



**Approved Minutes**  
**Dixie Shorefront**  
**Accommodation Review Committee**  
**Public Meeting #2**

*Tuesday, April 1, 2008*  
*St. Paul Secondary School*  
*7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.*

**Present:**

E. McGuire, Chairperson, Superintendent of Schools  
J. Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations  
T. Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Department  
E. Irvine, Planner, City of Mississauga  
ARC Committee Members - Queen of Heaven  
St. Dominic  
St. Edmund  
St. James  
St. Timothy

**Staff:**

J. Tzventarny, Planner, Planning Department  
R. Bonifacio, Recorder- Secretary, Planning Department



**ROUTINE MATTERS**

Elizabeth McGuire, Chairperson, Superintendent of Schools,  
Meeting was call to order at 7:12 p.m.

1. **Introduction & Welcome**

Elizabeth McGuire led the opening prayer.

Elizabeth McGuire welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the second of a series of 4 Public meetings. Elizabeth McGuire introduced John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations and Thane Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Department and the Accommodation Review Committee members. She advised the attendees 2 handouts were being given out as they entered the meeting tonight. Referring to the pink sheet first which is the agenda for this evening meeting. The purple handout is an open letter from your Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board Trustees regarding their role in the process. This open letter has been given to the Mississauga News and is posted on our Board website at the following link:

<http://www.dpcdsb.org/NR/rdonlyres/EC18AC4F-6852-4E16-A59C-7C24C2A05425/26846/openlettermar32008rev3.pdf>

2. **The Role of the Trustee**

Elizabeth McGuire, Chairperson, Superintendent of Schools

Reviewed the handout:

The Role of the Trustee –

Our statement of Principles

As your trustees, we are committed to provide strong leadership by ensuring a **fair, open, transparent, and accountable process** – one that will lead to the best possible results for our students and their families.

**FAIR** – All members of our school community will be heard equally, and **all trustees will remain neutral** throughout the public consultation process.

**OPEN** – Parents, guardians, teachers, school staff, students and Board and parish representatives will be part of this public consultation. **Trustees will refrain from taking part in the process or forming opinions** until the final recommendations have been submitted and **community reaction has been heard directly by the Board.**

**TRANSPARENT** – **No decisions will be made until AFTER there has been community consultation.** ALL submissions and reports will be publicly available BEFORE any decisions are made.

**ACCOUNTABLE** – Final decisions will be made by the Board of Trustees, based on a fair, objective evaluation of the facts.



3. **Public Meeting 1**

Thane Munn, Senior-Planner

Gave an overview of the First Public Meeting that was held on Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at St. Paul Secondary School and advised that all information related to the Public Meetings is posted on the Board website:

<http://www.dpcdsb.org/CEC/About+Us/Departments/PLN/Dixie+Shorefront+Review+Area.htm>

4. **The Role of the ARC**

Thane Munn, Senior-Planner

Reviewed the following:

**Who is the ARC?**

The Board is required to appoint an Accommodation Review Committee (ARC):

- Superintendent of Schools - Chair
- School Board Staff
- Principals
- School Council Chairs
- Teacher Representatives
- Parish Representatives
- Municipal Representatives

**When did the ARC meet?**

- ARC Meeting #1 – October 4, 2007
- ARC Meeting #2 – October 25, 2007
- ARC Meeting #3 – November 21, 2007
- ARC Meeting #4 – February 27, 2008
  
- Public Meeting #1 – February 5, 2008

All ARC meetings were held at local community schools and all meeting minutes are posted on the Board's website,

**What has the ARC done?**

- Reviewed and customized School Valuation Framework
- Reviewed accommodation options
- Evaluated accommodation options on a school community basis
- Made recommendations for modifications and/or alternate accommodation options

*All compiled data and all the Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines regarding all three ARC review areas are posted on the Board's website at <http://www.dpcdsb.org/CEC/About+Us/Departments/PLN/School+Closures+Review.htm>*



Showing the process outlining steps necessary to consolidate schools and identification criteria.

5. Identification Criteria

Thane Munn, Senior-Planner

There are factors that identify schools to be considered:

- School Enrolment below 250 students;
- School enrolment is less than 50% of the building capacity;
- Long term enrolment indicates continued decline;
- Long Term Plan indicates there is an excess capacity in the service area and identifies that pupil place reductions are required

And/or

- School may be considered as a ‘receiving school’;
- Reorganization by way of a boundary adjustment;
- Redirection of a specialty program (i.e. Extended French, Gifted Program);
- School is included in geographic boundary.

