Call to Order:

D. Amaral, Chair of the East Credit ARC Working Group Committee, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

1. Prayer

The Chair led the group in prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda for ARC Working Group Meeting #7

Approval of the agenda was moved by: S. Bonello, seconded by: C. Szczepanik.

CARRIED

3. Approval of March 2, 2016 Meeting Minutes from ARC Working Group Meeting #6

Approval of the March 2, 2016 meeting minutes was moved by: J. Belmonte, seconded by: K. Canlas.

CARRIED

4. St. Gertrude Presentation – C. Helme

C. Helme presented on behalf of St. Gertrude.
Questions/Comments from ARC members:
- Transportation cost was corrected to $337,250 as per Option M; the highest transportation cost of all options presented
- Re utility costs for St. Herbert, St. Raymond, St. Valentine – all three have full a/c and St. Herbert has a childcare centre which incurs additional costs (heat, water, lights, etc.) for two extra classrooms from 7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. each day; money is spent on additional service
- Re renewal costs – cost savings by closing St. Bernadette versus St. Herbert, it would take 41 years to equal out the difference
- Looking at financial aspect only does not make sense – why would you close St. Herbert as opposed to a school that costs a lot more?

C. Helme Response – the math is not clear, capital investment up front versus recurring cost savings. I don’t have better insight into the financials and other costs associated, e.g. insurance, legal, leasing, operations, contractual. I can’t tell you what those costs are. Closing a larger school though, we are better off; those costs go away.
- SIP for St. Raymond, 1st item - replacement of hot water boiler; 4th most costly item – that has been done, so brings cost down for St. Raymond

Planning staff indicated that the SIP was updated to reflect the recent boiler replacement
- All other presentations maintained a standard of fairness; analysis for 1 school is not a fair comparison.
- How does eliminating the flex boundary students keep kids together?

C. Helme Response – in essence, it doesn’t. It allows the school in aggregate to move, but does not keep the entire school together.
- Re Capital Investment cost – OLGV community feels strongly about capital cost, but it should not be a deciding factor because all schools, even newer ones will eventually get to an age where they will have high capital costs.
- OLGV review slide – 10-year Government T-bill, is that how schools are funded? Chair responded that is not how schools are funded.

C. Helme Response – referring to your rationale. I will have to get back to you on that.

The Chair thanked Chris for his presentation.

5. Follow-up Items – ARC Requested Information from WGM #6

- Tips for Delegation Night
  General Manager Campbell reviewed the “Tips for Delegating the Board” sheet with the ARC members and answered questions. He suggested they may be able to arrange a practice time ahead of delegation night.
  -Trustees may have questions for ARC members
  -Presenters can be one or a number of people from a community; 5 minutes is allotted time for each delegation
  -Can submit correspondence in lieu of an official PowerPoint presentation
  -Written materials must be submitted to Laurie Mackereth, Board Reporter, 5 business days ahead to check for appropriateness; Chair can refuse submission
  -No copies need to be provided to Trustees separately
  -Public are only there to observe and cannot ask questions
  **ACTION:** Superintendent Del Bianco will confirm details of delegation night format and get back to committee April 6th

- Identify schools with A/C
  Information provided contains A/C installed by the Board and maintained by the Board as opposed to stand alone units purchased by the school.
ARC member asked if adding a/c to a school would move it up on the capital requirements list. Superintendent Del Bianco replied that we would first submit as a business case to Ministry. The Ministry has a funding envelope for schools that have gone through the accommodation review process. At the conclusion of this process, depending on what the Trustees decide, we would submit a business case for additional requirements, e.g. daycare, FDK room, addition, gym. If that doesn’t go through, then we would look at using our own renewal or capital dollars.

- **Identify schools where classrooms have been converted to Prayer Rooms and Special Needs rooms**
  Special Needs rooms are already identified in plans provided. There are no purpose built Prayer rooms in elementary schools; they are classrooms converted to a prayer room. See information sheet provided. ARC member added that St. Gregory opened with a prayer room approved by Ralph Borrelli and Lucy Papaloni. Planning staff indicated that this was a storage area on the original plans, even if a wall was removed; it was not a purpose built chapel or prayer room.

- **Identify schools that have additional accessibility features built-in (verbal)**
  The Chair indicated that under the Education Act and Accessibility Act, it is our responsibility that we follow through with the appropriate resources and supports for those students. If an Occupational Therapist has prescribed equipment to a student, that equipment will follow the student to the new school. If there are special facilities that the student requires, we have a process through our Special Education and Support Services Department to ensure that those facilities are there to meet the student’s needs.
  ARC member indicated that St. Bernadette is completely braille, so the new school would need to provide that for the student.

- **Clarify St. Dunstan Option #4 Transportation Costs (verbal)**
  Discussion took place on checking the additional transportation costs indicated in last week’s minutes. Staff clarified that the estimated transportation costs for all students in the areas that are proposed to close would be approximately $170,000 yearly.

- **Clarify teacher involvement in PAR process including attendance at ARC WGM and Public Meetings (verbal)**
  The Chair responded that teachers and all staff are members of public, but they are also employees of the board. They are welcome to attend school council meetings and ARC meetings. They are free to ask questions as a member of public. ARC member asked if teachers who have students in the area can make delegations on delegation night. The Chair replied, yes.

6. **Survey Discussion**

- **Review of rationale and physical building/site items from ARC WGM#6**
  The following is a summary of the rationale and receiving school attributes as determined by the ARC during the affinity clustering exercise that took place at ARC Working Group Meeting #6. The purpose of this exercise was to determine the rationale and criteria that will be used to populate the survey for Public Open House #2. This survey will gather feedback from the community at large regarding what is most important to them when considering school closures. Manager Cox led the discussion and indicated that there would be an additional third question relating to Special Programs. The final format decided by the ARC at WGM#6 was as follows:

  1. What **rationale** are most important to you in considering school closures?
  2. Keeping students together as one community when redirecting to another school
• Ensure safety of students to and from school
• Distribute schools to maintain Catholic presence throughout the review area
• Retain newer school facilities within East Credit
• Maintain classroom space for future growth and/or programming in East Credit
• Reduce overall capacity (pupil places) within the review area
• Consider walking distance to community resources such as, but not limited to church, child care, community centres
• Minimize transportation costs
• Increase and maximize overall utilization by 20% or higher
• Retain schools that are central to the catchment area
• Consider major roads as boundary lines

2. What is most important to you when considering accommodation at a receiving school in terms of the physical building/site?

• Ability to accommodate added traffic on-site (e.g. buses, parking)

ARC member asked if we are going to get the information regarding ability to accommodate added traffic.

ACTION: Chair indicated that we can bring back that information, when options are available.

• Barrier-free school facilities, meaning schools that are fully accessible by learners regardless of ability
• Maintain classroom space for future growth and/or programming in East Credit
• Minimize the need for portables
• Maintain access to on-site child care centres for children from 18 months – to 3.8 years of age
• Fully air-conditioned buildings installed and maintained by the Board

Chair indicated that some schools have purchased their own a/c units and the board does not maintain those.

Approval by the ARC to leave the words “installed and maintained by the Board” was moved by: E. Kostuch and seconded by: C. Szczepanik.

CARRIED

• Retain schools with lower renewal costs
• Maintain classrooms used for special purposes such as prayer room

• Finalize survey questions

Chair suggested the ARC members look at a draft of the survey produced by Researcher Russell-Kwan and her team. Researcher Russell-Kwan indicated that the rationale will be standardized to start with a verb and will be programmed to appear randomly for each respondent. The ranking tool uses a puzzle piece format and cannot be changed.

After discussion with ARC members the Survey ranking items were finalized as follows:

1. Rationale:

• Consider walking distance to community resources such as, but not limited to church, child care, community centres
• Distribute schools to maintain Catholic presence in East Credit
• Ensure safety of students to and from school
• Keep students together as one community when redirecting to another school
• Maintain classroom space for future growth and/or programming in East Credit
• Minimize transportation costs
• Reduce overall capacity (pupil places) within the review area
• Retain newer school facilities within East Credit

2. Considerations for receiving schools:

• Ensure ability to accommodate added traffic on-site (e.g. buses, parking)
• Ensure barrier-free school facilities, meaning schools that are fully accessible by all learners, regardless of ability
• Maintain access to on-site child care centres for children from 18 months –to 3.8 years of age
• Maintain classroom space for future growth and/or programming in East Credit
• Maintain classrooms used for special purposes such as prayer room
• Maintain fully air-conditioned buildings (installed and maintained by the Board)
• Minimize the need for portables
• Retain schools with lower renewal costs

Comments/Suggestions from ARC Members
- list all eight ranking items across the top, so people don’t have to scroll down to see them all
- may be confusing when viewing on a phone
- put in alphabetical order; choose 5 out of 8 items
- 3 additional staff rationale to be added (5 out of 11 items in total)
- how will this be presented to trustees?
Researcher Russell-Kwan replied that they do a ranking analysis and the proportion of respondents is shown as who picked the number 1 item, top 3 and top 5 of the 11 rationale items. The top 3 places shows a better comparison; you can see the cluster or where the greatest importance lies.
Chair added that the results will be made available on April 6 for your comments, before staff do final report.

