

**MINUTES**  
**PUPIL ACCOMMODATION PUBLIC MEETING**  
**DATE: OCTOBER 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
**Prince of Peace**  
**TIME: 7:00 p.m.**

AGENDA ITEMS AND DISCUSSION	NOTES	FOLLOW UP REQUIRED	RESPONSIBILITY OF
<p><u>In attendance at Prince of Peace:</u>  Kevin Malcolm, Superintendent of Education  Paola Botticella, Officer, Superintendent Area 7 &amp; 8  Schools  Garry Tanuan, Trustee Ward 8</p> <p>Siena Da Costa, Principal - Prince of Peace  John Pasia, Principal - St. Rene Goupil  Mark Novis, Principal - The Divine Infant  Jim</p> <p>Mario Silva, Comptroller, Planning  Morris Iafrate, Sr. Coordinator, Renewal  Jessica Peake, TCDSB, Sr. Manager, Planning  Marco Iorfida, Transportation</p> <p><b><u>PARC Members:</u></b>  <b>Prince of Peace:</b> Fiona Yu, Suja Velauthapillai and  Xuan Duong  <b>The Divine Infant:</b> Issa Marie Mendoza, Betsy  Eason and Lisa Valentine  <b>St. Rene Goupil:</b> Nikki Chung, Katy Teed, Gaby  Chauvet <i>regrets</i>: Michelle Freitas and Loida Sevilla</p>			
Opening Prayer	Siena DaCosta – Principal Prince of Peace		
<b>Introductions &amp; Opening Remarks</b>	Kevin Malcom Trustee Garry Tanuan		
<b>Pupil Accommodation Review</b>	PowerPoint Presentation – Mario Silva <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff recommendations</li> <li>• Feedback</li> </ul>		
<b>Presentation – PARC Committee Members</b> <b><u>The Divine Infant</u></b>	PowerPoint Presentation (see attachment) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On line petition generated 401 signatures</li> <li>• Several meetings have already taken place</li> <li>• Facebook page created with approximately 32 members</li> <li>• Safety issues (McCowan Rod/Alton Towers) worse intersection 2011 Global news</li> <li>• Increase traffic will increase risk</li> <li>• Single story school accessibilities for students with disabilities</li> <li>• Child care currently at the school will be closed and current children will not have child care</li> <li>• Childcare subsidy is a factor</li> <li>• Transportation expectations for 2017/2018</li> </ul>		
<b>Presentation – PARC Committee Members</b> <b><u>St. Rene Goupil</u></b>	<u>Suggestions:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep both Divine Infant and St. Rene opened but have them split the children by grades (i.e. JK to Grade 6 at one school, Grades 7 and 8 in the other)</li> <li>• TDSB does this and we could use our schools as a pilot program</li> <li>• Rebrand St. Rene Goupil as a Math and Science Academy</li> <li>• Change zones/update wards so that Our Lady of Grace, which is well populated and just as close if not closer than Prince of Peace, becomes part of St. Rene's cluster and students from there can come here</li> <li>• Change zones/update wards so that St. Marguerite Bourgeoys is included with St. Rene</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advertise school through events such as the garage sale so the community knows that we are here and will welcome new children</li> <li>• To increase revenue, promote more permit rentals for the gym and/or classrooms – we already have the school being rented for Sunday school and basketball (?)</li> <li>• RCIA programs to increase number of Catholics</li> </ul> <p><u>Questions:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Given current issues with school bus availability, would busing even be a viable option?</li> <li>2. What will be done to help young children adjust to such a large school when they are used to the tight-knit community of St. Rene?</li> <li>3. Where are over 400 children going to play if multiple portables will need to be installed to accommodate the children from the 2 schools?</li> <li>4. What measures are being taken to ensure safety of the children and the community at an already dangerous intersection? Traffic congestion is going to be increased during peak hours when there are already 2 other schools, a library, a community centre, 2 churches, a daycare and a busy shopping centre across the street.</li> <li>5. What would be the approximate student to teacher ratio?</li> </ol> <p><u>Online petition:</u> 239 signatures in a week (maybe re-check this number right before the meeting if possible, as it changes frequently -</p>		
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	<p>we have signatures from all over the world!)</p> <p><u>Survey results</u>: 23 families, representing 35 children</p> <p>If St. Rene were to consolidate into Prince of Peace, what school would you send your child/children to? Shows that less than half of respondents would consider sending their children to Prince of Peace - from schoolyard talk, the main reason is because they do not like the idea of such a large school.</p> <table><tr><td>School</td><td>%</td></tr><tr><td>Prince of Peace</td><td>42.9</td></tr><tr><td>Other/Undecided</td><td>42.8</td></tr><tr><td>Our Lady of Grace</td><td>10.7</td></tr><tr><td>Public</td><td>3.6</td></tr></table> <p>96% of respondents are attending the meeting on Wed (note: only one family is not attending)</p>	School	%	Prince of Peace	42.9	Other/Undecided	42.8	Our Lady of Grace	10.7	Public	3.6		
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<p><b>Presentation - Heritage Child Care &amp; Early Learning @ <u>St. Rene Goupil</u></b></p>	<p><u>PowerPoint Presentation (see attachment):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Concerned with staff recommendation</li><li>• 35 year presence in the community</li><li>• Schools are the heart of the community</li><li>• Empty / closed schools lower property value, no new families will move into the community, no children no life</li><li>• Safety hazard</li><li>• What is the transportation plan?</li></ul> <p>Recommendation:</p>												

