



## MINUTES

### PAC PUBLIC MEETING #2

February 24, 2009 ~ Notre Dame Catholic School ~7pm

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TO: PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW COMMITTEE (PAC)  
DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2009 AT NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
RE: ORILLIA AREA CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY REVIEW, 2008/09

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1. **Welcome** Provided by Darren Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools at 7:05 p.m.
2. **Opening Prayer** *Prayer for Blessing of One's Daily Work* was recited by all public and committee members
3. **Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR) Presentation**

#### ***i) Process Outline***

Darren Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools outlined the purpose of the Orillia Accommodation Review and Capital Plan priorities. School Valuation framework (SVF) Information for each school was provided on an 11 x 17 handout

Other highlights were:

- Discussed Process and timeline
- Intent of review
- School Valuation Framework (SVF)
- Draft School – Specific Valuation Framework i.e.) Question Highlights for: Value to the Student, School Board, Community and Local Economy.
- Presentation materials are available at the back for viewing after meeting
- A review of the opportunities available to the public to provide comments and review materials i.e.) minutes, handouts and information from public meetings are accessible for viewing on the board's website at [smcdsb.on.ca](http://smcdsb.on.ca)

**ii) Presentation of Draft School-Specific Valuation Reports**

School Communities involved in the Orillia Accommodation Review, presented key findings from their Draft School-Specific Valuation Reports as follows:

Foley

Presented by: Sharon Turlej and Theresa Robertson

- Exposed to Catholic Values
- Close proximity to Church (St. Andrew's Parish)
- Outstanding Leadership Role Opportunities
- State of the Art Gym
- Smaller School means everyone can participate on sports teams
- Strong community presence and historical significance
- Everyone participates in 'Spirit Teams', including staff and students
- Special Needs Opportunities therefore no one is excluded
- Community and Family oriented
- Split Grades (staff must ensure good communication in order to accommodate)
- Only Catholic School in the area

Guardian Angels

Presented by: Paul Frederick

- Only opportunity for primary education within our School Board
- Close proximity to Church (Guardian Angels Parish – Key strength)
- Strong sense of leadership opportunities for younger students
- Under Capacity/Utilized
- Leased school
- Strong significance with school and city
- Little people, little problems
- Location – Central where everything is walkable and great exposure for the Board on West Street and adjacent to the Parish
- Fenced yard for the students safety
- Smaller staff means fewer issue &/or easier to be addressed
- Prohibitive to school repair
- Only real issue is needing more students

Monsignor Lee

Presented by: Paul Campbell

- Rich History of Catholic Education in the Community
- Safety issues
- On-site facilities – programming space/washrooms
- Extremely active school with many co-curricular offerings to students
- Location is excellent
- Parking concerns
- EQAO
- Partnerships/O.P.P Community Service
- Partial Prohibitive to repair school

Notre Dame

Presented by: Adrian Zulian

- EQAO scores are very positive
- Newest school of all others in this review area
- Very large site size
- Daycare facility to support community and current JK/SK students on off days. Before/After program within two classrooms to support students
- Drama productions, including grades 1-8
- Currently large number bussed – City sidewalks are planned for 2010
- Large use of school and play field for students and community
- Biggest need at school is for a Kiss n' Ride
- School is Reading Recovery Training Centre for all schools north of Barrie with specialized training room in library
- Kindergarten play area is fenced and gated

St. Bernard's

Presented by: Bob Kennedy

- Rich intergenerational history (52 years)
- Rising EQAO scores
- Wonderful relationship with Guardian angels and St. Columkille's churches allowing student involvement in music ministry and the life of both Parishes
- Oxford Street property is ideal location for servicing this community and provides lots of space for new facility
- School provides community with many valuable opportunities (ie. Triple PPP Parenting Course)
- Significant security/Safety issues to be addressed (increased police presence)
- Kindergarten play area is adjacent to Oxford Street which is a safety concern
- Facility is completely inadequate, although school is working well because of students and staff
- Prohibitive to repair

**iii) Information & Issues To Be Considered**

- √ Look at options regarding the future of schools
- √ Review presentation of information to the parents
- √ How to get more parents to attend public meetings

#### **4. Questions/Discussion**

A question and answer period ensued and the following concerns/comments were raised:

**Question: What is the timeline for changes to occur at St. Bernard's?**

**Answer by: Glenn Clarke, Controller of Plant;**

We have been having discussions with the Ministry of Education and talked to the school community. The key is trying to get funding and then we will be selecting an architect. The timing is dependant on funding announcements. St. Bernard's is the #1 capital project we are working on.