3. Special Programs
Manager Cox discussed a third question to be added re special programs which has been a common theme through discussions of the ARC and suggestions through correspondence from the community. We will ask the community, is there any interest in a program in this community out of the programs we currently offer, how you rank them and a space to add another option, if you have one. There are only three items to rank: EF, FI, and Catholic Global Learning, with a brief description of each; rank the most preferred.
Research Russell-Kwan indicated that if their answer is “No” to seeing special programs, they will not see these options. In addition, there is a character limit on the question beginning with “Are there any other types of special programs you believe the board...”
Manager Cox stated we are staying away from qualitative data, as we only have 2 days to review responses. The survey closes at the end of the day April 4 and the results are required for the April 6 meeting. Due to the short window for the survey, ARC members can send out the link for the survey to their community members through their website, board website and iPads will be available at the public meeting. It was clarified that parents can also fill out the survey at their schools, using their school computers/tablets.
Chair responded to a question re accessibility in doing survey – we could add an accommodation rider re vision, speech, hearing, translation or mobility to contact school principal for assistance in doing survey.

7.  BREAK
The Chair called the break at 8:15 p.m. to reconvene at 8:30 p.m.
8. **Public Open House #2 – March 30, 2016**

- **Confirmation of preferred options (Homework Part 2)**
  Manager Cox thanked the ARC for doing their homework on time; part 2 was handed in. Each community submitted their preferred option and Planning staff put out the large display boards for viewing. Information provided as ARC observations will be included, so the community knows what the rationale was for choosing that option.
  - Trustees will see all the options
  - Planning staff will title all options consistently
  - The options presented will not identify the community it came from
  - Staff option title will remain the same, as one community did choose it

  **ACTION:** Planning staff to consider changing title as ARC member indicated they may have influence over other options

- **Meeting Format**
  - Meeting begins at 6 p.m.
  - Staff presentation starts at 6:30 p.m., explaining work of the committee; where we started and where we have come
  - 2nd presentation again at 8:00 p.m., same as 6:30 pm presentation, for those arriving later in the evening
  - Layout of room will have an area for boards and a presentation area
  - Principals will be manning the iPads
  - Survey to be available online
  - Meeting notice will go out Monday after March Break with format of the evening on the back; also a large board will be displayed at the meeting
  - There will be a looping presentation with frequently asked questions, next steps, other
  - Staff will be on hand to answer questions
  - ARC members will have name tags, however are not required to justify their chosen option
  - Interim report available to the public April 21, Interim report presented to the Trustees April 26, Delegation Night May 9 and the final report will be presented to Trustees May 24
  - Survey link will be posted on board website March 30 to April 4th

9. **Correspondence Items (WG7-143 – WG7-240)**

The ARC Members moved receipt on all correspondence items for review at this meeting (WG7-143 – WG7-215, WG8-216 - WG7-240). Moved by E. Kostuch and seconded by K. Canlas

**CARRIED**

WG8-230 – St. Herbert, WG8-231 – St. Herbert, WG8-232 – St. Herbert, WG8-233 – St. Herbert, WG8-237 – St. Herbert, WG8-238 – St. Herbert, WG8-239 – St. Herbert, WG8-240 – St. Herbert

WG7-143 & WG7-143a – St. Herbert
ARC member made a correction that the St Dunstan gym is rented all year, every night and has sufficient space to accommodate students. Also, reference to St Dunstan facing busy Creditview is incorrect, as school faces a side street and does not impede traffic more than any other school. In addition, has an offensive statement in 2nd last paragraph in terms of signs in neighbourhood on public property, if political pressure from a high-income group. St. Herbert just put up a billboard on their property.
Chair indicated staff will take back to Board re that communication.

**ACTION: Staff to check if billboard is on St. Herbert property.**
ARC member indicated that it is offensive to St. Dunstan, the school board and the Trustees by the statement “common sense take a back seat to pleasing the ‘squeaky wheel’” It’s inference that St Dunstan is influencing the decision by the board is undermining everyone.
ARC member added that OLGV does not have high temperatures and has adequate facilities for volleyball, etc.

WG7-145 – St. Dunstan
Councillor indicated this is not in his jurisdiction.

WG7-146 – St. Dunstan
Academic achievement was not in the rationale considered or potential property values.

WG7-147 – St. Herbert
ARC member disagrees with point 2) and 4)

WG7-148 – OLGV
Reference to name should be redacted.

**ACTION: Redact whole paragraph**

WG7-151 – St. Herbert
ARC member indicated that a single level school is preferred for students with disabilities; untrue statement

WG7-154 – St. Herbert
ARC member disagreed with last paragraph reference re “pointing fingers to others”

WG7-160 – St. Herbert
Senior Planner Rogers indicated that staff would not be giving detailed expense reports for specific schools and there are no plans for demolition of any buildings.

WG7-163 – St. Herbert
ARC member indicated that name needs redacting in Art History piece.

**ACTION: Redact name of family**

WG7-165 – St. Herbert
ARC member commented that reference at bottom of page 1 re “ugly fight” is not a fair characterization.

WG7-195 – Alternative Options
Response to questions:
1) Staff will work with child care operators to relocate spaces in the area
2) We can close down wings, but it will not change pupil places.
Superintendent Del Bianco added that we even do that for schools not part of this review.
3) Chair responded, no, that it is legislated that each school must have 1 principal.
4) Students have been transitioned or "grandfathered" to receiving schools through the boundary change process. It is not the board’s regular practice, but it has been done.

5) The board would have to identify what the physical requirements would be for additional space and requirements to retrofit existing rooms. Board's commitment is to maintain child care facilities: first source for funding would be from the Ministry, and if Ministry funding is not secured, the Board would identify physical improvements as part of the capital plan.

WG7-204 – St. Gertrude
Chair responded, yes, student videos will be permitted at delegation night. Presentation must be 5 minutes or less.

WG7-206 – St. Gertrude
Senior Planner Rogers stated that there are currently 646 students at the school and also, the board policy does not permit non-Catholics to register in elementary schools.

WG7-213 – St. Gertrude
Reference in 2nd paragraph to how many portables are needed. Number will be determined when students are in the building and after organization of classes.

WG7-214 – St. Gertrude
ARC committee has identified the criteria that is important to them further to ARC discussions, correspondence received and feedback from their communities. Criteria will be presented to the community via the Survey at Public Open House #2. A weighting will not be applied to the criteria.

WG7-215 – St. Gertrude
Reference in 4th paragraph to Mavis Road. Grades K-5 would be bussed, as previously identified by Transportation Department. Traffic Safety Council would come out and assess if Grades 6-8 could safely cross that intersection or whether they should be bussed. Crossing guards will not be placed on roads with speed limits over 60 km/h.

WG8-216 – St. Gertrude

**ACTION:** Redact name and email address

WG8-217 – St. Gertrude
Parish boundaries are not considered in determining school closures.

WG8-218 – St. Gertrude
Introducing the utilization at schools outside of the review area is not part of the scope of the East Credit Pupil Accommodation Review. Ministry guidelines state that boards must identify a group of schools which the board has done. The review area has been set, and by introducing new schools, the board would be in violation of its own procedure. Chair added that parents can access the Board’s flex boundary process if they want to apply to another school.

WG8-219 – St. Gertrude
Information below was provided by STOPR Manager, T. Howe:

**Question 1 re: Bussing Cost**
Cost per student is not a valid comparator as transportation cost is directly related to buses. Cost per student represents total bus cost divided by total riders. If the routing for a specific vehicle is very efficient (i.e. the bus performs 6 runs to or from 6 schools each day) the fixed cost of the bus will be divided by the total number of students who ride this bus on all runs and generate a low per student cost. If a bus route involves only 3 or 4 runs each day, the same fixed cost will be divided by a lower student total generating a higher cost per student.
So the cost per student is nothing more than a calculated number which can vary significantly, from school to school or bus to bus, based on routing and students transported. As such, cost per student is not a consideration in evaluation of transportation costs.

ARC member asked for clarification on revisiting transportation costs in Options 1, 2 and 3. Planning staff indicated that the map needs to be updated, but we wouldn’t look at it as a per student cost.

**Question 2 re Pedestrian student crossing – Eglinton, Britannia, Mavis, Creditview**

One circumstance of pedestrian student crossing the above noted streets, for DPCDSB schools, has been identified:

St Sebastian Catholic School – students residing north of Eglinton Avenue cross Eglinton at the intersection with Tenth Line. All grade levels cross at this location. There are a total of 618 students at this school of which 216 are bussed due to distance from school and 402 students walk.

For clarification, all circumstances in which pedestrian student crossing of arterial or multilane roadways is a consideration are referred to Mississauga Traffic Safety Council for assessment and recommended action. This applies to all elementary schools in both school boards. Safety Council typically approves one of three options in response to requests received. Recommended actions include pedestrian student crossing acceptable and no Crossing Guard required, pedestrian student crossing acceptable with Crossing Guard in place, and pedestrian student crossing not acceptable. STOPR transportation services are established based on Mississauga Traffic Safety Council assessments. Currently, pedestrian student crossing is occurring on Lakeshore Blvd., Hurontario Street, The Queensway, Burnhamthorpe Road, Derry Road, and Cawthra Road.

ARC member commented that students cross Erin Mills to go to St. Rose of Lima. Is it referring to bussing or walking?

ARC member indicated that the question in the email asked to identify all other areas where students are required to walk across Eglinton, Britannia, Mavis, or Creditview.

Planning staff indicated that Transportation only gave the one example and will ask for other examples.