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close The Divine Infant (only one school)</li> <li>• Create a junior and senior school</li> <li>• Rezoning of boundaries (see attachment/ appendix A?)</li> </ul>		
<b>Presentation – PARC Committee Members</b> <u>Prince of Peace</u>	<p>PowerPoint Presentation:</p> <p><b>1. Safety</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Drop off &amp; pick-up– how will it accommodate the additional no. of students being dropped/picked?</li> <li>❖ Consider providing a Crossing Guard on Alton Towers as traffic will increase</li> <li>❖ Provide additional/secured fencing to ensure no strangers enter the school property</li> <li>❖ During construction – what safety measures will be in place for staff and students? They could be exposed to wiring, holes, dust, etc.</li> <li>❖ Portables – if permanent, what will be the safety measures for staff &amp; students? How would ‘lock down’ and ‘hold &amp; secure’ work?</li> </ul> <p>What steps will be put in place for overall safety during the transition period and when consolidation is completed? Keeping in mind there will be no familiarity between the three communities</p> <p><b>2. Facilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Parking accommodation for staff &amp; parents currently parents use is the church property (which is not sufficient if there is mass at church) parking when school events require all families to attend</li> <li>❖ Additional washrooms</li> <li>❖ What is the deciding factor to provide additional classrooms or portables? Students will lose yard space.</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Day care – how will it accommodate the additional students</li> <li>❖ Junior &amp; Senior Kindergarten – will the facilities be updated (playground &amp; fencing)</li> <li>❖ Provide air conditioning or fans – currently only the office has air conditioning</li> <li>❖ Atrium/Gym – how it will accommodate the additional students/parents</li> <li>❖ Do either of the schools have any special programs – how will those students be accommodated?</li> </ul> <p><b>3. General</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Would it not be cost effective for Divine Infant &amp; St. Rene Goupil to merge</li> <li>❖ Busing – will the two schools closing be provided busing? Reduce parent traffic</li> <li>❖ Will both schools close at the same time – any transition period?</li> </ul>		
<b>Questions/Statements/Concerns:</b>	<p><b>The Data provided shows an increase at The Divine Infant</b></p> <p><b>Factors changing in neighborhood</b></p> <p><b>New development</b></p>	<p>To be discussed at the next community meeting</p> <p>Planning to provide up to date numbers by planning department</p>	<b>Planning Department</b>
<b>Questions/Statements/Concerns:</b>	<p><b>Why were minutes not distributed at the May Meeting?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>this was an informal meeting and minutes were not taken</i></li> <li>• <i>The purpose of the May meeting was to begin to explain the process</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Questions/Statements/Concerns:</b>	<b>The board rescinded the transportation cut for the 2016/2017 school year.</b>		

