meeting	12	13	14	
15	16	17 SAL Meeting CW Meeting	18 Niagara Catholic Baby Celebration	19	20 Elementary P.A. Day	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27 Family Literacy Day Secondary Semester 1 Exams begin	28	
29	30	31 Policy Committee Board Meeting	Secondary Semester 1 Exams continue				

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
JANUARY 17, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
DRAFT SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2017-2018**



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MEMO TO: Elementary and Secondary Principals and Vice-Principals
OECTA Elementary
OECTA Secondary
CUPE
Catholic School Council Chairs
Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee
SEAC
Coordinator of Staff Development
Coordinator of Student Success
Student Senate Co-Chairs

FROM: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education

DATE: Monday, December 19, 2016

SUBJECT: **2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Prior to the submission of the 2017-2018 School Year Calendar Committee Report to the Niagara Catholic District School Board; please find attached the draft proposal of the Niagara Catholic Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars for 2017-2018.

As part of the consultation process, the attached Elementary and Secondary draft calendars are provided in order that you may advise the members of your committees, staff and Catholic School Councils to seek input, comments and/or suggestions for consideration by members of the Niagara Catholic School Year Calendar Committee.

This coming September 2017, Labour Day falls on Monday, September 4th. School Boards are mandated by the Ministry of Education to have a total of 194 school days in the school year.

In your consultation process, please discuss and comment on the calendar dates as well as possible alternatives. You are asked to submit the attached feedback form to the attention of Jennifer Pellegrini jennifer.pellegrini@ncdsb.com

To meet Ministry of Education school year calendar submission deadlines, please forward comments to the office of Jennifer Pellegrini **Friday, January 27th, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.** This will require Principals to present the draft calendars at a Catholic School Council meeting and provide a copy to all staff in order to receive and submit feedback prior to January 27th, 2017.

Once the Board and Ministry of Education approve the 2017-2018 School Year Calendars, the system will be informed. Thank you for your participation in our consultation process.

Attached – Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendar Draft – 2017-2018

cc. Senior Administrative Council

VETTING	
School	
Group Principal/Vice-Principal CSC SEAC NCPIC	
Individual	
Calendar Dates	Feedback or Comments
<i>Start of School Year</i>	
<i>Professional Activity Days</i> <i>Elementary:</i>	
<i>Professional Activity Days</i> <i>Secondary:</i>	
<i>Secondary Exam Days</i>	
<i>Christmas Holidays</i>	
<i>March Break</i>	
<i>Other</i>	



Ministry of Education
Ministère de l'Éducation

Board Name Niagara CDSB (B67156)			
Calendar Title [2017-272955] Elementary	Panel Elementary	Calendar Type Regular	Date Created Dec 18, 2016
Start of School Year Sep 05, 2017	End of School Year Jun 29, 2018	First Day Students Sep 05, 2017	Last Day Students Jun 30, 2018
Status Draft	Description Regualr		

Month	1st Week					2nd Week					3rd Week					4th Week					5th Week					PA days	Instr days	Ex da						
	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F									
August		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31		0	0							
September					1	H	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	0	19						
October	2	3	4	5	6	P*	H	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30	31			1	20						
November			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	P*	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30		1	21						
December					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	H	H	B	B	B	0	16		
January	1	2	3	4	5	H	B	B	B	B	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	P	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31			1	17	
February				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	P	19	20	21	22	23	H	26	27	28			1	18					
March				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	B	B	B	B	B	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	H	0	16	
April	2	3	4	5	6	H	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30					0	20						
May		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	P	21	22	23	24	25	H	28	29	30	31	1	21						
June					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	P	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	2	19						
July	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30	31				0	0							
Total															7	187																		

Legend

P -Professional Activity Day; E -Scheduled Exam Day; B -Board Designated Day; H -Statutory Day; / -Half Day;
P* -Professional Activity Day Devoted to Provincial Education Priorities;

[Outline for Professional Activity Days Devoted to Provincial Education Priorities](#)

Close

Outline for PA Days



Ministry of Education
Ministère de l'Éducation

Board Name Niagara CDSB (B67156)			
Calendar Title [2017-273211] Secondary	Panel Secondary	Calendar Type Regular	Date Created Dec 18, 2016
Start of School Year Sep 05, 2017	End of School Year Jun 29, 2018	First Day Students Sep 05, 2017	Last Day Students Jun 27, 2018
Status Draft	Description Regular		

Month	1st Week					2nd Week					3rd Week					4th Week					5th Week					PA days	Instr days	Ex da					
	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F								
August		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31		0	0						
September					1	H	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	0	19					
October	2	3	4	5	6	P*	H															23	24	25	26	27	30	31		1	20		
November			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	P*					20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	1	21		
December					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	H	H	B	B	B	0	16	
January	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31			E	E	E	E		0	14	
February				1	2	E	P	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	P	H	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28		2	16			
March				1	2	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15	16	B	B	B	B	B	19	20	21	22	23	26	27	28	29	30	0	16	H
April	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30										0	20	
May		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	P	H	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31		1	21				
June					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29	E	E	E	P	P	2	14	
July	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30	31									0	0	
Total																					7	177	1										

Legend

P -Professional Activity Day; E -Scheduled Exam Day; B -Board Designated Day; H -Statutory Day; / -Half Day;
P* -Professional Activity Day Devoted to Provincial Education Priorities;

[Outline for Professional Activity Days Devoted to Provincial Education Priorities](#)

Close

[Outline for PA Days](#)