



DUFFERIN PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Approved Minutes of the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) Central Erin Mills Review Area, Meeting # 5, Thursday, February 21, 2008, 7:00 pm, at Blessed Trinity Catholic Elementary School.

Present:

- M. Prospero, Chairperson, Superintendent of Schools
- T. Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Department
- J. Rogers, Planner, Planning Department
- K. DiPasquale, Principal, Blessed Trinity
- T. Cruz, Principal, Our Lady of Mercy
- M. MacDonald, Vice-Principal, Our Lady of Mercy
- N. Levey, Principal, Divine Mercy
- F. Anderson, Principal, St. Rose of Lima
- J. Flynn, Teacher Representative, Blessed Trinity
- A. Fera, Teacher Representative, Divine Mercy
- D. Jessome, Teacher Representative, Our Lady of Mercy
- L. DaSilva, Teacher Representative, St. Joseph Streetsville
- A. Daly, Teacher Representative, St. Rose of Lima
- H. Coito, School Council Chair, Blessed Trinity
- J. Crane-Rodrigues, School Council Representative, Blessed Trinity
- R. Kowal, School Council Chair, Divine Mercy
- R. Zizek, School Council Vice-Chair, Divine Mercy
- G. Bellissimo, School Council Chair, Our Lady of Mercy
- L. Condon, School Council Chair, St. Joseph Streetsville
- L. Boychuk, School Council Co-Chair, St. Joseph Streetsville
- C. Marchetti, School Council Co-Chair, St. Rose of Lima
- C. Weber, School Council Co-Chair, St. Rose of Lima
- T. Pimentel, Parish Representative, St. Joseph Streetsville
- E. Irvine, Planner, City of Mississauga

Regrets:

- M. Buczek, Principal, St. Joseph Streetsville
- M. Scott, School Council Co-Chair, Our Lady of Mercy

Sign-in sheet/email list was passed around.

- 1) Opening Prayer – M. Prospero
Mike Prospero outlined the format for the meeting – reviewing minutes page by page, round table discussion (each school to comment on the Public Meeting). At 8:30 pm ARC to make further reductions of the Options and the writing team is to be named. At 9:00 pm recommendations for the presentation at Public Meeting # 3 is to be made.
- 2) Approval of the January 22, 2008 Minutes with corrections:
 - Page 1 – heading – location is Our Lady of Mercy not St. Aloysius Gonzaga
 - Page 2 – Extended French and Gifted are under the Program Department – decision regarding these programs are made by Program Department/Special Education Department
 - Page 3 - # 5 – Meeting February 27 to February 21
 - Copies of report template made available.

Moved by: Cathy Marchetti
Seconded by: Helena Coito CARRIED



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3) Discussion of Public Meeting # 1

- Clarification regarding students at Credit Valley being bussed. Peel Board has the same transportation criteria as our Board. Credit Valley is only from Grades 1 -5 – Grades 6 - 8 would go to Thomas Street Middle School and French Immersion would go to Erin Centre P.S.
- Students from Blessed Trinity walk from their homes. Empty Seat Policy is the same as Peel Board's. Credit Valley P.S. would have a larger catchment area. Geographically Thomas Street Middle School is further away than Divine Mercy.
- Site disposition – if site is deemed surplus, who is it offered to? Property is offered to the French Catholic, Peel Board, then French Public Board. After their response, then next to Provincial agencies, UofT, Sheridan, then next to the Region of Peel and City of Mississauga, then if no one has need of the property, it could be up for sale. The situation with Our Lady of the Airways in Malton was cited as an example. Any money from the sale goes to Capital funding to rebuild other schools.
- What happens to vacant buildings – boarded up? Vandalized? All depends on what will be done with the property. Board will secure the building.
- Stats Canada Census Data – 33% - how many Catholics are in the area of the five schools? Can't give a definite number. People who move into the area must tell assessment that you are Catholic otherwise they are listed as Public School Supporters.
- At the last St. Rose of Lima School Council Meeting, parents were upset, did not want the expedited process, too close to June closing.

What did ARC get from the Public Meeting?

- The Public Meeting was great, informative, what was presented was exactly what was discussed at the ARC meetings.
- The colour coded transportation maps were very helpful.
- Issues about transportation always comes up. The Peel Board and Dufferin-Peel have the same transportation criteria.
- Parents have issues about their children walking – fear of crossing the larger streets, bullying, secondary schools, and large commercial units.
- Information was excellent. Disappointed that there were not many parents from the CEM community schools.
- Meeting was well handled, questions were answered well. People were only interested in their own questions. Not interested in the process or other ARC's taking place in the Board.
- In looking at the Options, people raised a lot of concern that there would be no visible Catholic presence south of Eglinton, north of Highway 403.
- St. Rose of Lima parents seemed concerned. Why don't more parents come out and voice their opinions. The decision has not been made yet.



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- Public Meeting # 1 had a larger turnout than Public Meeting # 2. Parents felt like it was a done deal.

8:45 pm Board staff and City Planner left the room. ARC to discuss and reduce Options.

- 4) Writing Team
Liam Condon, St. Joseph Streetsville School Council - Co-Chair
Cathy Weber, St. Rose of Lima School Council - Co-Chair
Mike MacDonald, VP, OLO Mercy / St. Edith Stein
Regina Zizek, Divine Mercy School Council
Jo-Ann Crane-Rodrigues, Blessed Trinity School Council
- 5) Questions and Issues to Address at Public Meeting # 3
 - What is the actual number of students that will be moved to the new location – if not, where would they go (Catholic, Public, Private)?
 - How many students would leave the Catholic school system if schools closed?
 - If students attend the Public elementary school, they must remember that there will be no access to St. Aloysius Gonzaga for Grade 9, if Gonzaga is at their cap.
 - Clarify mandate of ARC – outline their responsibilities.
 - School Councils can poll their community. They may collect the information and bring to the ARC for discussion.
 - Status Quo is not an Option. Options have been reduced to 1, 3, 4, 5 and 9.
 - Transportation routes are looked at during the summer. Gifted/Extended French transportation depends on the enrolment and where students live.
 - Why are Trustees not at the Public Meetings? Parents can call their local Trustee and they can delegate the Board at the Administration & Finance Committee or Board Meeting.
 - Rank the Options from 1 to 5.
 - Process too quick.
 - Cost to run the schools
 - Clarify that Trustees are making the final decision – not the ARC.
- 6) Meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm.
Moved by: L. Condon
Seconded by: A. Daly CARRIED

**Next Meeting: Monday, March 31, 2008
7:00 pm
St. Joseph Streetsville**