	<p><b>What is the expectation for the 2018/2019 school year?</b></p> <p><u><b>M. Silva:</b></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Current transportation budget is stable</i></li> <li>• <i>We are looking closely at how the province is administrating the funds for transportation</i></li> <li>• <i>We are coming to terms with a model that we cannot sustain</i></li> <li>• <i>Long run??</i></li> <li>• <i>Will be revisited</i></li> <li>• <i>Currently operating in a deficit</i></li> </ul> <p><u><b>Trustee Garry Tanuan:</b></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ministry funding is unfair</i></li> <li>• <i>Transportation is a privilege not a right</i></li> <li>• <i>Funding can be removed</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Questions/Statements/Concerns:</b>	<p><b>Will all the children that require child care be accommodated at Prince of Peace?</b></p> <p><u><b>M. Silva:</b></u> <i>child care may be provided at Prince of Peace</i></p> <p><u><b>K. Malcolm:</b></u> <i>recommendation may be included in the final report – possibly expand the current child care at Prince of Peace</i></p>		
<b>Questions/Statements/Concerns:</b>	<p><b>Young students are currently being walked to school by grandparents (caregiver). If they attend Prince of Peace children cannot be walked to school and grandparents will not be able to pick up children if they are sick during the school day.</b></p>		
<b>Questions/Statements/Concerns:</b>	<p><b>Consider new housing rules that have just been implemented</b></p> <p>Both schools are under capacity – <b>is neighbouring school enrolment data available?</b></p> <p><u><b>K. Malcolm:</b></u></p> <p><i>Approximate and current numbers:</i></p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>St. Marguerite Bourgeoys - 100 students</i></li> <li>• <i>Our Lady of Grace – 140 students</i></li> <li>• <i>St. Ignatius of Loyola – 103 students</i></li> <li>• <i>North Scarborough enrolment is low and under capacity</i></li> </ul> <p><u>M. Silva:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ideal school enrolment is 400-600 students</i></li> <li>• <i>Schools were built during a time when communities were developing</i></li> <li>• <i>Rules have changed</i></li> <li>• <i>Schools with low enrolment drain funds from other schools</i></li> </ul> <p><u>Trustee Garry Tanuan:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Across the three schools we are running at 63% capacity</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Questions/Statements/Concerns:</b>	<p><b>How will Prince of Peace be able to accommodate the additional students? What happens to existing staff at St. Rene Goupil &amp; The Divine Infant?</b></p> <p><u>M. Silva:</u> <i>the plan is to expand Prince of Peace</i></p> <p><u>K. Malcom:</u> <i>provisions are in place to reabsorb staff</i></p>		
<b>Questions/Statements/Concerns:</b>	<p><b>What is the significance of closing the two schools? Consider the following :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Safety of students (major intersection - McCowan)</i></li> <li>• <i>Accidents will increase due to higher volume of students and vehicles</i></li> <li>• <i>Quality of education – class sizes</i></li> <li>• <i>Can Prince of Peace provide the same quality of education?</i></li> </ul> <p><u>K. Malcom:</u> <i>class sizes are determined by collective agreements – set by the union and are the same across the board</i></p>		