Three Orillia Schools are listed as Prohibitive to Repair under the Capital Plan priorities. The three schools are: St. Bernard's, Monsignor Lee, and Guardian Angels.

**Question: What do you mean by prohibitive to repair?**

**Answer: by: Glenn Clarke**

Prohibitive to repair means the cost to repair the school is 65 percent of the cost of replacing the facility.

**Darren Schmidt:** The probability of getting provincial funding will be a consideration by the committee as it works toward its final recommendation.

**Question: Does the report go to the Board in November?**

**Answer: by: Jennifer Sharpe, Manager of Planning and Properties;**

Spoke about the prescribed process and the number of steps needed first to move forward. It may be well into November before any final decisions would be made. Also mentioned were the many avenues that can be used to provide feedback: Website, Mail, e-mail etc.

**Rich Foshay:** No one can say this process has snuck up on them when we have provided open communication. We need to be clear on the scope of review and work. People need to assume some personal responsibility and read the information provided.

**Question: Is it possible there may not be any boundary changes?**

**Answer by: Darren Schmidt**

Yes, it is possible.

**Comment: Rich Foshay**

We need to focus on what our schools have to offer rather than what other schools do not have. We need to be more positive.

**Question: When do the parents have an opportunity to give their opinion, concerns, and/or comments?**

**Answer by: Darren Schmidt**

Community input is very important to us as we move forward. Parents can attend the public meetings; review the information on our website.

**Kristin D. Pechkovsky, Planning Officer:** We have also provided comment sheets at the back of the auditorium.

**Discussion:**

A discussion ensued on the lack of parents in attendance at the public meeting and how to get more parents to attend. It was brought to our attention that the language in the notices being sent home is vague. The language in these notices should be assertive and written in a clear and familiar way so parents understand the importance of these recommendations. It was also mentioned that identifying the purpose of these public meetings on the reminders sent home would be helpful.

It was suggested that the individual schools could call each parent directly to make them aware because not everyone reads the newsletters or has access to a computer. Perhaps parents could sign back the reminder notices if they have been received?

**Comment by Jim Canning, Board Trustee:**

This is just the process, when it comes closer to the recommendations, more people will attend these public meetings

Our language needs to be clear and not just “Jargon”.

It’s Important to get someone from the newspaper (Orillia Packet and Times) to help us out with media coverage and our Notices.

**Comment by: Paul Frederick**

Perhaps by providing more accommodation options in the notice to the parents it would jump start more parents to attend the public meeting on March 26.

**Glenn Clarke:** School council meetings are a good opportunity to get point access. We will be taking all of these comments back to the working group meeting on March 10, 2009 and we will work on a plan.

**Darren Schmidt:** We need to use stronger words that will encourage public involvement. Would an Executive Summary on the website be helpful?

**Question: What kind of input do we have as parents not as participants in working group meetings?**

**Answer by: Darren Schmidt**

If you attend you can listen and give feedback outside of these meetings. Even after the committee’s recommendations are forwarded to the board, the public will still have two more opportunities to provide feedback at board meetings.

**Question by: Paul Campbell:** Will there be an announcement of each public meeting and what will we be dealing with at each meeting?

**Question:** Are you comfortable asking the public for their comments when they don't understand?

**Answer by: Darren Schmidt**

This is a process and we are open for input and feedback, we want to include as many people as possible so they can provide us with feedback. We want to make sure we are representing the public's opinion.

**Jennifer Sharpe:** The information on the school valuation reports presented is considered "draft". These are prepared by the committee for presentation and input. We are not trying to give information and then ask for input right away. There are a number of steps involved in the process designed by the Ministry and asking for input is not intended to put anyone on the spot. We appreciate your feedback.

**Comment from floor:** Members are responsible to look at everything and what is best suited for the community. The Public needs to trust the committee.

**Question:** How many parents are on the committee?

**Answer by: Darren Schmidt**

There are three parents on the committee from each school. (There are 5 schools in the review. Therefore, there are approximately 15 parents out of 35 people.)

5. **Closing Prayer**                      The Lord's Prayer was recited by all
  
6. **Adjournment**                        The meeting adjourned at 7:44p.m.

