



## DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

### **CENTRAL ERIN MILLS PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW**

**PUBLIC MEETING # 4  
May 20, 2008, 7:00 pm  
St. Aloysius Gonzaga Secondary School**

#### **Unapproved Minutes of the Central Erin Mills Pupil Accommodation Review, Public Meeting # 4**

Attendance:	Blessed Trinity	27	
	Divine Mercy	5	
	Our Lady of Mercy	2	
	St. Joseph Streetsville	2	
	St. Rose of Lima	32	
	Other	1	Total: 69

**1) Opening Prayer and Introductions – M. Prospero**

ARC members were introduced. Absent were Principals from Divine Mercy, Blessed Trinity and St. Rose of Lima. They were on class trips.

**2) ARC Process and Criteria – T. Munn**

T. Munn explained who the ARC is, when they met, and what they have done to date. He explained that it is a 3-step process by the Board – i) identification (by the Planning Department); ii) review and analysis (by ARC meetings); iii) implementation (by Trustees).

**3) Mandate of the ARC – T. Munn**

ARC presented the preferred accommodation options of the ARC. They receive feedback from the community meetings where the preferred option is chosen. Report will go to the Administration and Finance Committee and finally to the Board of Trustees who will make the final decision. At this time the ARC has met six times and this is their fourth and final Public Meeting.

**4) Public Meeting # 3 – T. Munn**

This meeting was held on March 4, 2008. Transportation, safety factors, curriculum, financial implications, accommodation options were discussed. Questions from the community were answered.

**5) ARC Recommendation – T. Munn**

The ARC recommendations to the Director of Education were presented.

➤ **Option # 4 – St. Rose of Lima to Blessed Trinity**

Boundaries were explained. All St. Rose of Lima students would get transportation because of Erin Mills Parkway (70 km). Financial net savings, based on current assessment - \$101,007. This amount will change as the years go on.

➤ **Option # 5 – Blessed Trinity to St. Rose of Lima**

Boundaries were explained. St. Rose of Lima has a smaller building capacity than Blessed Trinity so there would be more portables than Option # 4. Transportation would be provided for all Blessed Trinity students. The financial net savings, based on current assessment - \$160,398. This amount will change as the years go on.

**ARC Rationale for Recommendations:**

- ARC would like to keep a Catholic presence south of Eglinton Avenue, north of Highway 403.
- Whatever school St. Rose of Lima students moved to, they would be bussed because of Erin Mills Parkway (70 km).
- Blessed Trinity – not all students would qualify for transportation to Divine Mercy.
- Concerns were expressed about the safety of students crossing Eglinton Avenue.

**6) Next Steps:**

ARC report must be submitted to the Director of Education within thirty (30) days from the last Public Meeting: May 20, 2008. The staff report to Trustees will be prepared over the summer, 2008. Special Administration & Finance Committee Meetings will be held in the fall, 2008. A Public Board Meeting will be scheduled for the fall, 2008.

- All ARC materials are posted on the Board's website
- Special Administration and Finance Committee and Board Meeting dates will be posted on the Board's website. Notices advising of these meeting dates will also be distributed to parents through students' report cards, newspaper advertisements and mailed to residents and businesses as per Board policy.
- Rules for delegating the Board will be posted on the website

**7) Question Period**

**Parent – St. Rose of Lima**

➤ **How much of the Planning report will be based on the ARC's recommendations?**

It is not a Planning report – it is a staff (Finance, Transportation, Family of Schools Departments) report. Trustees will make the final decision. The staff report will comment on the ARC's report and recommendation.

➤ **St. Rose of Lima and Blessed Trinity – oppose the closing of schools but agree with the ARC decision – a political decision by Trustees.**

**Parent**

➤ **Any guarantee that five years from now we won't go through this again?**

Ministry guidelines recommend that a School Board should not put a community through Accommodation Review more than once every five years.

➤ **Can anyone guarantee that we are not doing this again?**

The Board of Trustees make the decision as to when and if Accommodation Review will be carried out.

**Parent**

➤ **Thank you, it has been a very difficult decision. The land is owned by the Board, what is the market value of the land? Would it be considered by the Trustees?**

Until the decision is made, the after use of the land is not part of the decision. The Board will follow the Ministry guidelines regarding disposition of surplus property:

- i) Board to make decision to close school
- ii) School would be declared surplus – the Board could use it for something else

- iii) If the Board does not use the property, the Board would go through the Disposal process
- iv) All sites currently have underlying zoning.

➤ **Which plot of land is larger?**

Blessed Trinity site is 6 acres and St. Rose of Lima is 5.9 acres.

**Parent - Blessed Trinity**

- **ARC has done a great job. What are the advantages/disadvantages of school being closed?**  
All schools have the basic needs. Kiss n'Ride, classrooms, gym (bigger at Blessed Trinity).
- **The staff report – as of today, any draft and what will be your stand?**  
Board report is a collective process. Won't know the end result.
- **When will the staff report be completed?**  
Prior to the first Administration and Finance Committee Meeting in the fall of 2008.

**Students – Blessed Trinity**

- **Has ARC taken into consideration the 2 new soccer fields, air conditioning, the size of classrooms and portables?**  
ARC and staff have all this information. Board is aware that the City of Mississauga is constructing 2 soccer fields behind Blessed Trinity.
- **How can we convince the Trustees?**  
Communicate with Trustees. ARC members are at all the Public Meetings. You can register to delegate at the special meetings to address the Trustees.
- **Can they make a decision different than what the ARC recommends?**  
Yes, Trustees can make any decision, they determine if appropriate.
- **What are the dates of the meetings?**  
Special Administration and Finance Committee Meeting dates will be posted on the Board's website and distributed to parents through the students.

**Parent – St. Rose of Lima**

- **Committee and Board decisions?**  
The final decision will be at the Board Meeting. Trustees will listen to delegations. You must register prior to meeting. Decision could be deferred.

**Additional Comments:**

- It looks like there's a bigger saving by closing Blessed Trinity and moving into St. Rose but having to bus our students will cost money and putting up more portables will cost more money so on the end there is no big savings. Blessed Trinity has four extra classrooms that can accommodate the students from St. Rose of Lima.

11) The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

**Next Meetings:**

**Special Administration and Finance Committee Meeting - Dates to be determined.**  
**Special Board Meeting - Dates to be determined.**