**ACTION: Ask Transportation Department for all examples of students crossing major intersections indicated.**

**WG8-221 – Evaluation of Options**

ARC member commented that the proposed weighting is a systematic way of providing defined rationale in the decision making process; however it is not the intent of the ARC to provide one final recommendation.

**WG8-222 – St. Gertrude**

Mississauga Traffic Safety Council will do site specific assessments and determine safety for students in grades 6-8 and identify issues or make recommendations to improve safety. Site assessments would only be completed after a decision is made because assessments cannot be made under conditions where students are not already crossing.

**WG8-234 – St. Dunstan**

Chair responded to the 4 questions in email:

1. Chair clarified this information in the ARC Requested Information earlier in the meeting.
2. Yes, parents can host meetings at the school through permits process. Such meetings are not formal ARC meetings.
3. Yes, teachers are members of the public and can attend ARC meetings.
4. Any portable signs must be approved by the Plant Department to ensure they are not in violation of any bylaws and must also be approved by Communications Department to ensure it complies with Board policies. Signs that promote a meeting are permitted, however signs that are not conducive to Board’s philosophy are not.
10. **Other Business**
   - Planner Koops advised that if there are any specific questions regarding how transportation costs were calculated, email us and we will get back to you.
   - Superintendent Del Bianco indicated that the PARInfo mailbox will be shut down as of midnight on April 4. The Survey will also be closed at midnight on April 4. The closing date for the PARInfo mailbox has been identified on the board website and in the automatic reply response from PARInfo.
   - ARC member asked if emails can be printed for ARC before April 6. Staff indicated it will be part of the agenda package for that meeting.
   - Superintendent Del Bianco indicated that the sign in sheets for WGMs will not be shared or broken down by school. Information is to show to Trustees how many were engaged at the meetings.
   - ARC member indicated that there are sections on the consolidated chart with data from another source re accidents for specific schools. Previously it was indicated that that data was not available. ARC member feels that data should be removed.
   - ARC member indicated the accident data was requested from the City of Mississauga for and can share with ARC.

   **ACTION:** Staff to email accident data on consolidated chart to all ARC members

   - ARC member commented that some options have a lot more information provided and may not be accurate. Planning staff will validate information and present each option in a consistent manner.
   - ARC member asked if the survey can ask, if your school would close, would you continue with Catholic education? Would they switch to a closer public school? Chair responded that if people perceive that as a means by which they can communicate to the board they don’t want their school close, whether or not they follow through, is the data valid? From our experience, Blessed Trinity did not lose as many students to the public system when it closed.
   - ARC member indicated that Planning should clarify any errors on presentations.

11. **Adjournment**
    The Motion to adjourn was moved by E. Kostuch and seconded by S. Bonello.

   **CARRIED**

   The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

**Future meeting dates:**
March 30, 2016 – Public Meeting #2 (St. Joseph SS)
April 6, 2016 – ARC Working Group Meeting #8 (TBD)

**Distribution:**
ARC Members
ARC Resource
Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Please find attached a letter I have written regarding the upcoming school closures in Mississauga South. I hope that you will take the time to consider my thoughts.

Thank you,

(recently retired DPCDSB teacher)
February 20, 2016

Mississauga, Ontario

Board of Trustees,
Dufferin-Peel CDSB
40 Matheson Blvd. W.,
Mississauga, Ontario
L5R 3R3

Dear Board Members:

Re: School Closings in Mississauga South

No doubt you will have received countless letters regarding the imminent school closures in the Mississauga South Family of Schools. I would ask that you please take the time to consider the content of this letter as you continue the decision-making process.

I am writing as a taxpayer who has first-hand knowledge of many of the schools included in the Board’s closure options. First of all, I am a recently-retired DPCDSB teacher who has worked full-time at Our Lady of Good Voyage, St. Bernadette and St. Herbert and who has done supply teaching at St. Dunstan. Secondly, I am a parent of two children who currently attend St. Joseph S.S. and who completed their elementary years in Dufferin-Peel. And finally, I am a long-term resident of the area who wants to see the best decision made for her neighbourhood.

I am aware of the three scenarios with which the Board has been presented by the Planning Department members and, although it will not be an easy process, I do support their need to close a number schools in order to make best use of the Board’s financial resources. In this vein, I would like to offer my input in the hope that my perspective might perhaps shed some light on areas that might not have been considered.

Because I have worked in several of the schools on the list and therefore am very familiar with the buildings, their layout and their surrounding playground areas, I feel that I have a reasonably objective viewpoint to share. And, after considering the characteristics of these schools, I believe that the closing of St. Herbert, in particular, would be a huge mistake. Outlined below are the factors which have led me to hold this position:
St. Herbert is an absolutely beautiful school which is only sixteen years old. It is in superb condition and has been well maintained. Many of the other schools on the list are significantly older and in need of more repair. St. Herbert was built for a much larger number of students than it currently services, so there are numerous empty classrooms available to house incoming students.

St. Herbert is fully air-conditioned. This is a HUGE bonus---believe me! ---and it makes learning a much easier proposition for everyone involved. In other schools, such as OLGV, high temperatures in May and June make teaching and learning virtually impossible in many instances. This I know from first-hand experience. Because of its air conditioning, St. Herbert has also been a popular venue for DPCDSB’s Summer Literacy Camp, something which could continue in the future.

St. Herbert has a well-established daycare program which services children from toddler age right up to junior-level students who attend its before/after school programs. In fact, the school underwent a major renovation just a few years ago to create designated space to accommodate this daycare and the results have created a top-notch facility.

Regarding the daycare, a significant fact to consider is that students from both St. Herbert AND nearby Sherwood Mills Public School share this daycare. If St. Herbert were to close, these children, as well, would be without childcare services.

Because of the very close proximity of St. Herbert to the aforementioned Sherwood Mills Public School and to nearby Fallingbrook Public School, rumour has it that, should St. Herbert close, many parents would choose to send their children to these institutions rather than having them bussed to another location. This would result in a further decline in enrolment for Dufferin-Peel at a time when it cannot afford to lose more students.

Just recently, in the fall of 2015, the Board spent a great deal of money repairing and resodding the grassy playground area at St. Herbert. It is now a beautiful, lush expanse in which the children can play.

St. Herbert is bordered by a huge city-owned park area which has three soccer fields, a baseball field and other areas of open green space. This is used extensively by the school for sporting activities and school events such as Playday. It, in effect, quadruples the green space that is available to the children.

Immediately behind St. Herbert is a protected marshland area, Creditview Wetlands Park, which the students use to further their knowledge of ecosystems and animal and plant species. It is mere steps away from the school playground.
The facilities inside the school are very well-designed. There is a huge atrium which faces the rear of the double-sided stage and which is used for paraliturgies, guest speakers and small performances. The stage itself is very large for an elementary school and has been upgraded to include professional-quality sound equipment which was used in the presentation of numerous school concerts and musicals over the years.

The gymnasium is very large and airy and has adequate space to accommodate all normal team sports. I know that some of the other schools, such as St. Dunstan and OLGV, have much smaller gym facilities with lower ceilings and less space between the court lines and the exterior walls, something which is a hindrance in sports such as volleyball because it impedes proper serving.

St. Herbert’s library is a spacious, bright, open area which has plenty of room for the school’s book collection, its computer lab, seating areas for students featuring comfortable sofas and chairs, as well as a group space where lessons can be taught. It is, in many ways, the heart of the school and is an expanse which would be a perfect environment for 21st century learning.

When St. Herbert holds evening events such as concerts or musicals, parking is not a problem because, as a result of the excellent rapport that St. Herbert has established with two of its neighbouring schools, Fallingbrook Public School and Rick Hansen Secondary School, parents and guests are free to park in these lots. This eliminates a great deal of frustration for parents and visitors alike.

Despite the fact that there are, as mentioned, numerous schools in the area, arrival and dismissal times are coordinated expertly, so traffic is not a significant issue on Fallingbrook Drive. This is very different from other schools such as St. Dunstan where, because of its proximity to the very busy Creditview Road, entering and exiting the location is often dangerous and/or time-consuming. The increased bussing of new students would only exacerbate this problem.

As you can see, there are a multitude of reasons as to why St. Herbert should remain open and continue to exist as part of Dufferin-Peel. It would be a crime, in my opinion, to close such an amazing facility. When you take into account the impressive nature and beauty of the building itself, its spacious and up-to-date interiors, its air-conditioning, the size of its gym and library, the large and technologically upgraded stage facilities, its newly-renovated playground, its proximity to fields of open green space, its high-quality daycare, its convenient location and more, arriving at the decision to close St. Herbert seems not only unreasonable but unwise. I hope that, by outlining these very valid points, I have helped to give you some first-hand information that will assist you in your decision-making process.
One final note: It has become quite clear from the climate in my neighbourhood, as evidenced by the many “Save St. Dunstan” signs and other publicity measures which the parents from that school have undertaken, that the very vocal St. Dunstan community is adamantly opposed to its school being closed. One would expect no less and, of course, their actions are understandable. Every school wants to maintain its history, traditions and identity. However, because this particular community has mobilized its resources so quickly and has taken such a highly public stance, one cannot help but wonder if this political pressure from a high-income group will influence the decision-making process to the point where logic and common sense take a back seat to pleasing the “squeaky wheel”, so to speak. The St. Herbert community has a different economic profile and is a mixed bag of ethnicities, income levels and ESL needs. This does not mean that the parents in this area do not care about their school; it only means that, for a variety of reasons, they might not have the same resources with which to fight their battle. I hope that, when you are making your decision, you are not swayed by outward appearances but, instead, reach your verdict by looking at the facts and at which facility will best meet the needs of the children in your care. In my opinion, that school is St. Herbert.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my thoughts and opinions. After thirty-one years of teaching in Dufferin-Peel, I will always care about what happens in our schools and I will always do what I can to make things better for our children. I know that you share this same commitment and I pray that God will bless you as you undertake this difficult decision-making process.

