



## REPORT TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### June 14, 2011

Paul Wubben, Director of Education

**SUBJECT:** Report on the Proposed Closure of St. Michael Catholic School, Turnerville

**PREPARED BY:** Paul Wubben, Director of Education

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Board of Trustees met in regular session on March 29, 2011, at St. Michael Catholic School, Turnerville, following the final meeting of the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC). The purpose of the meeting was to receive the final reports and recommendations from both the ARC and senior staff. The Board had the opportunity to consider the reports and the recommendations contained within them, and to direct questions to the Chair of the ARC and the Director of Education.

The primary recommendation in the reports of both the ARC and senior staff was to close St. Michael Catholic School, Turnerville, at the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year. In addition, the resulting boundary changes that would be implemented, as a result of the school closing, were also agreed upon. The staff report included a recommendation, which requires that the building and real property of St. Michael Catholic School, Turnerville, be sold in accordance with Ministry of Education statutes. Although the ARC report was silent on this matter, members of the committee indicated they understood the requirement for such a recommendation, when it was reviewed with them during the Director of Education's presentation to the ARC.

The remaining recommendations of both the ARC and senior staff dealt with the various anticipated or requested scenarios as at March 29, 2011, regarding the transfer of students to receiving schools. Since that time, parents have made their decisions and registered their children at three Catholic schools. Twenty-one children will be attending Good Shepherd, seven will attend St. Vincent, and two will attend Holy Family. Based on the information that we now have, supposition no longer plays a role in the recommendations and as such, the remaining staff and ARC recommendations from the March 29, 2011 reports, are moot.

Therefore, new recommendations contained in this report, which reflect the choices students and families have made, will provide grandfathered access to the schools at which families have initially registered; with transportation provided; and, in one instance, siblings, who have registered at two different schools, will be permitted to do so with transportation provided.

The provisos on these recommendations require that students be registered by June 29, 2011, and note that grandfathering and transportation rights are forfeited, should a parent remove a student from a school in order to transfer to another school, or change addresses.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board receive the report: *Report on the Proposed Closure of St. Michael Catholic School, Turnerville*, for information.**

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2. **That St. Michael Catholic School, Turnerville, be shuttered effective June 30, 2011.**
3. **That the current catchment area for St. Michael Catholic School, Turnerville be divided among Christ The King Catholic School, Wallaceburg; Sacred Heart Catholic School, Port Lambton; Good Shepherd Catholic School, Thamesville; St. Vincent Catholic School, Chatham; and Holy Family Catholic School, Wallaceburg; effective June 30, 2011 and that the new attendance boundaries be defined as:**
  - i. The boundary of **Christ the King Catholic School, Wallaceburg** will be extended from the existing corner of Mandaumin Rd and the western extension of Kent Line north - exclusive of Mandaumin - to the eastern extension of Kent Line. Continuing east along Kent Line - splitting the road - to Robinson Rd. Then south exclusive of Robinson Rd to the Sydenham River. Finally following the north bank of the Sydenham River west to the existing boundary at the terminus of Mandaumin Rd.
  - ii. The boundary for **Sacred Heart Catholic School, Port Lambton** will be extended from the corner of Bickford Line and Mandaumin Rd east exclusive of Aberfeldy Line to Robinson Rd. Continuing south exclusive of Robinson Rd from Aberfeldy Line to Kent Line. Finishing west – splitting Kent Line – from Robinson Rd to Mandaumin Rd.
  - iii. The boundary for **Good Shepherd Catholic School, Thamesville** will be extended from the existing point at the corner of Mason Line & Kent Bridge Rd to the north west inclusive of Kent Bridge Rd to Base Line. Continuing west inclusive of Base Line to Uncle Tom’s Rd. Heading north inclusive of Uncle Tom’s Rd to the Sydenham River. North from the Sydenham River inclusive of Robinson Rd to Aberfeldy Line. Finishing east exclusive of Aberfeldy Line to meet the existing boundary at the corner of Aberfeldy Line and Hale School Rd.
  - iv. The boundary for **St Vincent Catholic School, Chatham** will be extended from the existing point at the corner of St Clair Rd and Countryview Line heading north west splitting St Clair Rd to Union Line. Continuing north east inclusive of Union Line to Base Line. Turning east exclusive of Base Line to Kent Bridge Rd. Finishing south east exclusive of Kent Bridge Rd to meet the existing boundary at the corner of Kent Bridge Rd and Eberts Line.
  - v. The boundary for **Holy Family Catholic School, Wallaceburg** will be extended from an existing point on the south bank of the Sydenham River north of Tupperville along the south bank of the Sydenham River to Uncle Tom’s Rd. Continuing south exclusive of Uncle Tom’s Rd to Base Line. Finishing south west exclusive of Union Line to the existing point at the corner of Dover Centre Line & St Clair Rd.

All boundary additions are listed in a clockwise manner to complete an extension to existing points on the school boundary.

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- 4. That transportation and attendance will be grandfathered for students, who attended St. Michael Catholic School, Turnerville, during the 2010-2011 school year, and who have registered by June 29, 2011, to attend any one of the five schools listed above in the new attendance boundaries, from a residence outside of the catchment area for that school. Transportation and privileges to attend the same school, for siblings of these students, will also be grandfathered.**

**Note: Grandfathered attendance privileges apply only once. If a family chooses to transfer children out of the school at a later date, the grandfather clause is deemed null and void. Further, if the family moves from its current address, the resulting change of residence may render the grandfather clause null and void.**

- 5. That upon the shuttering of the school on June 30, 2011, the building and real property of St. Michael Catholic School, Turnerville, be disposed of in accordance with the process and the timelines mandated by the Province of Ontario, under O. Reg. 444/98.**