**NOTES:**

**Next Public Meeting #3**

- *Presentation of Accommodation Options to be considered*
- *Receive Community Input.*

**Date: March 26, 2009**

**Time: 7:00 pm**

**Location: Guardian Angels School**

**Public Meeting #4**

- *Presentation of Draft School Valuation Report & Recommendations*
- *Receive Community Input*

**Date: April 27, 2009**

**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**Location: St. Bernard's School**

# MINUTES

## PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW (PAR) PUBLIC MEETING #2

TO: PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW COMMITTEE (PAC)  
 DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2009 AT NOTRE DAME SCHOOL  
 RE: ORILLIA AREA CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY REVIEW, 2008/2009

The Pupil Accommodation Review Committee (PAC) met on February 24,, 2009 and the following members were:

|                 |                |                   |                                    |                    |                    |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>PRESENT:</b> | Paul           | Campbell          | Principal                          | Monsignor Lee      |                    |
|                 | Rhonda         | Lauer             | Non Teaching Rep.                  | Monsignor Lee      |                    |
|                 | Karen          | Murphy            | Teacher Rep.                       | Guardian Angels    |                    |
|                 | Christine      | Fry               | Co-Chair                           | Guardian Angels    |                    |
|                 | Eilleen        | Brown             | Parent                             | Guardian Angels    |                    |
|                 | Michelle       | Tazzeo            | Parent                             | Guardian Angels    |                    |
|                 | Paul           | Frederick         | Principal                          | Guardian Angels    |                    |
|                 | Bernie         | Harris            |                                    | Guardian Angels    |                    |
|                 | Theresa        | Robertson         | Teacher Rep.                       | Foley              |                    |
|                 | Carol          | Taylor            | Parent                             | Foley              |                    |
|                 | Karen          | Whalen            | Parent                             | Foley              |                    |
|                 | Sharon         | Turlej            | Parish Rep.                        | Foley              |                    |
|                 | Adrian         | Zulian            | Principal                          | Notre Dame         |                    |
|                 | Kevin          | Strong            | Vice Principal                     | Notre Dame         |                    |
|                 | Heather        | Stanton           | Co-Chair                           | Notre Dame         |                    |
|                 | Nadine         | Lajoie            | Teacher & Parent                   | Notre Dame         |                    |
|                 | Dave           | Christie          | Non Teaching Rep                   | Notre Dame         |                    |
|                 | Natalie        | D'Agnillo         | Teacher/Parent                     | Notre Dame         |                    |
|                 | Rich           | Foshay            | Principal                          | St. Bernard's      |                    |
|                 | Kristie        | Anderson          | Parent                             | St. Bernard's      |                    |
|                 | Darlene        | England           | Parent                             | St. Bernard's      |                    |
|                 | Jim            | Canning           | School Trustee                     | SMCDSB             |                    |
|                 | Jennifer       | Sharpe            | Manager of Planning and Properties | SMCDSB             |                    |
|                 | Glenn          | Clarke            | Controller of Plant                | SMCDSB             |                    |
|                 | Darren         | Schmidt           | Superintendent of Schools          | SMCDSB             |                    |
|                 | Kristin        | Dibble Pechkovsky | Planning Officer                   | SMCDSB             |                    |
|                 | <b>ABSENT:</b> | Megan             | Bondy                              |                    | Monsignor Lee      |
|                 |                | Jeff              | Duggan                             | Chair              | Monsignor Lee      |
|                 |                | Sue               | Peacock                            | Chair              | Notre Dame         |
|                 |                | John              | O'Donnell                          | Councillor, Ward 2 | Township of Ramara |
|                 |                | Heather           | Shier                              | Non Teaching Rep.  | Foley              |
|                 |                | Sherri            | Black                              | Chair              | Foley              |
|                 |                | Brenda            | Lawlor-MacDonald                   | Teacher Rep.       | St. Bernard's      |
| Valinda         |                | Trivett-Cockburn  | Non Teaching Rep.                  | St. Bernard's      |                    |
| Paul            |                | Spears            | Councillor                         | City of Orillia    |                    |
| Sandra          |                | Downer            |                                    | Monsignor Lee      |                    |
| Janet-Lynne     |                | Durnford          | Teacher Rep.                       | Monsignor Lee      |                    |
| Janice          |                | Tulipano          | Non Teaching Rep.                  | Guardian Angels    |                    |
| Joyce           |                | Stanga            | Parish Rep                         | Guardian Angels    |                    |
| Heather         |                | Shier             | Non Teaching Rep.                  | Foley              |                    |
| <b>REGRETS:</b> |                | Audrey            | Hamilton                           | Principal          | Foley              |