

ARC MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009
St. Patrick's Catholic High School, Sarnia

TIME	ITEM
7:07 p.m.	<p>Welcome/Opening Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ann Sutton, Superintendent of Education, introduced herself as Chair and thanked everyone for attending.
7:08 p.m.	<p>Opening Prayer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Sutton opened the meeting with prayer. ▪ Housekeeping issues were addressed: tripping hazards, beverages, washrooms, emergency exits, etc.
7:11 p.m.	<p>Introductions – Ms. Sutton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The members of the ARC introduced themselves. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maureen Beauregard, ARC member representing St. Patrick's Catholic High School ○ Elaine Hayter, ARC member representing St. Patrick's Catholic High School ○ Jane Spanton, ARC member representing St. Patrick's Catholic High School ○ Caroline Brant, ARC member representing St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School ○ Janet Chynces, ARC member representing St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School ○ Candice Etienne, ARC member representing St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School ○ Robert Kardas, Dean of Business and Sports Administration at Lambton College, community representative ○ Fr. Matthew Bedard, ARC member representing the parishes ○ Jack Evers, Prime Minister of St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School student council, representing students (non-voting member) ○ Cian Poore, Prime Minister of St. Patrick's Catholic High School student council, representing students (non-voting member) ○ Bernadette Gray, Principal, St. Patrick's Catholic High School, resource to the committee ○ Brendan Deery, Principal, St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School, resource to the committee ○ Fred Galloway, F.J. Galloway Associates, Board consultant, facilitator and resource to the committee ▪ The roles of voting and non-voting ARC members were explained. ▪ Senior Board staff, who are present and are acting as resources to the ARC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Paul Wubben, Director of Education ○ Deb Crawford, Superintendent of Education

ARC MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009
St. Patrick Catholic High School, Sarnia

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trustees in attendance were acknowledged. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Anita Labadie, Chair of the Board ○ Linda Ward, Vice Chair of the Board ○ Michelle Parks ○ Ross Daly ○ Carol Bryden ○ John Van Heck ○ Brenda Rumble ▪ Recording Secretaries and Technical Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cathy Calvert ○ Tina Smith ○ Ken Ross
<p>7:14 p.m.</p>	<p>Rules of Order</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All audience members should register their attendance on forms outside of the gym. ▪ The rules of order, as outlined in the agenda, will be followed. <p>Notes of the meetings Notes will be taken by two recording secretaries and will be placed on the website within 10 working days after the meeting. The notes are not a verbatim transcript of the meeting.</p> <p>Protocols</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meeting protocols, as outlined in the agenda, will be followed. <p>Questions arising from Presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ARC members may ask questions at the end of each presentation. ▪ One hour at the end of the meeting will be allotted for questions from the audience. Each person who wishes to ask a question will be allotted two minutes to do so.
<p>7:15 p.m.</p>	<p>Presentation of the May 5, 2009 notes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ These were posted on the Board website within 5 working days of the last meeting and the ARC members have hard copies of these in their packages. <p>Questions from ARC members arising from previous meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There were no questions

ARC MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009
St. Patrick Catholic High School, Sarnia

7:17 p.m.	<p>Review of Board Policy – Ms. Sutton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy 7.4, Section 2.0 Student Accommodation and Boundary Review was reviewed. ▪ <i>ARC Presentation</i> – slides: # 4 - 12 ▪ The ARC’s mandate and the substance and progress of the previous meetings were reviewed ▪ The timelines for the publishing of notes for the May 19, 2009 meeting, the ARC’s recommendations to the Board, the meeting for public input and presentations to the Board and the meeting at which the Board will make its final recommendation were outlined. ▪ The recommendation, which was agreed upon at the May 5, 2009 meeting, was reviewed ▪ The ARC members agreed by consensus that the following is the core recommendation, which will go to the Board: <i>The Accommodation Review Committee recommends that the two school communities of St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School and St. Patrick’s Catholic High School be consolidated at the current site of St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School.</i>
7:24 p.m.	<p>Implementation Considerations – Mr. Galloway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>ARC Presentation</i> – slides: #13 - 16 <p>Question – Ms. Hayter – Are these to be added to the recommendation to be presented to the Board? Response – Ms. Sutton – These will be included in the report to the trustees as implementation considerations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The implementation considerations, which were discussed at the last ARC meeting were reviewed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sustain PEOPEL Program ○ Technology program ○ Name of school on St. Christopher site will require careful consideration <p>Comment – Ms. Beauregard – Due to the fact that the focus group’s opinion was that the St. Patrick’s name be kept, this needs to be given considerable consideration.</p> <p>Comment – Ms. Chynces – The St. Christopher parents want to keep the name St. Christopher, they have a 13 year history.</p> <p>Comment – Ms. Etienne – There needs to be a carefully laid out process when it comes to naming the new school.</p> <p>Comment – Mr. Kardas – The process of naming the new school needs to be carefully considered, taking into account the focus group recommendations as well as the legacy issues. This is a lengthy process. We may not be able to complete it tonight.</p>

ARC MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009
St. Patrick Catholic High School, Sarnia

Comment – Mr. Galloway – Perhaps the implementation consideration should read:
St. Patrick’s Catholic High School is one of the names considered for the name of the school on St. Christopher site and that all of the focus group recommendations regarding the name of the school be considered.