Yours sincerely,
Dear, Peel Catholic District School Board

I am writing this email in support of keeping St. Gregory Elementary School Open. St. Gregory is the only catholic elementary school located in our community. It truly is the heart of our neighborhood and a large part of the Catholic Community.

I can say this because not only did I once attend St. Gregory Elementary, but I also have friends and family members who are currently attending the school. I was one of the first classes to attend the school and have witnessed the school grow with the community. St. Gregory is welcoming, safe, and nurturing environment for the entire community which in turn acts like a second home for not only the students and their families but also the wonderful staff who work with in the school. I can honestly say that because I am one of many alumni’s and parents who continue to be active volunteers at St. Gregory.

St. Gregory does a wonderful job advocating for the students and fostering their learning. The teachers and all of the staff take pride in their job, their students, and the families they work in partnership with. The students who attend St. Gregory feel comfortable within the school and community. The students know all of the teachers, support staff, and custodians within the school. St. Gregory is also home to a wonderful daycare centre who we work in partnership with. St. Gregory is able to serve the entire community no matter your age. St. Gregory teaches and demonstrates catholic values and virtues first hand allowing our children’s education and faith to flourish hand and hand. They are an active participant in advocating for children safety, bullying, healthy living, the environment, athletics, and academics. By closing St. Gregory our community and our children will suffer a great loss. As the advocates for St. Gregory we only want what is best for our children, their education, our catholic community, and our home St. Gregory Elementary School.

Keeping our faith and future strong with St. Gregory Elementary School

Points to Consider

- Only school north of Britannia. No Catholic presence and will change the demographics of our entire neighborhood.
- St. Gregory can increase enrollment from St Julia’s once 2nd Line closes to bike path
- St Raymond move is too dangerous - it is far children will have to be crossing a major intersection.

Our grade 8 graduating class will be split in two when they transition in to high school. (St Raymond students move to St Joe’s, our kids move to St Marcie’s. Again splitting up a
look at the student to employee ratio of 8-1 in DPSCSB vs 9-4 student to employee ratio within PDSB. Peel also has almost double our amount of enrolled students. Time for some cuts
- DPSCSB has a sunshine list of 6.04% vs 5.24% within Peel.
- Look at area of Kenninghall, Old English Lane, River St, and Falconer... students bused to St. Joe's driving past Olgv and St. Gregory
- St Raymond is in all 3 options for closed schools to relocate into and YET they cannot accommodate any portables. No long term accommodation plan in affect if we grow as a community

Traffic concerns for Britannia already a highly traveled route causing more congestion

How do the parents of St. Raymond feel regarding the large number of students who will be transitioning in to their home school regarding extra support i.e. class sizes, morning drop off, local community traffic, further decreases to before and after school program spots ect...
- Foreseeable problem of DP students moving into Peel for convenience.. dropping our numbers more.
FW: St. Dunstan Elementary Closure?

del Rosario, Luz

Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 10:33 PM
To: Del Bianco, Daniel; PAR - Info

For your information and records.

Luz del Rosario
Trustee, Wards 6 & 11

From: del Rosario, Luz
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 9:56 PM
To: Ron Starr; XXXX
Subject: RE: St. Dunstan Elementary Closure?

Thank you Angela for forwarding the e-mail.

Dear Mr. XXXX

Thank you for your e-mail regarding St. Dunstan Elementary School and the East Credit Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR).

Your feedback is very much valued. While I have forwarded your e-mail to our Planning staff who will, in turn, bring it forward to the Pupil Accommodation Review Committee's attention, I encourage you, if you have not already done so, to submit your feedback directly to the PAR committee via the board website at www.dpcdsb.org (through the link on the left side of the main webpage) or by email to PARinfo@dpcdsb.org. You may also wish to bring your feedback directly to your PAR Committee representative. This ensures direct receipt and inclusion in any discussion at the committee level.

Please note, all feedback will also be made available to trustees, who will make a decision regarding the current options, or other options that may be presented based on community feedback, in late May of this year.

I also encourage you to attend the upcoming Public Open House scheduled for Wednesday, March 30th. It is probably from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Secondary School on 5555 Creditview Road. Board staff will be on hand to respond to questions and invite feedback.

Thank you again for your support of Catholic education. Your commitment and interest are appreciated.

Sincerely,

Luz del Rosario
Trustee, Wards 6 & 11

---

From: Ron Starr [Ron.Starr@mississauga.ca]
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 5:21 PM
To: Cc: del Rosario, Luz
Subject: RE: St. Dunstan Elementary Closure?

This is matter is not under a Councillor’s jurisdiction and is an issue that should be addressed with your school Trustee. We have copied your Trustee, Luz del Rosario on this email and request that she address this matter with you directly.
I am extremely disappointed in the proposed closure of St. Dunstan Elementary School. I have 2 children that attend the school and this was not by luck. When evaluating where my family would purchase a home within Mississauga a lot of thought was placed on the school my children would attend. Why would a school that performs so well and has some of the best academic results be closed? Ward 6, has a lot of well educated, hardworking, and high income families that intentionally chose to settle in this area because of the schools and the good neighbourhoods. Now, that dynamic is being threatened and it a cause to have many re-evaluate what the future of the community will look like.

What is being done to stop the closure of St. Dunstan? What is the plan for the students of St. Dunstan?

As the councillor for Ward 6, what can you do to assist your constituents?

I respectfully await your response,
Potential Closure of St. Dunstan Catholic Elementary School - East Credit Accommodation Review

To Whom it May Concern,

I am a parent who recently enrolled my daughter at St. Dunstan’s Catholic Elementary School in January for Junior Kindergarten which is to commence in September.

At the time of enrollment I was not notified by anyone that there was an East Credit Accommodation Review in the works or that St. Dunstan’s had been identified and recommended within all 3 separate closure proposals. I actually found out about it this past Saturday while sitting in my car at the corner of Eglinton and Creditview and by chance having come across a ‘Save St. Dunstan’ sign by the sidewalk.

As a young parent I’m very upset and concerned about this. St. Dunstan has a great academic rating and is the closest and most convenient Catholic Elementary School to my home. My wife and I moved into the area in November 2013 and part of the reason we bought there was because of the school. Closing it would be a major disappointment, inconvenience and one less reason to continue being a resident in the area. In a very short period of time we’ve gone from being very excited about sending our daughter to school in September to being angry and upset about potentially having to move her to new school which is further away and not as academically strong in another year.

Amongst the questions which I have for anyone who is in a position to provide me an educated response, is how is it that a school which has scored so highly in academic rankings would be selected in ALL 3 proposals for closure? Shouldn’t the goal be to try and raise academic achievement of students rather than lower them? Why potentially re-direct students who are currently attending an academic institution which is succeeding to another one which is not performing as well?

As everyone knows, one of the biggest determining factors in what makes a particular area a sought after place to live is the reputation of its schools. What consideration has been given to resident’s potential property values going forward as a result of such a decision? How is it that millions are spent in building schools and just over 20 years later they’re closed? How is that not seen as a gross mismanagement of municipal and provincial tax payer’s dollars and who is held accountable for these decisions?

I am writing this to voice my displeasure with this situation and to make it clear that my family wants St. Dunstan’s Catholic Elementary School to remain open. I am aware that the group @SaveStDunstan has submitted a 4th proposal, ‘option #4’ which would allow the school to remain open while still saving achieving a reduction in 1369 student spaces.

I would appreciate if someone may advise me or point me towards any information that could be passed on to me with regards to what I can do to further get my voice heard in this matter and get involved in any meetings which will be taking place pertaining to it.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and taking the time to hear my concerns.

Sincerely,
If you received this email in error, please advise the sender (by return email or otherwise) immediately. You have consented to receive the attached electronically at the above-noted email address; please retain a copy of this confirmation for future reference.

Si vous recevez ce courriel par erreur, veuillez en aviser l'expéditeur immédiatement, par retour de courriel ou par un autre moyen. Vous avez accepté de recevoir le(s) document(s) ci-joint(s) par voie électronique à l'adresse courriel indiquée ci-dessus; veuillez conserver une copie de cette confirmation pour les fins de référence future.
Dear PAR Committee,

Please find letter attached.

Thanks and regards,

[Redacted]
Mississauga, ON.
February 23, 2016.

Dear PAR Committee,

I’m writing to express my opinion on the proposed and unfortunate need to close some Catholic schools in the East Credit Community of Mississauga and appreciate your time and effort in reading it.

My children currently attend school at St Herbert’s and I urge you the PAR Committee to disregard new proposals put forwarded as option 4 and 5 by St Dunstan in particular and any other new options put forward by other schools, and proceed with **OPTION 1** which is the preferred PAR staff option.

Here are my reasons for supporting option 1 and opposing new proposals 4 and 5 in particular for your consideration.