<p><b>Questions/Statements/Concerns:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Is the funding formula different for TDSB and TCDSB?</b></li> <li>• <b>Can Prince of Peace accommodate the increase in enrollment?</b></li> <li>• <b>Quality of education (i.e. specialty programs)</b></li> <li>• <b>The Divine Infant has an excellent music program</b></li> <li>• <b>Close one school only and adjust boundaries</b></li> </ul> <p><u>K. Malcolm:</u>  <i>Music is offered in all our elementary schools</i></p> <p><u>M. Silva:</u>  <i>Government funding is the same for both boards  The application of resources spent in some areas and no other areas is <u>different</u>  TDSB has a great deficit  We are going to reinvest in the community</i></p> <p><u>Trustee Garry Tanuan:</u>  <i>Funding per student is the same for both the TDSB and TCDSB  We have to close schools because the Ministry is not funding our board the same as TDSB.  18 schools may close</i></p> <p><u>M. Iafrate:</u>  <i>We can accommodate the additional students  Very preliminarily  2 years for site plan to be approved for a new addition  1 -1/2 years for construction  Portables would be put in place initially</i></p>		
<p><b>Questions/Statements/Concerns:</b></p>	<p><b>Holy Redeemer currently has 70 students and it is still open – explain why?</b></p> <p><u>Kevin:</u> <i>Holy Redeemer is currently under review</i></p> <p><u>M. Silva:</u> <i>All schools that are currently under review are listed on the board website <a href="http://www.tcdsb.org">www.tcdsb.org</a></i></p>		

Questions/Statements/Concerns:	<p><b>Why are students that are not from Toronto being allowed to register at our schools when they do not support Toronto Catholic Education?</b></p> <p><u>Trustee Garry Tanuan:</u> if our schools are at 80% capacity or less they can take students who live outside of the Toronto District.</p> <p>All new registrations are put in priority</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> priority remains: Home address &amp; sibling in school - There are a total of 6 priorities</p>		
Questions/Statements/Concerns:	<p><b>How will Prince of Peace accommodate special needs children?</b></p> <p><u>K. Malcolm:</u> final report may be include recommendations to offer the specialty programs at Prince of Peace or those students may be accommodated at another school.</p>		
Questions/Statements/Concerns:	<p><b>Family does not live in the St. Rene Goupil area but child attend the school. Will there be an issue with registering the sibling next year?</b></p> <p><u>Kevin:</u> sibling rule would apply</p>		
Questions/Statements/Concerns:	<p><b>Why was a new roof &amp; new windows installed at The Divine Infant if the board is considering closing the school?</b></p> <p><u>M. Iafrate:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They were part of the current projects and planned prior to the accommodation review</li> <li>• Also a Health &amp; Safety issue</li> </ul>		
Parent Questions/Concerns/Statements :	<p><b>Leave schools open until new addition is built at Prince of Peace</b></p> <p><u>M. Silva:</u> we have ministry commitments and they would not support this request</p>		

Parent Questions/Concerns/Statements :	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents are confused on the declining enrollment in two schools</li> <li>• Enrollment seems to be stable and increasing</li> <li>• Family styles are changing due to higher housing costs in Toronto i.e. 3 generations living together</li> <li>• Value of Catholic schools</li> <li>• Enrollment in the two schools that are scheduled to close will increase – hold off on the closure for a few years</li> </ul>		
Parent Questions/Concerns/Statements :	Safety is a current concern at Prince of Peace therefore does not support the current plan to move two schools into Prince of Peace		
Parent Questions/Concerns/Statements :	Maureen Baley from the City of Toronto will work closely with the TCDSB to ensure Child Care is reviewed.		
Parent Questions/Concerns/Statements :	<p>The emotional impact on children - Children have lost interest in their studies</p> <p><u>K. Malcolm:</u> Social workers are available.</p> <p><u>M. Silva:</u> facilities are in shape</p> <p><u>Trustee Tanuan:</u> we will always consider the emotional impact and appreciate the feedback. Delegations are welcomed</p>		
Parent Questions/Concerns/Statements:	Parent suggested to close Prince of Peace		
Meeting Adjourned at 9:45 p.m.			<i>Next Public Meeting scheduled for January 2017</i>