- Utilization of St. Patrick’s track
- Upgrading of St. Christopher’s track
- Respect St. Patrick’s tradition

Comment – Ms. Hayter – St. Patrick’s strong and long traditions need to be maintained in some way.

- Transportation
- Transition Committee

Comment – Ms. Beauregard – We need to expedite the implementation process so we don’t have another long process.

Comment – Ms. Hayter – We need to ensure that there is some representation from the ARC members as part of the Transition Committee for continuity.

- Transition Committee should include representation from the ARC committee
- Consideration should be given to grandfathering both school uniforms
- Provide unique curriculum options which might draw students into the school
- Public relations should focus on the positive and showcase what Catholic Education is all about
- Marketing the consolidated school should attract the maximum number of students to create a strong and successful Catholic school

Comment – Ms. Chynces – Make sure early on in the process that planning and development decisions are discussed with the City of Sarnia for developmental timeframes.

Question - Mr. Kardas – Can the Board look at the timelines and expedite the November 24, 2009 timeline?

Response – Ms. Sutton – The timelines are set according to Ministry of Education guidelines.

Comment – Ms. Etienne – We need to be careful not to expedite to the point that consultation is lost.

Comment – Mr. Kardas - Interim communication and public relations strategy need to be developed by the Board while this timeline is being worked out.

Comment – Ms. Sutton – No decision is made until the Board votes on November 24, 2009.

ARC MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009
St. Patrick Catholic High School, Sarnia

	<p>Comment – Ms. Spanton – During the interim, we need to ensure the PEOPEL program continues and that we make maximum use of the magnet program, so that we can offer the greatest variety of programs to the students of both schools.</p> <p>Comment – Ms. Beauregard – We must respect both St. Patrick’s and St. Christopher traditions.</p> <p>Comment – Mr. Galloway – The implementation consideration needs to be amended.</p> <p>Comment – Ms. Beauregard – The implementation consideration should read: Respect both St. Patrick’s and St. Christopher’s traditions.</p> <p>Comment – Mr. Galloway – We will so amend.</p>
<p>7:45 p.m.</p>	<p>Recommendation of the staff and next steps – Mr. Wubben</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked the members of the ARC for the job they did and for doing it with grace and perseverance. • Staff will also make a recommendation to the Board. • In essence the recommendation will be that the two schools be consolidated on the St. Christopher site; this will be based on ministry funding approval. • One significant difference from the ARC recommendation will be that the staff recommendation will name the new school St. Patrick’s Catholic High School, north and south campuses, effective September 2010. This is due to several factors, including the 75 years of history of the St. Patrick’s legacy. In terms of retention, St. Patrick’s alumni will be more inclined to send their children to St. Patrick’s on another site than to a school with another name. • The Board being presented with two recommendations for their consideration is a good thing. • September 15th is the date of the meeting at which the public may bring their concerns or make comment to the Board, regarding either recommendation. <p>Anita Labadie, Chair of the Board – on behalf of the Board of Trustees, thanked the ARC for their time, their commitment and discernment in this matter.</p> <p>The trustees have been in attendance at the meetings and they have heard the ARC’s concerns. The Board of Trustees for the St. Clair Catholic District School Board will take to heart the ARC’s concerns when it makes its decision. It has been a difficult process.</p> <p>Ms. Labadie thanked the staff at St. Patrick’s Catholic High School for being so diligent in attending these meetings. Their concern for Catholic education in Sarnia has been noted. Thank you as well to the parents for coming out to see this process and to see how transparent the process has been. The transparency will again be evident in September with public input.</p> <p>Ms. Labadie concluded by thanking everyone for choosing Catholic Education.</p>

ARC MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009
St. Patrick Catholic High School, Sarnia

7:55 p.m.

Comment – Chad Coene – St. Patrick’s Teacher & Alumnus

Thanked the ARC members for the time they gave. Expressed appreciation for the message the Director of Education brought tonight and the proposal that the St. Patrick’s name be kept. Expressed disappointment that the ARC did not include this in its recommendation. The name of St. Patrick’s is extremely important to members of the community from all walks of life, including, barbers, bank tellers, and deli retailers. The name is part of the wider Sarnia community and is integral to Catholic Education. The focus groups of both St. Patrick’s and St. Christopher clearly state that the name be kept St. Patrick’s (pages 32 & 33 of the focus groups report). The legacy of St. Pat’s is extremely important; however, the name and legacy of St. Christopher must also be maintained, perhaps through the naming of the school chapel, or a wing of the school, or in some other significant way.