1.) It has taken the experts at DPCDSB about 3 years of research and analysis to arrive at the 3 proposals for school closures, while the new options 4 and 5 have been put together in a matter of a few week’s time and prepared in a great hurry by a group of parents/ school committee with limited expertise in the field. Options 4 and 5 unfortunately come across as biased.

2.) Options 4 and 5 the signs put up around the community by St Dunstan are disingenuous in claiming to promote Catholic education and presence, as proposing to close other Catholic schools in order to save yours from closure is not how you promote Catholic education and presence in the community.

3.) The reason for closing one school and keeping another one open should not be based on perceived higher academic achievement at a particular school, as this is a form of discrimination against the students assumed to be poor achievers, who should therefore be “punished” by having their school closed.

4.) It’s wrong and not in line with the Christian spirit to propose accepting only students from schools with perceived higher academic achievement, while rejecting students with perceived lower academic achievement when proposing school mergers.

5.) The age, size, modern design and facilities, maintenance costs, proximity to green spaces, nature trails and play areas, location on quiet inner roads away from busy and polluted roads and major intersections and other practical reasons should be paramount in making a decision to keep a particular school open or closed. Just because a particular school is being extremely vocal in opposing it’s closure and has greater financial and other means to make themselves seen and heard in the community, it does not mean their point of view carries more weight and value than anyone else’s. I don’t believe it’s the PAR Committee’s desire to choose wealthier
schools (based on family income/property prices) to stay open over those of more modest means.

6.) Parents from St Herbert’s could opt to send their kids to the 2 good public schools in the area i.e. Sherwood Mills and Fallingbrook Middle School based solely on convenience, thus causing further loss of Catholic students from the DPCDSB to the public system in East Credit, which would be very unfortunate. Please do not dismiss this as irrelevant or insignificant, as several Catholic parents along Fallingbrook Drive, Willowvale Gardens, Sherwood Mill Blvd, Dream Crest Rd to name a few will seriously consider this option if St Herbert’s is closed.

7.) The closure of St Herbert’s will possibly result in the closure of Family Day Care, thus causing loss of daycare to students at Sherwood Mills too and therefore inconveniencing parents and students beyond the Catholic community.

I thank you again for taking the time to read this letter. I am sure with God’s guidance that the PAR Committee and DPCDSB Trustees will be objective and unbiased in making their final decision on school closures by considering only practical and financial benefits, rather than being swayed by vocal and influential parents or wealthy school committees.

Kind regards
Greetings,

It's been quite sometime since I sent an email off to the Dufferin Peel Trustees but I felt the great need to do so because of the information I've heard concerning the possible closure of Our Lady of Good Voyage Catholic School.

Some of you I knew very well and others I believe came after my school involvement. Collectively between Our Lady of Good Voyage and Holy Name of Mary I was a member on school councils from 1993 until 2011. If not for the great years at Our Lady of Good Voyage I would not have continued for so long.

Before making your very important decision I just wanted to make sure you were aware of all the facts and events that went on in those early years. I am sure it's been quite difficult for you all since the information you've been given has been statistics and documentation handed down through the years. For those of you who were not trustees back then - it must be extremely difficult.

I was on parent council at OLGV for 15 years serving mostly as Chairperson. When my oldest daughter started school in 1993 we had an enrolment of 1030 students with 23 portables. The first big change came when St. Gregory's opened in January 1998. In the September prior we were set up as two separate schools so when the St. Gregory's students left there would be no disruption to classroom setups. This was the first time parental voice was heard because so many families didn't want to leave. Students had made friends, parents loved the staff and administration and wanted to remain here. I will always remember so many mothers crying in the school yard that final day when it was time to leave.

Three years later St. Valentine's opened with St. Raymond's opening the following January. We had already lost 400 students to St. Gregory's and now were scheduled to lose approximately 100 more students. This didn't sit right with me so it was the first time I intervened. I contacted our local school board trustee at the time (late Art Steffler) and requested a community meeting. Mr. Steffler was very kind and always a great supporter of our school - never missing anything I invited him to attend. At the same time I remember the Toronto Catholic School board was having a problem with building new schools - then closing them because of declining enrolment. I decided to delegate the school board. I thought It was a brilliant idea to take down our mould infested port-a-pak and build a two floor addition onto OLGV. I was told that bussing was very expensive and students should be able to walk to their community school - but wouldn't my idea save millions of dollars. I couldn't figure out the logic. At the moment OLGV still doesn't require that part-a-pak so the pupil per classroom ratio would drop considerably. St. Herbert's...
followed and once again because of yet another boundary change we lost more students.

The River Grove Community Centre is right next door to OLGV. We played a huge part during their opening month. We held a welcome BBQ and our school choir sang. No other school participated and all were asked. We have a huge school yard with a soccer field and baseball diamonds. Other schools are bussed to use these facilities - we walk out our backdoor. Please take the time to phone St. Joseph's Parish and ask them who has had the best school/church relationship over the years. Isn't that what our Catholic education is based on?

I sincerely don't know how the planning department could rationalize closing OLGV or any of these elementary schools because of their age. All they had to do was build an addition onto OLGV and save taxpayers millions of dollars. Everyday, busses full of students pass OLGV driving south down River Grove Avenue to deliver them to St. Joseph's Elementary School - doesn't make sense! It's hard to fathom closing OLGV when we were the first school built, then continually had students taken away from us.

Yes it's true that my children have long graduated from Dufferin Peel - I'm getting old, they have graduated university too! I still felt that the need to express myself - I guess the Chairperson gene never leaves you!

Thank you again for all the hard work you've done for Catholic education over the past many years.

May God Bless you all,

Sent from my iPad
We ask that you please consider keeping St. Herbert school open. All 3 of my children attend this school and it is such a wonderful environment. It has the best teachers and students and we would be so, so disappointed to see such a wonderful school close down. St. Herbert is in fantastic condition and it a beautiful, well taken care of school. Please keep this school open. It has the ability to house a good number of students and is in such an ideal location. There are other schools that it would make much better sense to close down. The students at St. Dunstan would be able to join St. Herbert, particularly because St. Dunstan is not an ideal location being off of a very busy street and barely visible for the intersection of creditview and eglinton. Please, please keep St. Herbert open.

Thank you for your consideration.
To whom it may concern,

I really hope St. Herbert’s is kept open. My daughter is in grade 1 now and St. Herbert’s has been an amazing school for her to attend. The teachers and especially the new Principal Mr. Walter Matos has been amazing. The principal goes above and beyond his duties every day. He even directs traffic at the front of the school to keep the kids safe. The school is a great balance between Academics and Extracurricular activities. I pray that this fantastic school will be kept open and I can’t thank St. Herbert’s enough for all that they do every single day. Thank you.

Best regards,

[Redacted]
Dear Board of Directors and ARC

My daughter studies in Grade 1 at St. Herbert School. She has a ride to school which will continue no matter which of the neighboring schools she goes to, thus she will not be majorly affected by this move except that she will miss the wonderful teachers/school staff and her dear friends.

My main concern is for children with disabilities. St. Dunstan is a smaller one level school with no elevators, whereas St. Herbert's is a newer and a bigger school and a school that is better suited for children with disabilities. It is not a smart decision to give up a bigger and better equipped school just because parents are rallying for it!

As a society it is our duty to make sure that the needs of children are put first. For the convenience of those that most need accessible facilities, I truly hope that the Board and the ARC will reach a sound decision that is fair to everyone.

Thanks
To whom it may concern,

I really hope St. Herbert’s is kept open. My daughter is in grade [redacted] now and St. Herbert’s has been an amazing school for her to attend. The teachers and especially the new Principal Mr. Walter Matos has been amazing. The principal goes above and beyond his duties every day. He even directs traffic at the front of the school to keep the kids safe. The school is a great balance between Academics and Extracurricular activities. I pray that this fantastic school will be kept open and I can’t thank St. Herbert’s enough for all that they do every single day. Thank you.

Best regards,
As a parent of [redacted] who attends St. Herbert Elementary, I must say that I have never been more happier with a school that provides excellent education and support to the students and parents.

St Herbert goes the extra mile with friendly staff and excellent teachers. Their open house, Christmas concert, BBQ, Pancake day, pizza, cookie, popcorn days are very popular and the school has been involved in fund raising, bringing extra finance for the school and the board.

We as a community would like to have St. Herbert Elementary kept open and would be really sad and disappointed if it closes.

Yours Sincerely,
To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my sadness and disappointment to having St Herbert facing a possible closure :( I want to show my support and show how this school is needed and loved by this community. I know the school very well and from the inside to the outside that this school shows very good conditions. I have no bad things to say regarding staff or school structure.

Also, I love the fact that it is not located close to a busy road. It allows the children to enjoy a calm and safe walk home, as well as they have an amazing time while playing outside during recess. The fields are very well maintained.

Moreover, it is awesome the fact that there are 2 more other schools just across the road which makes the surrounding area to feel like a school campus.

How come St Dustan School was an option in all 3 previous options proposed by the school board staff and now it is the one pointing fingers to others? I believe that there's a realistic reason why it was a mutual choice before and that now it is not being considered.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

WE LOVE ST HERBERT :)
Keep st herbert school open

Sent from my LG Mobile
I am writing to show my support to the St Herbert School community.

In my opinion, as a father of 3 children attending that school, it's with deep sadness that I realized that St Herbert might be closing.