6. The Numbers

Thane Munn, Senior-Planner

The historical and projected enrolment show declining enrolments in the review area. Future projections also show decline for the review area for both Boards. Stats Can Data from the 2006 Census also shows a decline of children 0-4 in this community. Census Data considers: birth rates, mortality rates and migration rates, both international and interprovincial.

| Ages  | 2001   | 2006   | Change | % Change |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|----------|
| 0-3   | 4,270  | 3,915  | -355   | -8.3%    |
| 4-13  | 11,530 | 10,160 | -1370  | -11.9%   |
| 14-17 | 4,520  | 4,765  | 245    | 5.4%     |
| 18-54 | 50,765 | 47,500 | -3265  | -6.4%    |
| 55+   | 20,495 | 22,325 | 1830   | 8.9%     |
| TOTAL | 91,580 | 88,665 | -2915  | -3.2%    |

Source: StatCan Single Year of Age 2001, 2006 Census

Enrolment trends over the last 18 to 20 year show that number of JK students that are coming into the system is not as great as the Grade 8 students leaving the system which is contributing to the decline. The census shows the potential for **325 JK STUDENTS** in each year for the next 4 years for the **entire area** that includes 10 elementary schools. In conclusion, the information specifically shows that there is a decline in elementary aged students.



# DUFFERIN PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Dufferin-Peel Catholic District school board Oct. 31, 2007 enrolment reports shows more children graduating Grade 8 than are registered for JK.

Enrolment: Oct. 31, 2007

|                 | JK         | SK         | Gr. 1      | Gr. 2      | Gr. 3      | Gr. 4      | Gr. 5      | Gr. 6      | Gr. 7      | Gr. 8      | SE        | TOTAL       | CAPACITY    |
|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| Queen of Heaven | 35         | 39         | 41         | 39         | 40         | 46         | 52         | 54         | 47         | 59         | 17        | 469         | 621         |
| St. Dominic     | 16         | 25         | 20         | 26         | 25         | 20         | 28         | 24         | 29         | 29         | 11        | 253         | 251.5       |
| St. Edmund      | 22         | 26         | 37         | 35         | 33         | 35         | 40         | 45         | 49         | 41         | 0         | 363         | 273.5       |
| St. James       | 7          | 15         | 7          | 8          | 9          | 9          | 8          | 11         | 8          | 18         | 0         | 100         | 276         |
| St. Timothy     | 27         | 42         | 50         | 45         | 49         | 55         | 60         | 68         | 47         | 58         | 10        | 511         | 543         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>107</b> | <b>147</b> | <b>155</b> | <b>153</b> | <b>156</b> | <b>165</b> | <b>188</b> | <b>202</b> | <b>180</b> | <b>205</b> | <b>38</b> | <b>1696</b> | <b>1965</b> |

## 7. Accommodation Options

Thane Munn, Senior-Planner

From the last Public Meeting #1 of Tuesday, February 5, 2008, The ARC committee members met on February 27, 2008 to review, refine/reduce the number of options based on the information, feed back and discussions to date. The ARC agreed to present the following seven options at the next public meeting:

### Status Quo

#### OPTION 4 - CLOSE ST. JAMES

Move St. James (All) & St. Timothy (Area A - Regular) to St. Dominic

#### OPTION 5 - CLOSE ST. JAMES

Move St. James (All) & St. Timothy (Area A - Regular) to Queen of Heaven

#### OPTION 6 - CLOSE ST. DOMINIC

Move St. Dominic (All) & St. Timothy (Area A - Regular) to St. James

#### OPTION 7 - CLOSE ST. DOMINIC

Move St. Dominic (All) & St. Timothy (Area A - Regular) to Queen of Heaven

#### OPTION 8 - CLOSE ST. DOMINIC

Move St. Dominic (Area F & Area G) to Queen of Heaven

Move St. Dominic (Area E & Area H) to St. Timothy

#### OPTION 10 - CLOSE ST. DOMINIC

Move St. Dominic (Area E, Area G & Area H) to St. James

Move St. Dominic (Area F) to Queen of Heaven



## DUFFERIN PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

All numbers and maps for options are posted on the board website at the following link:  
<http://www.dpdsb.org/NR/rdonlyres/43D3CF43-312C-4C04-8208-D69FAFBCCC49/28395/DIXIEARCPM2PRESENTATIONApril12009.pdf>

### 8. Transportation

Thane Munn, Senior-Planner

Reviewed the Board transportation eligibility for students.

Transportation Distances

**Kindergarten: 1 km**

**Grades 1-4: 1.6 km**

**Grades 5-6: 2 km**

**Grades 7-8: 3.2 km**

**Grades 9-12: 4.8 km**

The transportation eligibility for each of the option was presented. These are preliminary bussing boundaries and would be further reviewed by the Transportation Department once a final option is put forward.

