

MINUTES
PUPIL ACCOMMODATION PUBLIC MEETING
DATE: February 13, 2017
Sacred Heart
TIME: 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEMS AND DISCUSSION	NOTES	FOLLOW UP REQUIRED	RESPONSIBILITY OF
<u>In attendance at Sacred Heart:</u> Kevin Malcolm, Superintendent of Education Colin Johnston, Officer Trustees' Services Garry Tanuan, Trustee Ward 8 John Gioia, Principal – St. Gabriel Lalemant Chris Nazar, Principal – Sacred Heart Paola Cherrier, Principal – Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati Mario Silva, Comptroller, Planning Barbara Leporati, TCDSB, Supervisor, Planning <u>PARC Members:</u> St. Gabriel Lalemant: Meagan Howell, Tessa Williams Sacred Heart: Manuela Esprit-Foster, Colleen Walker, Evelyne Hunt St. Bede: Lulu Paras- Fox, Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati:			
Opening Prayer	Kevin Malcolm		
Opening Remarks and the Process so Far	Kevin Malcolm Barbara: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief explanation of alternate options for closures. • Closing St. Bede • Closing Sacred Heart, 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Capital solution required • Closing Lalemant and St. Bede. ○ Capital solution required 		
Question:	<p>How likely is the ministry to approve capital funding?</p> <p>Barbara – impossible to say for certain. Ministry would possibly look most favorably on an option that closes two schools as it sheds the most excess capacity</p> <p>Mario - Hard to say whether ministry would more favourably at closing two schools with capital addition or one school with no new capital needed</p>		
Question St Bede	<p>Could you change boundaries while closing Lalemant to increase enrollment at St. Bede?</p> <p>Barbara – Hard to change proposed boundary further given geographic challenges.</p>		
Question: Lalemant	<p>Is there a risk of needing to close St. Bede if enrollment doesn't pick up?</p> <p>Barbara- Always a chance. Under enrolled schools carry risk. Closing one doesn't guarantee you won't have to close another later.</p>		
Question: Garry	<p>Does closing schools mean that the facilities will be immediately sold?</p> <p>Mario - The look at what would happen to the facility is a process that only begins after the PAR is complete. Several years down the road to look at</p>		

	<p>community hub or other options. Even longer to look at disposal of the site.</p> <p>Mario– Need to be sensitive to the desire to maintain presence in as many communities as possible. Don't want to be too hasty in selling sites as they may be necessary down the road</p>		
Question Garry	<p>What option gives the best chance at a brand new school?</p> <p>Barbara: Likely the option that closes St. Bede and St Gabriel Lalemant. However, it is highly dependent on the condition and facilities at existing sites. Far too early to say whether a complete new build would be likely</p>		
Question Kevin Malcolm	<p>What happens if the committee can't recommend any school closures?</p> <p>Barbara – Report goes to Board which then looks at staff recommendation and committee input and makes a decision</p> <p>Mario - Board and Ministry desire and approved plans are to find efficiencies in the system. Areas across the city that can shed capacity. Ministry always looking for efficiencies before funding new facilities or repairs to existing facilities.</p>		
Question	<p>Why was Lalemant chosen over St. Bede?</p> <p>Barbara - Age of the school, smallest location, operating with the biggest operational deficit</p>		

Question Lalemant	<p>Does the Ministry determine which clusters to look at for consolidations?</p> <p>Barbara: The Ministry requires us to shed capacity system wide. Board through the LTAP looks at different clusters to see which would be most suitable</p>		
Questions Lalemant	<p>How many PARs have been done so far?</p> <p>Barbara – Three so far. Two new schools proposed. One consolidated into existing school.</p> <p>Mario – Important to tell the Province that communities are making big sacrifice and in return want reinvestment back into the community</p>		
Question Kevin Malcolm	<p>Is it realistic to expect a new building in any of these scenarios?</p> <p>Barbara - Would need a feasibility study to determine whether consolidation would require new addition, new building based on several factors including the quality of the facility and necessary repairs</p>		
Question Frassati	<p>How long does it take once Ministry approval for new construction take?</p> <p>Barbara – Anywhere from two to five years depending on intricacies of each site. Some much longer</p>		
Question Frassati	<p>What happens in the interim?</p>		

	Barbara - Still need to accommodate students. Possibly need for portables. Possibly relocating students to a different site.		
Note Kevin Malcolm	All four schools in the area are relatively new, or brand new in case of Frassati, and in good shape. Low FCI		
Question Lalemant	<p>What would capacity of a new build be?</p> <p>Barbara - 350 pupil places and the ability to fill it for 10 years is a minimum expectation for Ministry to approve funding.</p> <p>Kevin - Trend of declining enrollment in North Scarborough</p> <p>Mario - Need to be mindful of that and not put off tough decisions so that money remains available to reinvest in existing schools</p>		
Note: Lalemant	Closing the school would lead to loss of students for the Board		
Question Lalemant	<p>What is board offering parents of Lalemont should the school close</p> <p>Barbara – Programming options become easier to implement</p> <p>Kevin - Larger schools allow for more extra curriculars. More sports teams. Possibility of specialty programming</p>		
Question Lalemant	Has there been any changes to Board 1.5km bussing policy?		

	Barbara - Report can request bussing as condition for supporting closure. No guarantees of approval or how long it would last.		
Question: Kevin	Do you think bussing would make it easier for Lalemant community to accept closure? Lalemant Community: It would definitely make it more palatable if necessary. Would make a difference in garnering community support.		
Question Lalemant	How much capacity needs to be shed system wide? Barbara – Approximately 10,000 places system wide		
Note Garry	Visa students provide long term option. Need to do the prep work now to attract more of them later. Barbara - Not necessarily a realistic option short term. Large challenge in finding accommodation for them		
Question Lalemant	Why can't you put all of the kids from Lalemant straight to St. Bede Barbara – Logistically it doesn't make sense. They'd have to be bussed past Sacred Heart		
Question Kevin	Are there any options the committee is unwilling to support? Consensus – Scenario 5 is untenable. Not willing to support closing two schools		
Note Barbara	regional programming is generally kept within the region. Programming would move to Sacred Heart if Lalemant closed		

Question Kevin	<p>If bussing was offered would Lalemant parents move to Sacred heart. Vice Vera would you move if it wasn't would you make the move.</p> <p>Consensus - Bussing would make the move. No bussing inside the 1.5 km less likely to make the move</p>		
Question Kevin	<p>Has bussing been approved as part of a PAR?</p> <p>Barbara – Yes</p>		
Note John	<p>If bussing was approved Board would retain almost all of students</p>		
Question Garry	<p>How many portables would be necessary at Sacred Heart to accommodate Lalemant students</p> <p>Barbara - Likely 1 or 2 until boundary adjustments gradually balance enrollment with St. Bede</p>		
Note Mario	<p>Staff would have difficulty supporting status quo. Would need to be a feasible option to fill excess capacity</p>		
Items for Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs/savings including bussing and savings with closure of remaining scenarios • Options to be considered at next meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Status Quo, ○ Options for closing each of the other three schools. • Costs for bussing going forward • Board Transportation Safety Policy • Nielson Traffic Volume numbers 		

Next Meeting Date	Thursday March 23rd at 7 p.m.		
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