I can not point one thing that I dislike about St Herbert: it is very well located, it has big and well maintained fields, where the children have so much fun playing, great teachers and staff and awesome relationship between staff/students/principal/parents.

I feel that everyone is really involved in every single school activity and the principal is doing an amazing job! This school is a jewel, very precious and loved by everyone :)

GO ST HERBERT GO!!!
Keep St. Herbert open

To whom it may concern,

I currently have 3 children, 2 nieces and a nephew who all attend St. Herbert school. In addition, I have a niece who is a graduate of this school. Needless to say, St. Herbert has been an important part of our family's life. The staff and administrators have always been caring and helpful. The needs of our children and all the children who attend St. Herbert have always been their first priority. They are dedicated to not only teaching the curriculum but to guiding our children down the right path so that they may be good members of society and display good Christian values.

It is upsetting to think that such a wonderful school could be closed down. I understand that enrollment in our board is down and that changes need to be made in order to save money, however closing this school would be a huge mistake.

St. Herbert is a fairly new school when compared to the other schools on the list for closure. This school does not yet require much maintenance to keep it in good shape. This in itself is a cost savings to the board. As well, St. Herbert has also invested a great deal of money in technology which demonstrates its ability and commitment to keeping our students motivated and "current".

One last point that should be seriously considered is that there is a public middle school directly across the street from St. Herbert. With an already declining enrollment it would appear that closing a Catholic school situated across the street from a public school would be a mistake. Should St. Herbert close, many of our parents, including myself, are considering enrolling our children in the Fallingbrook school directly across the street in an effort to keep our kids closer to home. This would unfortunately contribute to the further decline in our Catholic board's enrollment but we want to keep our children in our local community. We, as parents will continue to instill in our children our Catholic values but perhaps not within the Catholic board system.

I appreciate your consideration in keeping St. Herbert, a school our community values and trusts with our children, open.

Thank you,

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android
I am a parent of two kids. My kids are so happy with the school, as parents we are so satisfied with the teachers and the school system so we hope from the bottom of our heart to keep it open.

Thanks
Hi I am a parent of a child at St. Herbert school. Please do not close St. Herbert it is a great school. The school has great kids never any issues, supportive teachers. My son has spent 13 years (grade 8 now) his entire life at St. Herbert and he has had a great learning experience. The surrounding of St. Herbert needs a Catholic school like it in the area. It will be a great loss for the children at St. Herbert and for the neighbourhood if it closes please consider this. Thank you

Sent from my iPhone
Dir Sir or Madam,

I am writing regarding the potential closure of St. Herbert elementary school. The information that has been distributed to parents of St. Herbert's students shows that $1.5 million per year for the next 3 years must be cut in order for the school to remain open.

In order for the community to review some alternative options, I was wondering if a detailed expense report for St. Herbert has or will be released. As I am sure some of you are parents, you can appreciate that the absolute final option should be to take a child out of his or her school and community in the middle of his or her educational experience. Such a move uproots children from their communities and removes them from their comfort zones at a time when building confidence, developing lifelong friendships and instilling a sense of security is arguably more important than the x's and o's of education itself.

While the toll on children will be immense, there will also be impacts to their parents. Having an unhappy or stressed out child creates an unhappy and stressed out parent. Extra travel time for working parents will undoubtedly impact work schedules, thereby limiting productivity. While it is hard to quantify the economic impact of closing a community school, I would argue that it will far outweigh $1.5 million per year or $4.5 million over three years.

Another question I have is what is to become of the building if the school is closed? Will it be torn down? If so, how much will this cost and who will pay? If there is a significant cost to demolition (which there often is) and the city is paying for it, then is the move justified considering the cost of actually keeping the students in the school would be less than $1.5 million per year when figuring in these costs?

I believe I can help present some alternative options if given the proper information. Given the tight timelines, I look forward to hearing back promptly about my detailed expense report question.

As a final note, St. Herbert's is a wonderful school and has been a staple in our community for over two decades. By closing the school, you are in essence closing a community. While I'm not diminishing the significance of $4.5 million over three years, the opportunity cost of impacting a community of young learners is far greater.

I look forward to hearing from you and to working with you to ensure that we attain fiscal responsibility within the district, while allowing communities and young people to grow without interruption.

Sincerely,
Keep St. Herbert Open

Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 3:54 PM
To: PAR - Info

Keep our school open, I want a catholic education from my daughter which is very important to us. We have always loved the proximity of the school which is within walking distance and when we purchased our second home, we decided to purchase in the same neighborhood so that walking was still the best choice.

Right now it takes a 10 minute walk to an amazing school with amazing staff that care very much for their School families. They know everyone that enters the school and who their child is, very positive environment.

I have spoken to some parents and to keep our children in the area, unfortunately might mean that we will not keep them in the catholic education system. St. Herbert is across the street from Fallingbrook Middle School (Public school) and also backs onto Sherwood Mills Public School until they enter into middle school.

Please don't let our school close so that this difficult decision doesn't have to be made.
Dear Sir / Madam,

As a mother of a girl who is currently studying at St. Herbert and a longtime resident at my current location, it's important to me that our community's children get the high-quality education they deserve. For this reason I have not moved out of this community because of this high standard held by the teachers and students at St. Herbert. Besides this I am also currently a single mother and have got used to the convenience of having the school in our area.

For some, like my daughter who is currently in the [redacted] grade, her teachers are better able to individualize their lessons, so each student has a learning plan that fits their needs, goals, and learning styles. We want action that improves our community, not breaks it apart. Parents of St. Herbert want to keep their kids in the same school that their siblings have passed out of or are currently attending jointly and give them the schools and the programs they are looking for. Small school size is also important to parents. Why close schools and break up a community when the Board could be creating new programs that build community and attract students from other areas?

Regards,
Save St. Herbert Elementary School

Both of my kids will already be in high-school before the school may close... And still I feel so strongly that closing St. Herbert would be a huge mistake. Here are just a few reasons why...

1. There’s a child-care centre right on location. To working parents, this is invaluable.
2. It’s big enough to handle a consolidated student body – it’s two floors.
3. It has a full library. Remember those?
4. A large auditorium/gymnasium – perfect for hosting large Christmas showcases.
5. It’s gone digital. In fact, this past year, my daughter was able to email all her projects/assignments into her teacher (yay – paperless).
6. The current principal is one of the best I’ve ever seen. He is hands on, fully engaged - with both his student body and his teachers.
7. Amazing teachers... Caring, supportive – with a unified desire to see their students succeed.
8. Fantastic support staff – with special mention to the school administrator, Mrs. Cascioli, whom single-handedly makes our lives so much easier!
9. A strong supporter of the Arts (despite a fading discipline). Wonderful showcases throughout the year – involving nearly every student!

So many more reasons... Too many to list.

Please keep St. Herbert open!
Sincerely,

If you received this email in error, please advise the sender (by return email or otherwise) immediately. You have consented to receive the attached electronically at the above-noted email address; please retain a copy of this confirmation for future reference.

If you receive this email by error, please advise the sender immediately by return email or otherwise. You have consented to receive the attached electronically at the above-noted email address; please retain a copy of this confirmation for future reference.
My apologies for the previous email, something went awry with the copy/paste function in my browser! The below should be more cohesive.

Dear trustees, board members and ARC facilitators,

Our daughter attends Our Lady of Good Voyage, which we were very sad to find on the 2016 Pupil Accommodation Review. Like many parents whose children attend OLGV, we were very upset upon finding out the possible fate of this wonderful community school.

We are not one of the many families of the community who has deep rooted ties to this school, as my family only moved to this area 3 years ago. However, it did not take long to realize that this community is strong, close and very committed to ensuring the children and their needs are put first in this school. My daughter, along with the other children, is thriving and happy in the safe, nurturing environment that OLGV provides to each and every student.

There are many reasons that come to mind when thinking about why OLGV should remain open: the rich community history marked by a wonderful 25 year anniversary party organized by our strong, committed parent council; our vast green space which is adjacent to several sport fields as well as the local community center; a safe and quiet residential area far from busy traffic; very close proximity to our local parish; a team of very dedicated educators who push our children to do their best each day; an in-house acclaimed daycare heavily relied on by many parents of the school; new and exciting pilot projects to promote enquiry based learning, which is a board initiative for the future of learning in the 20th century.

One very important reason why our school is so unique and important to our community is because of its active participation with the local parish, St. Joe's. It is a sad and unfortunate fact that, in general, the Catholic community as a whole is not growing robustly as it had in the past, which is why our dedication is so important.

From the DPCDSB mantra on Catholic Education:

"Prayers, liturgy and religious celebrations are integrated into the daily schedule. Together with the pastor, Liturgy of the Eucharist, which is central to Catholicism, is organized according to the seasons of the church year. Each elementary school has an active pastoral program animated by a staff member who is the faith ambassador.....

....is a fundamental Catholic belief that parents, parishes and school co-operate to educate a child to the fullest extent. An educated person, derived from the Latin word for "education", is a person who is well brought up. When Catholic teachers, convinced of the vision and mission of Catholic education, together with our priests and pastoral staff work closely with parents and families, a powerful and exciting possibility emerges"

These statements defines OLVG's relationship with our local parish precisely. Our community is deeply involved with seasonal retreats, specially organized masses and not to mention we have a dedicated
school choir and choir teachers who together show and create for our parents and teachers beautiful celebrations each mass. While the Catholic membership may be in crisis, our school is very dedicated to keeping alive the root foundation of what this school board was built on: the Catholic faith.