### 9. Next Steps

Thane Munn, Senior-Planner

Future Public Meetings

- **Public Meeting #3 – May 6, 2008**
- **Public Meeting #4 – May 22, 2008**

*(ALL meetings to be held at St. Paul Secondary School @ 7pm)*

### Implementation Timeline

- ARC prepares recommendation report to the Board of Trustees – Spring 2008
- Staff prepares recommendation report to the Board of Trustees – Fall 2008
- Board to make decision in Fall 2008
  - Notice of meeting date will be given 60 days prior to meeting
- Follows Board Decision in Fall 2008
- Possible School Closure – June 2009
- Students relocated – September 2009

All ARC materials can be viewed on the Board's website: [www.dpdsb.org](http://www.dpdsb.org) Click on "School Closures Review"



10. Question Period

Parents, students and community members had the opportunity to express their concerns and ask questions. Board staff responded to the questions and concerns to the best of their knowledge and advised that they would review the additional questions in preparation for the next Public Meeting.

1. St. James - Parent

Question:

- what is status quo and is it an option
- when do we start looking at brick and mortar, is there a capacity at the schools
  - option 2 puts 655 students in Queen of Heaven in 2009 – over 621 capacity we are then considering –portables
- will information be available a few days before future meetings.

Response:

Thane Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Dept.

- In regards to information been available for the future meeting, the planning dept. posts all information regarding the ARC meetings on the board website.
- As for the information regarding the next public meeting the staff works to have it posted a few days before, but in some case we are waiting for data from other sources therefore finalizing it.
- Clarification of status quo – there are 7 options not 6, status quo is an option. The capacity of the all the schools is being reviewed, via school valuation framework.

Portables:

- portables are a fact of life
- had 750 portables at one time
- Built school to accommodate students in its catchments area only – not building for future unapproved closure- Board doesn't operate that way.
- Primary Class Size considerations change capacity
- Each option has different implication on portables

2. St. Dominic/Lyndwood Rate-Payer/Resident

Question:

- Has there been any public consultation regarding Peel Board policy, or any dialogue between the public and catholic boards.
- Has there been any discussion with other boards about options to work together
- In rural areas there are examples at the public & private boards sharing facilities



Response:

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

- the DPCDSB has Ministry guidelines and the Board approved Pupil Accommodation Review policy and process
- we were not made aware of the Peel Board starting School Review until last week
- each board has its own criteria,
- We will consider it if asked to participate in discussion with any other board
- In our Board we already have co-sharing school – St. Cecilia

3. St. Dominic - Parent

Question:

- Disappointed at the trustees not coming
- Lower enrolments – too many options for new students
- What are you doing to bring students back
- Specialty programs – what are you doing to encourage new students
- Shouldn't we look at these program options before closing school

Response:

Elizabeth McGuire, Chairperson, Superintendent of Schools

- Enrolment is dropping not only at our board but across the province.
- Looking at ways to bring new students
- The Board is launching a new pilot project of French Immersion for Sept 2008

4. St. Dominic - Parent

Question:

- only 2 options that don't keep a school below capacity – close both St. James and St. Dominic
- should look at impact on students
- 250 kids vs. 100 kids
- only viable option is to move St. James to St. Dominic
- does age of school have impact on the process

Response:

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

- Many criteria are used for the evaluation process
- Age of school, transportation costs and many other factors will be reviewed by the ARC committee members before making a decision



5. St. Dominic - Parent

Question:

- Development of Lakeview lands
- Why are there more options to close St. Dominic
- have 1000 signatures asking to close St. James and move students to St. Dominic

Response:

Thane Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Dept.

- yes, City of Mississauga has advised the ARC committee of the development potential for Lakeview Lands
- A statement from the city regarding the Lakeview Generation Station Lands, that the industrial lands are contaminated and consideration for any residential use will require further studies, and to date no decision has been made whether or not those lands will be appropriate for residential use.

6. Cawthra Park Rate Payer/Resident

Comments:

- Planning Dept and the ARC committee members are working very hard on a difficult situation
- Different areas in the communities should not pit one community against other
- comment or recommendation to ARC and Board and Planning dept. should look at shared facilities like Toronto Public & Catholic – save schools, don't divide communities
- reduce impact on students

7. St. Dominic - Parent

Question:

- can we get census data past 2012
- are we going to see Staff recommendations prior to it going to the board
- what is the timing, will we have notification
- what does the board consider
- how do we make delegations
- concerns about distance that students will have to cross major streets



Response:

Thane Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Dept.