Response – Mr. Galloway – The information of the focus groups is correct. It should also be noted that many of the St. Christopher alumni represented in the focus group started high school at St. Patrick’s. Also note that discussions at the focus groups included keeping the name St. Patrick’s, St. Christopher or a third name.

Comment – Pat Lepore – Coach, Parent and graduate of St. Patrick’s

The history of St. Patrick’s is a reason for keeping the name of St. Patrick’s. Students will be bussed a long way to school and if the name of St. Patrick’s is kept we will keep students, as it a name well known within and outside Lambton County. Expressed thanks for the impressive work of the ARC committee.

Question – Ruth Geurts – St. Patrick’s Parent

What is the date of the closure?

Response – Ms. Sutton – The date is unknown at this time as the Board has not made its final decision and ministry approval needs to be received; however, it is unlikely that it would happen before 2012.

Comment - Ruth Geurts – St. Patrick’s Parent

The transition committee should include equal representation by parents, teachers, staff and students. Student considerations are the most important in this process. There should be a smooth transition for curricular and extracurricular activities.

Comment – Karen Laucke – St. Patrick’s teacher and not a graduate of St. Patrick’s

Ms. Laucke is originally from Hamilton and knew about St. Patrick’s even while living there. The school’s legacy and traditions are well known outside of Lambton County. There is an unwavering sense of community pride among students, teachers, alumni and the larger community, which goes beyond Lambton County. The name of St. Christopher should not be diminished in the process, so whatever can be done to preserve the school’s 13 year history should be done.

Comment – Barb Fisher – St. Pat’s Alumni, Teacher and former Trustee

Became a trustee to stop this from happening. Keeping the name of St. Patrick’s is important. It is the Catholic tradition which defines this school. The Irish Miracle, teachers who do extras for students to ensure their success, the staff members who ensure that the student who is hungry gets something to eat – these things are all God’s work being done at

ARC MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, May 19, 2009
St. Patrick Catholic High School, Sarnia

	<p>St. Patrick's. Many of our community leaders, both past and present, are St. Patrick's alumni.</p> <p>Comment – Sarah Neza - St. Patrick's Teacher and Alumni Thanked and congratulated the ARC members for the work they have undertaken. Excited that the schools are coming back together. Her family was split up when St. Christopher was formed, with siblings attending St. Christopher and she attended St. Patrick's. Great memories include a winning game at the Metro Bowl in Toronto and the Irish Miracle. Believes that with lots of prayers and support of the staff, the job of consolidation will become easier. Expressed thanks to the Director of Education for his comments and his recommendation to name the consolidated school St. Patrick's.</p> <p>Comment – Laurie Caruso – St. Patrick's Teacher and Alumni Proud to be teacher and graduate of St. Patrick's. Upon graduating from teachers' college she turned down other teaching opportunities until position opened on Labour Day at St. Patrick's for one semester. Tradition is a big deal. The name is well known. Expressed thanks to the Director of Education for his recommendation to keep the name St. Patrick's as the name for the new consolidated school. Expressed thanks to the members of the ARC committee for their hard work.</p> <p>Comment – Rhonda Vandenberg – St. Patrick's Grad and Occasional Teacher Wants her children to attend St. Patrick's because of the legacy and history. A new super school named St. Patrick's will draw more students and will also provide a strong pull for elementary student retention in our system. St. Patrick's name will keep Catholic education alive in Sarnia.</p> <p>Comment – Laurie Caruso – St. Patrick's Teacher and Alumni Expressed excitement about schools blending together, great for Catholic education in Sarnia. Supports keeping the St. Patrick's name for the new school. The Fighting Irish won lots of championships. Bringing the schools together will draw more students. This needs to be done quickly with one uniform and one powerhouse school that will start winning championships again.</p> <p>Comment – Katie Beauregard – St. Patrick's Student Very proud to be St. Patrick's student. The PEOPEL program is very beneficial to all students, an incredible learning experience and needs to be kept at the new school. It has helped her with decisions in relation to service to others as well as her post-secondary choices.</p>
<p>8:34 p.m.</p>	<p>Closing Remarks – Ms. Sutton Thanked everyone for speaking tonight. Ms. Sutton is very proud to be part of the St. Clair Catholic District School Board and is humbled to have been part of this committee, which has worked together towards a solution, with thoughtfulness and integrity, to meet the future needs of Catholic secondary school students in Sarnia-Lambton.</p> <p>Closing Prayer Ms. Sutton led the closing prayer.</p>

ARC MEETING NOTES
Tuesday, May 19, 2009
St. Patrick Catholic High School, Sarnia

Future Meeting Dates

- **Regular Board Meeting – June 16, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.**
- **Committee of the Whole – Public Session – September 15, 2009 – 6:00 p.m.**
- **Regular Board Meeting – November 24, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.**