Please consider the strength of the community, our close relationship with the parish and the unique aspects that make our school so wonderful when making your decision.

Sincerely,
Dear Trustees, Please find attached letter in support of keeping St. Herbert open. Thank you for taking the time to read the attached.
Dear Trustees and PAR Committee,

I am a parent whose children attend St. Herbert’s school and would like to express my feelings on the proposed closure of 3 schools in the East Credit Community.

I appeal to the Trustees and PAR Committee to not be influenced by emotional parents and school committees, especially St Dunstan, just because they are the most vocal, the most influential, possibility the most wealthy (high family income/high property values), are well connected in the East Credit Community and are in everyone’s faces to sway you the Trustees and PAR Committee in making your final decision.

I would like to outline the advantages of keeping St. Herbert’s open.

1. St Herbert’s is one of the newest schools in the area and it is beneficial for the School Board to keep it open as it is one of the most cost effective schools in running and maintaining.

2. Being a modern building in an excellent location, the facilities that it offers to the Catholic school community and the East Credit Community at large are impressive. St Herbert’s is fully air-conditioned, it has a huge and beautiful library, it has a chapel which is not seen in many of the Catholic schools, it is surrounded by several large green open spaces which keeps the kids safe from traffic and gives them an opportunity to engage in physical activities, it has beautiful nature trails along the Creditview wetlands which are 12,000 years old. It is also located on a quiet inner street, away from the busy Creditview Road and polluted Creditview and Eglinton intersection, with school hours suitably offset with other public schools in the area to efficiently manage traffic during student drop off and pickup.

3. St Herbert’s has Family Day Care, which has children enrolled from both St Herbert’s and Sherwood Mills Public school, thus serving the larger community with their child care needs.

4. St Herbert’s is surrounded by 3 public schools and that is one of the reasons why the demographics in the area have changed. Keeping St Herbert’s open provides high visibility of the presence of Catholic education in an area surrounded by public/ secular schools.

I urge the board and committee to please also consider the points below before they make their final decision.

1. **PLEASE** do not be influenced by schools that are treating the Pupil Accommodation Review process like an **ELECTION CAMPAIGN** by putting up signs everywhere and asking the public to call into the MPP’s office on a daily basis. This is forcing other schools to follow suite, thus turning the whole process into an ugly fight between schools, and reflecting poorly on the Catholic community in the area. The prospect of school closures is very difficult for all the
students and parents impacted, and it should not be turned into an opportunity for personal gain like maintaining high property prices or high EQAO scores.

2. **PLEASE** consider OPTION 1 as the best option which the PAR staff has put forward after 3 long years of research and analysis, and by taking into consideration the benefits to the school board, the community and the students. OPTION 1 will help in the best utilization of spaces in the East Credit Catholic School community and is the most cost effective. Considering any options put forward by other schools will result in the work done by the PAR staff being a waste of time and money, and will not provide a balanced approach.

3. **PLEASE** do not consider the reason for closing or merging schools to be based on high achievement (which can change with every new batch of students) as this is **OPEN DISCRIMINATION** against students that belong to schools with lower EQAO scores. This is not the basis for deciding the closing of schools and no school (for e.g. St Dunstan) has a right to judge students of other schools, or ask that only other schools with a high EQAO score (for e.g. St Dunstan -> OLGV) be merged with theirs. Perhaps schools with higher EQAO scores are the result of parents having more financial means to assist their children with private tutoring or the like, so should we “punish” children from families who can’t afford these luxuries by closing their school?

4. **PLEASE** consider that CATHOLIC EDUCATION is the focal point here in the decision to close schools in the East Credit Community. St Herbert’s is surrounded by public schools and is making the community aware of the Catholic presence in the area. A lot of non-Catholic parents have been approaching the school principal to have their children enrolled in St. Herbert’s. Suggestions by schools like St Dunstan to close other Catholic schools by appealing to the public to help keep their school open does not reflect their Catholic views, and should not be considered.

5. **PLEASE** consider the age, size, maintenance cost, play area, traffic, location (distance from busy roads and intersections), green spaces and other practical reasons when making your decision to keep a school open or not. No parent or student is happy with the prospect of their school closing, but the Trustees and PAR Committee need to look at the school closure in a practical and unbiased way, and not be swayed by very emotional and vocal parents and wealthy school committees.

**THE LOUDEST VOICES ARE NOT ALWAYS THE BEST FOR EVERYONE**
In conclusion I’m am confident that the Board of Trustees and the PAR Committee’s final decision on school closures will be fair and unbiased, and will best serve everyone in the East Credit Catholic Community irrespective of their financial means or political connections. I thank you for taking the time to read the views expressed in this letter. May the Lord help and guide us during this difficult and painful process of school closures.

Best regards,
To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude School. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community.

We have had both of our children attend St. Gertrude Elementary School from JK on.

We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program that we want to remain intact.

Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. There have been many valid arguments made on behalf of the school of why to keep it open.

We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation.

We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community.

Please keep St. Gertrude Elementary School open!!!!!
Save St. Gertrude

Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2016 12:26 PM  
To: PAR - Info

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am supporting our school to stay open. Our school is amazing and students and teachers all work well together. We can have our school close and our students separated from their friends. We need to think of what's best for them and support our F.I. Program not to mention the safety of our students in crossing Mavis. Please consider this when considering keeping St. Gertrude open.

Save St. Gertrude!

Parent

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Fido network.
To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Information contained in this e-mail correspondence and any attachments is confidential information intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. Any reader of this message who is not the intended recipient of this correspondence is hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying or communication of the contents of this correspondence is strictly prohibited. If this e-mail was not addressed to you, please immediately notify us by phone in Canada (collect calls will be accepted) or by email and delete and destroy this correspondence inadvertently sent to you. Thank you.
My name is [Name] I am a parent of students that go to St. Gertrude. Our school is a strong school that supports F.I and special needs. Our children thrive in this environment and separating them from their friends is not in their best interest. I big concerns with my youngest having to cross Mavis on her own. This is not what is best for our school community I support keeping St. Gertrude open.

Please consider this in keeping St. Gertrude open.

Concerned parent

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Fido network.
St Gertrude

Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2016 12:41 PM
To: PAR - Info

To who it may concern. Please keep our school open. We have a great school in a great location. It's important to keep our student together and not separate them. We all know what can happen. Why do this to the children think about them for once!!!

Sent from my iPhone
Keep St. Gertrude open.

Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2016 12:45 PM  
To: PAR - Info

To whom it my concern,

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community, (Teachers, Principal and Students) We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. As the students are the most affected on these decisions. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.

Thank you,
To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. My kids attend French Immersion program. After attending yesterday’s ARC meeting I am getting really frustrated. I feel that it is already decided that option number one will be chosen and no matter what we say and do as parents it does not matter. We have a great school and great French Immersion program and teachers. Somehow I feel that French Immersion program and well being of the kids attending the program is not included in the whole process. I really do not understand why. The next thing is the point of reading emails during ARC meeting from different schools (yesterday it was mostly from St.Herbert) that they support option number 1 and 2. If I was from this school I would support those options. This is normal that they will not support option 3. It sends wrong message having emails like that and pointing to support option that keep their school open. It looks like they are choosing the best options which is not true as it is not followed by numbers and facts. The reality is that St.Gertrude school is the most cost efficient school in the area and boasts the highest current and future utilization levels. And it should not even be considered to be closed. Please keep St.Gertrude open.
Hi, I'm a proud father of a beautiful bright young lady attending St Gertrude. I am sending this to show my support because the school has earned it as a whole from friends to teachers to support parents and to the board. Please keep this small community alive
Thanks
To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude school. I am voicing my support to save our school and community.

We have an amazing school and have a great community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. We teach our children that all children are equal and should be treated equally which is also being done at St Gertrude's school and therefore our children shouldn't be divided based on whether they are in the French or English program as they are all equal and are all part of one big school family. We need our children to stay with their family away from home and their friends and avoid a very stressful separation. The safety of our children also needs to be considered in this process as well

This closure will impact our school family - all of our teachers, our staff, our students and our school community tremendously if closed. Please take all of this into consider and please keep our St. Gertrude school open

Sent from my iPhone
Dear trustees, board members and ARC facilitators,

Our daughter attends Our Lady of Good Voyage, which we were very sad to find on the 2016 Pupil Accommodation Review. Like many parents whose children attend OLGV, we were very upset upon finding out the possible fate of this wonderful community school.

We are not one of the many families of the community who has deep rooted ties to this school, as my family only moved to this area 3 years ago. However, it did not take long to realize that this community is strong, close and very committed to ensuring the children and their needs are put first in this school. My daughter, along with the other children, is thriving and happy in the safe, nurturing environment that OLGV provides to each and every student.

