



February 13 Community Meeting **NORTH CHATHAM CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

What you told us you like about the plans for the new school...

- New school with Children's Treatment Centre next door is a bonus.
- Great use of land in an area of town that is continuing to have increased residential areas.
- Nicely laid out – gorgeous
- Natural light – lots of open spaces
- Common areas
- Lots of parking spaces
- Beautiful
- Kindergarten classes are great
- Gym will be great
- Bright
- Students will benefit from all the amenities
- Open concept
- Size of gym
- Extra space for therapists/meeting rooms
- Atrium/Sacred Space
- Separate space for childcare/kindergarten/others on playground
- Lots of space
- There has been a lot of thought put into the design
- Stained glass/coloured glass
- Does not look crowded
- Inclusions of working spaces for therapy kids
- Traffic flow and Bussing
- Presentation
- Collaborative learning spaces
- Quiet reading area
- Outdoor learning spaces
- Breakout rooms
- Catholic identity appreciated
- Drop off area, not interfering with bus entry as they have separate entry – no congestion.
- Community access to the school
- Savings by design
- Primary on ground floor.

What you told us you are wondering about; and the answers to your questions...

The building has many large windows. Would smaller windows increase energy consumption and efficiency?

The use of smaller windows does not result in increased energy consumption and efficiency. Window technology has improved significantly. There are many factors that make large windows perform well in cold environments – double or triple glazing, warm edge spacer bars and window coatings (i.e. low-emittance, etc.). Benefits to larger windows include allowing lots of natural daylight into the building, which is very helpful during winter months and saves on electric lighting and passive solar gain, which helps to heat the building. It also helps bring the outdoors into the building.

With very large windows, is there a plan to install shades, as there will be times when the light is too bright?

Roller shades will be installed in all learning spaces (i.e. classrooms, library, etc.) while the main atrium will rely on coatings applied to the glass and sunscreens to reduce the impact of the 70 degree sun.

Will office doors be open, which is more welcoming? Is there an option to not close them up?

The main office will be closed in for privacy and confidentiality. The main office will have two aluminum doors with glass panels to provide clear sightlines into the administration office space for anyone entering the building. The section of wall between the two aluminum doors contains glass panels to allow for proper supervision and the ability to see people entering the building from vestibule and atrium spaces.

Will there be playground structures and equipment?

Playground equipment is not funded by the Ministry. Outdoor equipment will be available as the school can provide, as in all of our schools. Included in this project, is the design and plan to install an engineered wood chip pit, sandpit, line painting and artificial turf play area in the Kindergarten area. In the primary and senior areas, there will be soccer and basketball posts installed, line painting on asphalt and seating benches. In the childcare area, there will be some form of play equipment for the age specific spaces.

Will bells be turned off on the weekends and holidays?

The new PA system has the ability to be programmed so that bells do not go off on weekends and holidays.

We are concerned about noise levels since some homes back up to childcare and schoolyard.

Although the current drawings show asphalt being installed up to the neighbouring properties, the Board intends to introduce a small berm with trees to create a separation between the houses and the school yard.

Will we be able to use pool at CKCS?

Children who will benefit from the use of the therapeutic pool at the new Children's Treatment Centre of Chatham Kent will have easy access to the new facilities. We are in discussions with the Children's Treatment Centre to enhance collaboration with the school.

Are there enough parking spaces, especially when school holds big events?

The parking lot is designed to accommodate 90 parking spaces, which exceeds the number of spaces required by the Municipality of Chatham Kent bylaw of 75 spaces. For large events, the Board's overflow parking will rely on our neighbouring properties like, the Children Treatment Centre and St. Clair College. The Ministry does not fund boards to design and construct parking lots to hold all the vehicles of parent pick-up and large events.

Will we be able to share the parking spaces at the Children's Treatment Centre?

We believe that the design of the new Children's Treatment Centre will include a plan to share parking between the Centre and the school. The design for the Treatment Centre will be finalized upon achieving their funding goal.

Explain the security measures.

The building will have four systems that assist with security - intrusion, access control, video intercoms and a closed-circuit television system (CCTV).

Is there enough free space on the playground? Most kids will play soccer; or just want a place to sit on the grass?

The school property is 8 acres, which is considered a very large property for an elementary school. This size allows for large paved and unpaved play areas.

Is there enough space in the gym for spectators? Will there be bleachers; or will the stage drop to accommodate spectators in the gym?

The gym will be 6,400 square feet, which is large and can accommodate bleachers or chair seating. Windows opening up to the atrium also allow spectators to view games from this area.

Will local brick be used?

The brick will be Canadian product and locally supplied.

What are the rules for courtesy bus seats? What is the walk distance?

Student transportation for both the St. Clair Catholic District School Board and the Lambton Kent District School Board is managed by CLASS, an arms-length consortium, which is owned by both school boards. It has its own set of policies and procedures that apply to all bussed students in both boards, throughout all of Chatham-Kent and Lambton County. Its policies and procedures may be found on its website at cklass.ca The policy regarding walk distance will not change.

Will there be access to and from Prestancia through the school yard?

The Board will install a man gate and sidewalk to allow students and neighbours to access the property from the Prestancia development.

Will there be an Open House before the first day of school?

Yes, working with a Transition Committee, which is yet to be established, an Open House and celebration will be arranged.

How will class lists be determined?

Class lists are determined as part of a collaborative effort among administrators and teachers. It is a process that takes into consideration many factors and ensures a sense of belonging for all students. Class lists will have students from the three schools.

Safety – Do students walking from the ‘Kiss and Ride’ drop-off go to the playground; or can they enter the school?

The design allows for parents to drop students off onto the sidewalks, which they will use to access the school yard and building.

Transition planning – will there be opportunities to bring students together?

Yes, the Transition Committee will organize opportunities for students to come together. We are just beginning to get this committee together. Student reps from the three schools are part of a Student Voice Team.

How long will students be on the bus?

Other than in exceptional circumstances, students in elementary school will not ride more than 60 minutes on the bus, one way, each day.

What happens if construction is delayed?

The Board’s contingency plan to address a delay in construction would be to leave all staff and students in their current schools.

How many staircases are in the building?

There are 4 staircases.

The existing cedars and fencing belong to the homeowners association. Will there be fencing/additional trees for safety and privacy? The solution needs to be visually appealing.

The school yard will have a new fence installed around the perimeter and the Board plans to introduce a small berm with cedars/spruce trees around the perimeter of the school yard for additional privacy. The Board will coordinate the fence installation with the homeowners prior to the work being done.

What happens for parents who do not drive (e.g. sick children, meetings, interviews?)

The school admin team will work with families to determine ways to ensure all families can participate in the various school activities and support meaningful parent engagement.

How many principals and vice principals will be assigned?

In accordance with the Education Act, the Board will assign one principal per school. With respect to assigning vice principals, the Board must review each school’s enrolment numbers before determining the required allotment.

How many acres will the playground be?

4+ acres of unpaved play area.

What about sports?

Sports will be a part of school life as it is in all of our schools.

What will the school start time be? This will affect traffic.

CLASS will be working on route optimization strategies in advance of the school opening to determine the optimum bell time to minimize transportation costs for SCCDSB. Final bell times will be established in the months prior to school opening.

No go if no traffic approval?

The Board is currently working closely with the Municipality to ensure that the recommendations of the Traffic Study will result in a safe and efficient approach to traffic and student transportation. We have no plans to cancel construction at this time.

Sacramental Spaces?

Each classroom will have prayer spaces. The school atrium will be a flexible space and support liturgical events, as needed. There will be a visible sign of our faith and open space to support prayerful gatherings.

Will there be a Buffer Zone / landscape Plan?

Yes, the Board plans to introduce a small berm and plant trees around the perimeter of the school yard.

Lighting Encroachment – no floodlights on playing field. Do not want security lighting to shine into nearby houses.

The Board needs to install floodlights on the building to ensure staff and students are safe during late sunrise and early sunset periods of the year. A photometric lighting plan will be submitted and reviewed with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent. The Board intends to install the exterior lights on a timer, which enables them to be shut off between 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.

Consultation sessions not started soon enough. Little time until site plan submitted.

Consultations regarding the amalgamation of the school communities and the proposed solutions were conducted at public meetings over the course of the 2016 – 17 school year. User consultations were conducted throughout the fall/winter of 2017. Once the user groups and architects reached agreement on the designs (January 2018) the Board arranged dates for the public meetings and sessions at the schools. Our goal is to conduct all stages of design and consultation in a timely matter with the goal of opening the school in September 2019.

Can we collaborate with Ecole Ste. Marie to minimize bus traffic impact?

CLASS will explore bell time collaboration with the transportation consortium responsible for student transportation services for Ecole St. Marie, in the spirit of minimizing traffic congestion impacts. Final transportation planning strategies will be based on service and cost considerations for the SCCDSB and LKDSB (for shared routes).

Concerns with parents dropping off kids / traffic impacts.

The school will develop and implement a traffic plan to address parent pick-up drop off.

What is the plan for pick-up?

Traffic plans vary by locations and school sizes. The Board will work with the Municipality and the CLASS transportation department to develop the plan.

Is there enough room for ‘Kiss & Ride’?

