

REPORT TITLE: ORILLIA PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW – STATUS UPDATE
REPORT NUMBER: 9. 1) 12-2009
DESTINATION: Board Meeting #12
DATE: September 9, 2009
AUTHOR OF REPORT: Glenn Clarke, Controller of Plant
TYPE OF REPORT: INFORMATION

Background:

1. On November 5, 2008, the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board approved the formation of a Pupil Accommodation Review Committee (PAC) for the following Orillia area schools: Notre Dame, Foley Catholic, Monsignor Lee, Guardian Angels and St. Bernard's.
2. A Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR) is a formal process, following Ministry of Education guidelines, which helps to evaluate and review how we accommodate students in our schools. This process helps us with accommodation planning so that we can best meet the needs of students and parents now and in the future. The mandate of the PAC was to study, report and make recommendations on accommodation options regarding the group of Orillia area schools.
3. Following extensive research, discussion and public input throughout the PAR process, the PAC presented a finalized *School Valuation Report with Recommendations* to the Director of Education on May 20, 2009. This report also went to the Board for information. A *Staff Report* was presented to the Board on Wednesday, June 24, 2009.
4. On June 12, 2009, the Ministry of Education advised the Board that \$12.4 million dollars in capital funding has been allocated to respond to the recommendations and decision coming from this Pupil Accommodation Review. This funding allocation is projected to fund the proposed replacement of St. Bernard's on the existing site, 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. Further analysis and review with the Ministry on the funding allocation and the proposed accommodation solutions is ongoing

Comments:

5. In addition and according to the Ministry Guidelines, there will be an opportunity for the public to provide further comments directly to the Board regarding the *Staff Report* and the *School Valuation Report*, in a special Board meeting scheduled for October 5, 2009. Following this Board Meeting to receive public input, staff will prepare a follow-up report to the Board in response to the presentations made by the public. The follow-up report from staff will be released publicly and will be posted on the Board's website at www.smcdsb.on.ca.
6. Staff continue to investigate the opportunities for additional property and site funding for an alternate site for the consolidated Guardian Angels and Monsignor Lee, based on the recommendation of the PAC. At this time there have been no additional funds provided for an alternate site for the MLE / GAN consolidation.
7. The Board will make its final decision regarding the schools' accommodation recommendations in consideration of the PAC Report, Staff's Report, Staff's Follow-up Report, public input and Ministry funding announcements. This will happen at a Board meeting on November 25, 2009. The community will be notified of the Board's accommodation decision after that date.

8. Notices of our upcoming special Public Input Board meeting will be issued to the community through the local schools via a newsletter and the local newspaper.

Conclusion

This report is provided to the Board for information.