

REPORT TITLE: ORILLIA PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW – STAFF REPORT
REPORT NUMBER: 8. 1) 11-2009
DESTINATION: Board Meeting # 11
DATE: Wednesday, June 24, 2009
AUTHOR OF REPORT: Glenn Clarke, Controller of Plant
TYPE OF REPORT: ACTION

PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW AREA: Foley Catholic School
Guardian Angels School
Monsignor Lee Catholic School
Notre Dame Catholic School
St. Bernard’s School

Background:

1. Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board vision states; “We are a faith-filled Catholic learning Community dedicated to excellence.” We use the Catholic values of faith, love, hope, family, compassion, service, truth, justice, and forgiveness to articulate and strengthen our Catholic identity.
2. The goals and objectives for the Orillia Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR) are to ensure the school facilities can continue to accommodate students effectively while providing equitable programming with a high standard of student learning and in a fiscally responsible manner. This process points to our continued interest in providing a better education for our students in an equitable, open, honest, and fiscally responsible way.

Comments:

3. The Orillia PAR Area takes into account a very large area of both rural and urban areas. The school rural catchment areas spread from Oro-Medonte, Severn, to Ramara, and include the urban centres of the City of Orillia and the Community of Brechin. Notre Dame is located within the only growth area of the City of Orillia (located west of Highway 11) with very distinct characteristics. Foley is the only Catholic school within the community of Brechin. This is a small community with a 100 year history of Catholic education. St. Bernard’s is well situated within the southern portion of the City of Orillia in an area which will continue to house young families within mixed housing types. Guardian Angels is located in central Orillia in a leased facility. The Simcoe County District School Board is constructing a new elementary school adjacent this school. Monsignor Lee is well situated within the north east portion of the City of Orillia to provide education to the community it serves, which includes both urban and rural catchment areas.
4. The Pupil Accommodation Review Process involved gathering, formulating and analyzing vast amounts of information and material. The prescribed procedural process provided a positive framework for sharing, analysis and consultation on information and has contributed to the good work of the Pupil Accommodation Committee (PAC) to date. Many Board departments assisted in providing the necessary information for the review and analysis required in this process. This was important in the work with the PAC and for the Public Meetings as we were able to provide accurate, understandable information to the members and community.

5. Appendices attached to this report provide specific information and analysis prepared by staff with respect to the Background of the Pupil Accommodation Review process, the Orillia PAR process, the information considered in the review, the input of the PAC, the public input, and the Recommendation of the PAC including the background work that led to the preparation of the report and the Staff proposal. The following is the list of Appendices included with this report.

- A. Staff Analysis
- B. Pupil Accommodation Committee (PAC) Accommodation Options
- C. Pupil Accommodation Committee (PAC) Benefits and Limitations
- D. Pupil Accommodation Committee (PAC) Recommendation
- E. Pupil Accommodation Committee (PAC) Report Submitted to the Director
- F. Facility Condition Index (FCI) Reports
- G. Facility Condition Indices Summary
- H. Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR) Binder for Orillia
- I. Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board's Boundary Review Process
- J. EDC Submission 2008: Form G – Growth Related Net Education Land Costs

6. In compliance with the policy and procedures, the Board will convene the following meetings:

- Board Meeting for Public Input October 5, 2009
- Staff's Follow-up Report October 14, 2009
- Board Meeting to decide on Accommodation November 25, 2009

7. At the PAC, Staff supported the following accommodation options for each of the review area schools:

Foley (FOL) should remain status quo for the school building. Consideration should be given to proceed with a review of the school's boundary to better balance enrolment and capacity.

Notre Dame (NOD) should also remain status quo for the school building. Consideration should be given to proceed with a review of the school's boundary to better balance enrolment and capacity. In addition, consideration should be given to review timing of site acquisition for the future elementary site in West Ridge to meet the growth requirements.

St. Bernard's (SBE) should be replaced with a new school on the existing site. The replacement school should be designed for approximately 300 – 350 pupil places. Consideration should be given to proceed with a review of the school's boundary to better balance enrolment and capacity.

Monsignor Lee (MLE) & Guardian Angels (GAN) should be consolidated in a replacement school either on an alternative site within 1.6 km of the existing two (2) schools (Option A), on the existing Monsignor Lee school site (Option B) (Partial replacement only, existing MLE gymnasium and office to be retained). Consideration should be given to proceed with a review of the schools' boundary to better balance enrolment and capacity.

8. On June 11, 2009, the Ministry of Education advised the Board that \$12.4 million dollars in capital funding has been allocated as a planning approval to respond to the recommendations and decision coming from this Pupil Accommodation Review. This funding allocation was in response to our Capital Priorities submission in the fall of 2008, and has been provided as a planning approval to respect the ongoing Pupil Accommodation Review process. This funding allocation, along with the Primary Class Size capital amount that was included in our estimates to the Ministry, is projected to fund the proposed replacement of St. Bernard's on the existing site, as well as the partial replacement of Monsignor Lee and replacement of Guardian Angels on the existing Monsignor Lee site. The partial replacement at Monsignor Lee would leave the existing gymnasium and office (i.e. built in 1991/92) in place and demolish the old wing of the school.

9. Staff will continue to work through the opportunities for site funding for an alternate site for the consolidated Guardian Angels and Monsignor Lee, based on the input and recommendation of the PAC, to see if their Option A is possible. At this time there have been no additional funds provided for an alternate site for the MLE / GAN consolidation and as such is the rationale for the recommendation below.

10. Staff are also reporting on an update of the Capital Announcements received. Along with that update, there is a recommendation that we proceed with the Architect selection for the partial replacement school at the existing Monsignor Lee / Guardian Angels options.

11. Recommendations #1-3 inclusive are being made by staff as per Policy LE-14 and are based on the funding available at this time. These recommendations will be brought forward to the Board for consideration after the public process has been completed.

- #1. To maintain the status quo for both Foley Catholic School and Notre Dame Catholic School.
- #2. To replace St. Bernard's school, based on the recommendation of the PAC and subject to the availability of funding and Ministry approval.
- #3. To consolidate Monsignor Lee and Guardian Angels school on the existing Monsignor Lee site, close Guardian Angels school, subject to the availability of funding, and Ministry Approval.

12. As a requirement of Policy LE-14, Recommendation #4 is being brought forward at this time for Board approval.

Recommendation:

That the Board approve the date of October 5, 2009 for receipt of public input for the Orillia Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR).