PARC PUBLIC MEETING #1
NOTES
Wednesday, November 9, 2016
St. Joseph Catholic School, Chatham

Chair	D. Crawford, Superintendent of Education
Recorders	C. Calvert, Administrative Assistant and J. Cincurak, Administrative Assistant

TIME	ITEM
6:30 p.m.	**Opening Prayer** Attendees invited to join in prayer
6:35 p.m.	**Welcome/Opening Remarks** **D. Crawford, Chair:** • Deb welcomed everyone, read the SCCDSB mission statement and introduced the Director of Education Dan Parr, Trustees and staff who were present • Brian Benn, the lead facilitator was introduced
6:40 p.m.	**Getting Acquainted Activity – B. Benn, Facilitator** • Brian explained his role as facilitator and the content of the evening. • Brian explained that the objective of the evening was to think about Catholic Education across the entire Community of Chatham and not to think as individuals from each school community. • Brian divided attendees into groups of 3 and instructed them to introduce each other, share which school they are representing, and to identity the key message that they want to express this evening or identify one key question they would like answered. • Brian reviewed the "Norms for Working Together".
6:55 p.m.	**Overview of the Pupil Accommodation Review Process – D. Crawford** • The SCCDSB website houses all Pupil Accommodation Review documentation posted • SCCDSB Policies are posted on the website and can be reviewed at any time • Deb explained the Pupil Accommodation Review Process Refer to [PowerPoint Presentation](#)
6:57 p.m.	**Introduction of the PARC Committee Members – D. Crawford** • The composition of the PARC Committee membership was explained

	• In response to earlier enquiries made by the PARC, Deb explained that the Chatham Parishes are part of this consultation. Father Higgins and Father Matt have been consulted and Father Jim Higgins will be in attendance at our next meeting. • Deb shared the upcoming meeting dates which can be found on the SCCDSB website: Pupil Accommodation Review - St. Clair CDS Board

6:59 p.m.	**Mandate of the PARC**
	• Deb introduced the members of staff who were present at the meeting
	• The Initial Staff Report to the Board was summarized to include: Initial Staff Report to the Board
	   ➤ SCCDSB Long-Term Capital Plan (LCTP) and its Guiding Principles
	   ➤ School Information Profiles and Facility Condition Index (FCI) were explained
	   ➤ Summary of planning strategies and accommodation issues identified in Chatham schools

7:10 p.m.	**Proposed Recommendation Options – D. Crawford**
	(These options can be seen in complete detail in the Initial Staff Report to the Board)
	Option A (Preferred Option)
	   ➤ Deb outlined Option A (Preferred Option):
	   ➤ The map of proposed school boundaries,
	Summary charts outlining:
	   ➤ Capital investment,
	   ➤ Projected enrolment
	   ➤ Capacity utilization
	   ➤ Guiding principles
	Option B
	   ➤ Option B was then outlined:
	   ➤ Map of proposed school boundaries
	Summary slides outlining:
	   ➤ Capital investment,
	   ➤ Projected enrolment
	   ➤ Capacity utilization
	   ➤ Guiding principles

	Option C
	  ➢ Option C was outlined:
	  ➢ Map of proposed school boundaries
	Summary slides outlining
	  ➢ Accommodation plan
	  ➢ Capital investment
	  ➢ Projected enrolment
	  ➢ Capacity utilization
	  ➢ Guiding principles

7:19p.m.	**Feedback from Local Communities to date – B. Benn**
	  • Brian explained the process used for gathering Accommodation Review Information for his <u>Summary of Feedback Report.</u>
	  • The Parent Advisory Councils (PAC) at each school met to review the Staff Report and to provide feedback to the Board. As the feedback was reviewed by staff, 12 Key Themes emerged and are outlined in the Summary of Feedback Report
	  • To facilitate additional feedback from the community, this evening's activities will include a "Café" style conversation structure.
	  • The attendees were asked to further the conversation started by the PARC Committee and the school PACs. They were asked to think strategically and have a conversation at their table about the Theme identified at their table. They were asked to review the comments made by the PARC and PAC, and build upon the comments, suggestions.
	  • The attendees spent 15 minutes discussing their Theme and then were able to move to another table with a Theme/topic of their choosing. There were 3 rounds in total. At each table the attendees discussed the comments provided and offered their additional comments, suggestions and questions. Attendees were instructed to write their comments on the forms provided.