- Planning dept in just in the process of updating Capital Plan to 2022
- Revised Capital Project will be presented before the board

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

- Clarification of process, explanation of the ARC meetings, then ARC Public Meetings, followed by Board Public Meetings
- At the Board Public meeting staff report will be available
- 60 days notice will be given, not including summer holidays
- For information regarding the procedure of delegating the Board please call the main DPCDSB number and speak to Board and Committee Information Officer.
- Board works with Traffic safety council and Transportation department reviewing distance & safety, speed limits and etc, no different criteria for any other area of the board or any other student walking or take a bus in the DPCDSB.

8. RatePayer/Resident

Question:

- have major developments, such as St. Lawrence or Generation Station been factored into the projections
- what timeline do you use for projections
- can we see projections
- questions re Census info
- St. Dominic has highest EQAO scores in board

Response:

Thane Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Dept.

- we look at all development applications
- In March, the Planning dept was doing physical site visit to all sales trailer for all the DPCDSB area to get a direct update of sales.
- All Census details regarding this area is posted on board website

Elizabeth McGuire, Chairperson, Superintendent of Schools

- As a Board we acknowledge the high EQAO scores of this school and all our schools in the DPCDSB family, but as a Province and Board we do not rank or compare schools



9. St. Dominic - Parent

Question:

- out of district students will be forced out of their schools and have to relocate – why can't they remain on Flex Boundary
- would like flexibility in the Flex Boundary process
- rumor that Trustees may opt out in making a decision, are they held accountable, or can you guarantee their presence at the Board meeting
- concern that Trustees will opt out of the vote.

Response:

Thane Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Dept

- always have option at reapplying for flex boundaries

Elizabeth McGuire, Chairperson, Superintendent of Schools

- not prepared to discuss rumors

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

- Trustee is an elected official, accountable to the Public

10. St. Dominic – RatePayer/Resident

Question:

- Thank you for opportunity to speak
- Parish is deeply rooted in community - other schools have a parish named after it, what other schools have that?
- St. Dominic has strong Parish/School connection

Response:

Elizabeth McGuire, Chairperson, Superintendent of Schools

- We are a strong faith community at Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board
- All schools have a parish connection, other schools in the DPCDSB are named after their local parish (i.e. – Holy Family Church, Holy Family School, St. Joseph Church, St. Joseph Secondary and many more)



11. St. Dominic - Parent

Comment:

- impact on students and community is most important
- possibility of Lyndwood closing
- do not fragment the community, should have consulted with St. Dominic community do you have a community rep on school council

Response:

Elizabeth McGuire, Chairperson, Superintendent of Schools

- In original process for the ARC members, letters were sent to all parishes effected in each of the ARC areas for a parish representative, we do have Parish Representatives from St. Catherine of Siena, St. Mary Star of the Sea, and St. Patrick

12. St. Dominic - Parent

Question:

- age of school, transportations costs
- is there a formula that is being used for closing schools
- are there documents that Ministry gives to Trustee to follow and are they available

Response:

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

- we have a consultation process, there is review of all factors, there is not necessarily a weighting system, isn't just about the money
- the Ministry provides the process that must be followed, no strict guidelines – general rules, see the board website for:

Ministry of Education:

Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines

Administrative Review of Accommodation Review Process

And

Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board approved policy and regulations:

Pupil Accommodation Review – Policy

Pupil Accommodation Review – Process

School Valuation Framework



13. St. James – Parent

Question:

- don't want St. James or any other school to close
- we want special programs, we want higher enrolment
- are schools getting special programs
- we have been through this 3 years, we have lost students to specialty programs

Response:

Elizabeth McGuire, Chairperson, Superintendent of Schools

- Survey has been done to see if there was interest for French Immersion schools and launching a new pilot project of French Immersion for Sept 2008

14. St. Dominic - Parent

Question

- no one talking about railway crossings
- kids will have to cross the railway crossings

Response:

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

- walking and safety are always considered
- Same rules apply across the board for all students

15. Lyndwood - Parent Council Rep.

Question:

- Asked for Name of Staff that could sit on ARC for Lyndwood Public school process

Response:

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

- Board Staff have not been requested to sit on Public Board Committee
- Individual should pursue through Peel Board Staff



**Conclusion**

Elizabeth McGuire, Chairperson, Superintendent of Schools, thanked all for attending the meeting. If any one has any questions/comments that they would like to address to the ARC committee via Public Meeting, Parent Council, or email [planning@dpcdsb.org](mailto:planning@dpcdsb.org) or school administration

**Confirmation of next meeting**

- Public Meeting #3 – Tuesday, May 6, 2008

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 p. m.

Approximately 101 Parents, students and community members were in attendance of the Public Meeting #2

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Queen of Heaven | 5         |
| St. Dominic     | 61        |
| St. Edmund      | 5         |
| St. James       | 9         |
| St. Timothy     | 2         |
| Other           | <u>19</u> |
|                 | 101       |

R. Bonifacio, Recorder- Secretary, Planning Department, DPCDSB