A ‘Kiss & Ride’ lane will be located at the front of the school, which is separated from a designated bus lane, located on the west side of the school.

Will there be a berm built towards the residential properties?

There will be a small berm installed on the property, which will contain storm water.

Concern about number of buses.

The number of buses used at the new school will be determined based upon the volume of eligible student riders and the established efficiency & service level factors. A final count of buses serving the new school will be finalized in the annual route planning process in the spring/summer immediately prior to the school opening.

What is the height of glass wall on second floor of Collaborative Learning Space?

The design is not finalized but it will be approximately 8 to 10 ft. in height.

Traffic Concerns – Answers to the following eight (8) questions have been provided by the Municipality of Chatham-Kent.

1) What traffic management controls will be put in place to accommodate increased traffic volume in the area of the new school?

- *Traffic Management/Traffic Control measures to accommodate this new school development were requested by the Municipality of Chatham-Kent to be incorporated in a Traffic Impact Study (TIS) completed by the Catholic School Board's traffic Consultant. The Municipality is currently reviewing this TIS with plans to incorporate any required measures in the coming years as budget permits.*

2) Will a traffic light be installed at Keil and McNaughton?

- *In line with the response above, this intersection was requested by the Municipality to be reviewed and determine if a form of traffic control (traffic signals) is warranted in accordance with the Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) warrant criteria.*

3) Will sidewalks be added to the north side of McNaughton Avenue? When will they be installed and how far will they extend?

- *In accordance with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent's sidewalk policy, a new sidewalk is being proposed from Keil Trail to Doverdoon St. (east) for construction in 2018. On the north side of McNaughton, west of Keil Trail (connecting the existing sidewalk adjacent to the new school site to Keil Trail), a new sidewalk is being proposed for construction in 2019. Both new sidewalk sections have been included in the 2018/2019 budget and are subject to Council approval.*

4) Will there be a cross-walk on McNaughton Avenue? How will it be activated and where will it be located?

- *The need for a cross-walk, which would be a Pedestrian Crossover (PXO) in accordance with the OTM, is being evaluated through the TIS. The TIS will determine if this type of pedestrian traffic control is warranted as well as the preferred location. Activation of a PXO would be through push-button pedestals on both the north and south side of McNaughton signalling to oncoming traffic via flashing lights and signage to stop accordingly.*

5) Will on-street parking be banned on certain streets in near proximity to the new school?

Which streets?

- *The Municipality is planning to conduct a thorough review of the need for on-street parking along McNaughton Avenue W. At this time, on-street parking will be eliminated in the vicinity of the new school to safely accommodate the new driveways and drop-off locations as required and there are no plans to eliminate any on-street parking within the adjacent subdivisions.*

6) What happens if traffic recommendations are not approved?

- *The Municipality does not understand this question as there currently are no recommendations. All recommendations are approved by Council in a public setting.*

7) Will the Municipality do an additional traffic study to include McNaughton and Baldoon?

- *It was determined that the intersection of McNaughton Ave. and Baldoon is outside of the zone of influence and will have little to no impact as a result of the proposed school development. Therefore, the Municipality has no intention to do this study at this time.*

8) Will the new school affect taxes and property values?

- *The Municipal Property Assessment Corporation's (MPAC) role is to assess and classify all properties in Ontario in accordance with the Assessment Act and regulations established by the Government of Ontario.*
- *When assessing residential properties, MPAC looks at sales and compares properties to similar properties that have sold in a particular area.*
- *When assessing residential properties, there are five major factors which account for 85% of a home's value: location, living area, lot dimensions, age of the property and quality of construction.*
- *MPAC's property assessments reflect local real estate market trends. We do not make market predictions.*

49 childcare spaces – is this enough?

The number of child care spaces was determined and approved by the Municipal Service Manager for Children's Services. All Before and After school programs must meet the need of the school, so additional spaces may be licensed in order to meet the school community's need for Before and After school programming. A license can be obtained for as many children as needed.

Who can attend childcare centre?

All child care programs are open to the public.

Will parents of new school be given preferential access to daycare spaces?

No, spaces are open to the public as managed by the Municipal Service Manager.

Who will run the childcare centre?

The Board will release an expression of interest shortly to child care operators. The selection of the child care operator will be made from the interested child care operators who respond.

Will daycare provide before & after school space or use Kindergarten classrooms? When can people put their names on wait lists?

We will ensure that Extended Day and Before & After school programs are part of the expression of interest that is distributed for child care operators. The child care operator selected will need to offer all programs if they wish to be the provider. Once the child care provider is selected we could work with the Municipality to set up a waitlist through HSNOnelist. (on-line waitlist)