8:11 p.m.	**Reaction, Feedback and Questions – B. Benn & D. Crawford**
	  • Brian conducted a "Round Robin" to elicit key themes, common ideas that were identified at each Thematic Table. A spokesperson from each of the tables summarized the discussion points made this evening. The commentary was recorded on chart paper and electronically.
	  • The written notes were collected and will become part of the Notes of this meeting and will be used for future reference

- Brian thanked everyone for their attendance and feedback and explained that their input from tonight's meeting will be brought forward to the PARC Committee at their November 29, 2016 meeting.

Summary of Feedback received from Round-Robin Discussions:

French Immersion
Jen Chickowski, Monsignor Uyen: all suggestions pertain to all 3 Options
- Suggested that the Board get started on renovations at Our Lady of Fatima this summer, so that the school will be finished with the renovation at the same time as the new schools being built would be ready for occupancy
- Strength in the proposals – keeping French identity of Monsignor Uyen School
- To enhance the French Immersion identity – keep the school name Monsignor Uyen
- Parents are supportive and enthusiastic about French Immersion so we shouldn't lose any families
- Does renewal include the upgrade to the Daycare facility at Our Lady of Fatima?
- Continue to grow the community feel of the school
  - ➢ Concerns at Our Lady of Fatima due to more buses, concerns around parking and "the loop"

Religion
Kelly VanBoxtel, St. Ursula
- If we are spending this much money has there been consideration of a chapel at all sites?
- Visible sign of our Catholicity – something in schools to represent our faith – make us different from public system i.e. chapel
- Open chapel, like at the hospital so that students can reflect on their own (i.e. read the Bible) to be used during recess and lunch times (quiet time)
- Questions of Mass at a larger school? Will the school need to be divided for smaller Masses?
- Prioritize Youth Ministry – more Parish presence at new schools is needed
- Where will liturgical statues/murals go when schools close? Will they be kept and honoured in new schools?
- Will parishes change boundaries? How do parishes follow schools and location?

Sports
Amy Finn, St. Joseph
In a larger school:

- More than one team for each sport i.e. A & B teams?
- Who will they play?
- How will students be transported to games?
- Double gyms are a necessity to accommodate two "real games" at the same time
- Other activities need to continue which are not sports i.e. robotics
- Can intramural sports be started for Primary and Junior students?
- Would there be a cost to play sports i.e. uniforms, more travelling to outside towns i.e. Blenheim, Tilbury etc. Cost of transportation? Additional cost to parents?

School Organization & Programming
Ann-Marie Corrigan, Georges P. Vanier – Conversations focused more on Option A
- Students attending Mas in a Church is important – Board should ensure funding for buses to mass
- Provide cafeteria options – breakfast and lunch options for students
- Resources and rooms for students' needs i.e. quiet room
- Opportunity for teachers to collaborate prior to move to new schools
- PD for teachers to increase content knowledge – larger schools offer additional opportunities of PD
- Special Needs students in a large school – noise level – these students need to be looked after
- Less fundraising by larger Parent Council?

Facilities
Ron Male, Monsignor Uyen
- Parking – ensure maximized/enhanced
- New tech – could mean less need for fundraising by Parent Advisory Councils?
- Size of gym is a concern – it needs to be large so that it can be used for concurrent sports activities, allowing increased number of teams at the larger schools.
- Cost of property acquisition concern
  - will price of land increase because landowners will take advantage of the Board's desire to purchase new land?
  - Is there a possibility of a land donation by any landowners to reflect a "sense of community"?
- Is there any consideration of Primary School / Junior School and an Intermediate school vs K -8?
- How much infrastructure will be put into Our Lady of Fatima to modernize the facility to make it "on par" or close to the new facilities?

- Will students remain in the school during the schools retrofit? What strategies will be used to reduce noise/upheaval during construction periods?
- Will portables have to be added to new schools if an influx of students from other boards happens?
- How will accessibility needs be considered for students in a larger school i.e. physical disability / ambulation in a larger facility

Transportation
- Congestion – increased number of busses, more parent drivers etc.
- Concern re student safety in bus zone and on roads adjacent to the schools.
- Costs – does the board receive increased funding for transportation if the number of students requiring transportation increases?
- Length of bus ride for younger students is a concern
- Will we lose students to co-terminus board?
- Can we work with City of Chatham to perhaps increase municipal transportation so that families without cars would be able to more easily access the school(s)?
- Traffic free bike lanes – so students within 3-5 km. could bike to school?
- Need to know where new schools would be built
- School start times will affect the bus times i.e. when young students need to be out at the bus stop
- When buses are cancelled – would a school close because buses can't run? Parents are concerned about child care if buses don't run.
- Will two school locations affect the students who currently go home for lunch?
- Later bus times could affect after-school activities
- Would there need to be more buses to accommodate Special Needs students – only so many wheelchairs can be transported at a time.
- Will school to home distance used for bussing be changed?

Budgeting/Costing
Jeanne Girard, St. Joseph
- Option A and B not much difference
- Could more money go to retro-fitting Monsignor Uyen and Our Lady of Fatima so that work can begin ASAP
- Option A

> ➢ Money saved
> ➢ Excellent quality with new but ensure that French Immersion does not feel short changed
- Option C was not discussed very much
- Fundraising per capita – divided equally
- With proposed change to boundaries, is grandfathering an option for students to attend Chatham school rather than a county school?

Classes/Sizes
- Concerned about Small school going Big – will this affect the size of classes?
- How will needs of Special Needs students be met?
- Benefits of straight grades, can they be mandated?
- FDK classrooms – no cap – if over 30 look at sustainability designs and address Special Needs equipment etc. to ensure adequate space.
- Classroom footprint size and designs for all classes but especially FDK to grade 3
- Storage location for wheelchairs and special equipment – not stuck out in the hallways
- Provide Grade 8 students opportunity to have some choice in having students from current school in their class.
- Audacious Idea: build a collaborative facility with a long-term care facility and provide joint programming with seniors

Students
Taera VanRoyboys, St. Vincent
- Mental wellbeing of students through transition must be attended to
- Anxiety – more support needed
- Provide extra support (EAs, CYWs, Social Workers) during transition
- Provide opportunities for students to come together and interact together i.e. picnics, playday
- Uniforms should not be considered at the onset – already enough change
- Keep students together from current school in new classes
- Greater number / diversity i.e. cultural diversity (more exposure) seen as a benefit
- More Extracurricular activities, clubs etc.
- More staff in building in new school
- New mascot and motto will be needed for new schools

	Deborah Furlan, St. Vincent • Pen Pals before new schools open – for parents and students • Social media used to support the transitions • Open houses for new schools • School tours for new schools prior to opening **Community Partners** Marshall Heuston, Monsignor Uyen • Ensure space available for community partners and services and that the designated space remains available when student enrollment increases • Calming room for students • Confidential room for students and support personnel to meet • Multiple gyms for use by community and plays • Community Partners to sign lease for use of space • Have school opened for longer hours • Provide Guidance Counselors for career choices • Centralized meeting room within school
8:36 p.m.	**Conclusion of Meeting** • Deb thanked everyone for attending. Any additional comments or questions can be shared with the PARC members and/or through the SCCDSB website. All questions and concerns will be answered by SCCDSB staff and will be shared with the PARC members and posted on the SCCDSB website. • The meeting closed with prayer.
	Future PARC Meeting Dates • PARC Committee Meeting #2 - November 29, 2016 – St. Ursula Catholic School • PARC Committee Meeting #3 (if required) – December 14, 2016 – St. Vincent Catholic School • PARC Committee Meeting #4 (if required) – January 19, 2017 – St. Ursula Catholic School • PARC Public Meeting #2 – January 25, 2017 – St. Ursula Catholic School • PARC Committee Meeting #5 – March 7 or 8, 2017 – Georges P. Vanier Catholic School