It is a fundamental Catholic belief that parents, parishes and schools co-operate to educate a child to the fullest extent. An educated person, derived from the Latin origin of the word "education", is a person who is well brought up. When Catholic teachers, convinced of the vision and mission of Catholic education, together with our priests and pastoral staff, work closely with parents and families, a powerful and exciting possibility emerges. - See more at: http://www.dpcdsb.org/CEC/Catholic+Community/Catholic+Education/#sthash.THQBWcIS.dpuf

There are many reasons that come to mind when thinking about why OLGV should remain open: the rich community history marked by a wonderful 25 year anniversary party organized by our strong, committed parent council; our vast green space which is adjacent to several sport fields as well as the local community center; a safe and quiet residential area far from busy traffic; very close proximity to our local parish; a team of very dedicated educators who push our children to do their best each day; an in-house acclaimed daycare heavily relied on by many parents of the school; new and exciting pilot projects to promote enquiry based learning, which is a board initiative for the future of learning in the 20th century.

One very important reason why our school is so unique and important to our community is because of its active participation with the local parish, St. Joe's. It is a sad and unfortunate fact that, in general, the Catholic community as a whole is not growing robustly as it had in the past, which is why our dedication is so important.

From the DPCDSB mantra on Catholic Education:

"Prayers, liturgy and religious celebrations are integrated into the daily schedule. Together with the pastor, Liturgy of the Eucharist, which is central to Catholicism, is organized according to the seasons of the church year. Each elementary school has an active pastoral program animated by a staff member who is the faith ambassador.....

Prayers, liturgy and religious celebrations are integrated into the daily schedule. Together with the pastor, Liturgy of the Eucharist, which is central to Catholicism, is organized according to the seasons of the church year. Each elementary school has an active pastoral program animated by a staff member who is the faith ambassador. Each secondary school integrates prayer and social justice activities organized with the assistance of the full time chaplaincy leader who is available to students in times of
It is a fundamental Catholic belief that parents, parishes and schools co-operate to educate a child to the fullest extent. An educated person, derived from the Latin origin of the word "education", is a person who is well brought up. When Catholic teachers, convinced of the vision and mission of Catholic education, together with our priests and pastoral staff work closely with parents and families, a powerful and exciting possibility emerges.

These statements define OLVG's relationship with our local parish precisely. Our community is deeply involved with seasonal retreats, specially organized masses and not to mention we have a dedicated school choir and choir teachers who together show and create for our parents and teachers beautiful celebrations each mass. While the Catholic membership may be in crisis, our school is very dedicated to keeping alive the root foundation of what this school board was built on: the Catholic faith.

Please consider the strength of the community, our close relationship with the parish and the unique aspects that make our school so wonderful when making your decision.
To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.

Parent of two kids
Dear Trustees,

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Years ago, for months we were kept “hanging” because lottery decided whether our kids will have an ability to learn French. For years now we have driven our kids to this school because we wanted to give them an opportunity to learn French language – no buses are provided to those kids. For years we had to arrange for after school care as we were told that additional classes of PLASP cannot be opened as there is no room at the school. Now we find out that the school is underutilized and therefore may be closed. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process and wellbeing – the vision of them learning in portables (due to the schools after merger being over their capacity) is unimaginable. We live in Canada! This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community and us parents as well. Please keep St. Gertrude open. This is a great school with lots of potential of being even greater!

Kind Regards,
RE: Concerned parent

Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2016 2:08 PM
To: PAR - Info

To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I have two children that attend GR! I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.
Sent from my iPhone
To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.

Thank you
Why save OLGV?

- OLGV provides Catholic presence and visibility with the East Credit area- community member pass by our school on the way to and from River Grove Community Centre
- Physical space and proximity to green belt:
  - OLBV has the room to grow if population increases, including room for portables
  - Our school yard provides the largest outdoor play area (hard surface) and green area per student (compared with other area schools and based on OLGN student capacity); our apple outdoor play area includes our own cross-country track
  - Proximity to green belt and David Culham trail encourages outdoor education and eco-awareness, and provides on opportunity for student engage in scientific inquiry in a natural settings; the natural landscape surrounding OLGN is an ideal classroom for all grades, levels and abilities
- OLGV’s location and layout provides a safe environment for our children- there are no traffic issues due to ample parking available at River Grover Community Centre next door
- Our large and active Catholic School Council has consistently engaged in activities to enhance the student experience:
  - Fundraising to support improvements to the school- air conditioners in all classrooms and learning spaces, prayer room, sports equipment for the school yard and gym activities.
  - Regularly obtaining Parents Reaching Out (PRO)-Grants to engage parents in the better understanding the math and reading curriculums (ex.Mathletes)
  - Seasonal school community activities (Halloween Dance-a-Thon, School Anniversaries, Advent Mass( and sacraments (first communion, confirmation)

Best Regards,
To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
To whom it may concern,

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school.

We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program.

Please justify how separating and closing a school that is almost at full capacity makes economic sense?

Our school may be older but it is well run and does not cost as much as some newer schools do.

Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision.

Our children are already facing stresses from just hearing about this whole process. Moving them would be even more traumatic once they are separated from their friends.

We need to consider student safety in this process. Increased busing costs and having older students face crossing major intersections on Mavis (70km) on a daily basis is not in the best interest of the school board or the students. Please address safety issues.

This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.
Keep St. Gertrude Elementary catholic school open

To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation.

We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community.

Please keep St. Gertrude open.

Thanks
Why save OLGV?

- OLGV’s location and layout provides a safe environment for our children- there are no traffic issues due to ample parking available at River Grover Community Centre next door.

- Physical space and proximity to green belt:
  - OLGV has the room to grow if population increases, including room for portables
  - Our school yard provides the largest outdoor play area (hard surface) and green area per student (compared with other area schools and based on OLGV student capacity); our apple outdoor play area includes our own cross-country track.
  - Proximity to green belt and David Culham trail encourages outdoor education and eco-awareness, and provides on opportunity for student engage in scientific inquiry in a natural settings; the natural landscape surrounding OLGV is an ideal classroom for all grades, levels and abilities.

- Our large and active Catholic School Council has consistently engaged in activities to enhance the student experience:
  - Fundraising to support improvements to the school- air conditioners in all classrooms and learning spaces, prayer room, sports equipment for the school yard and gym activities.
  - Regularly obtaining Parents Reaching Out (PRO)-Grants to engage parents in the better understanding the math and reading curriculums (ex.Mathletes).
  - Seasonal school community activities (Halloween Dance-a-Thon, School Anniversaries, Advent Mass( and sacraments (first communion, confirmation).

- OLGV provides Catholic presence and visibility with the East Credit area- community member pass by our school on the way to and from River Grove Community Centre.

Best Regards,

Sent from my iPad
Why save OLGV?

- OLGV’s location and layout provides a safe environment for our children- there are no traffic issues due to ample parking available at River Grover Community Centre next door.
- Our large and active Catholic School Council has consistently engaged in activities to enhance the student experience:
  - Fundraising to support improvements to the school- air conditioners in all classrooms and learning spaces, prayer room, sports equipment for the school yard and gym activities.
  - Regularly obtaining Parents Reaching Out (PRO)-Grants to engage parents in the better understanding the math and reading curriculums (ex.Mathletes).
  - Seasonal school community activities (Halloween Dance-a-Thon, School Anniversaries, Advent Mass and sacraments (first communion, confirmation).
- OLGV provides Catholic presence and visibility with the East Credit area- community member pass by our school on the way to and from River Grove Community Centre.
- Physical space and proximity to green belt:
  - OLGV has the room to grow if population increases, including room for portables
  - Our school yard provides the largest outdoor play area (hard surface) and green area per student (compared with other area schools and based on OLGV student capacity); our apple outdoor play area includes our own cross-country track.
  - Proximity to green belt and David Culham trail encourages outdoor education and eco-awareness, and provides on opportunity for student engage in scientific inquiry in a natural settings; the natural landscape surrounding OLGV is an ideal classroom for all grades, levels and abilities.

Best Regards,

Sent from my iPad
I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family – all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.
To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children’s best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.

Best Regards;

[Name]

[Signature]
To whom it may concern:

Thank you for giving due consideration to my email and comments below.

I have been a resident of the East Credit area for 21 years. My 2 children, now in Grades [ ] (currently at St. Joseph’s SS) and grade [ ] (going to St. Herbert) have spent their entire elementary school life at St. Herbert from JK to Grade 8.

Over the years, this has been a fantastic school for my children and many other children. The teachers are some of the most committed, engaged and caring that I have ever met. The level of communication and transparency to the parent community has always been outstanding.

My daughter has some cognitive and learning delays. St. Herbert has been such a compassionate, empathetic and great supporter of her academic and emotional needs over the years.

Over the years, my husband and I have often considered leaving Mississauga for a smaller community. Truly, one of the primary and most important reasons that we never made this life decision for our family, was because of our children and their strong roots and connections to their schools, teachers and friends. It was hard to think of giving up the understanding and support we received from St. Herbert for our daughter. We knew that we may never find that level of support elsewhere. Our children’s wellbeing was always at the front of our mind and therefore, we never made the move. We and we believe to this day that we made the right decision for them.

Over the years, St. Herbert has had a number of different principals. Our current principal, Mr. Matos is outstanding. He has brought back such a passion and commitment to the staff and students over the last two years and brought back FUN into learning. He is a big reason why our school needs a chance to stay open. The staff at St. Herbert are some of the best....please keep this in mind.

St. Herbert is also a very nice school and relative to some of the others, a newer school with great amenities and space both inside and outside. It is on a residential road which from a safety concern, is better than being on a major road where drop offs and pick ups can be tricky and possibly unsafe.

Please keep St. Herbert open. It is such a good school for so many reasons. Other children should have the benefit of being taught here for years to come.

Thank you and God Bless.

[ ] and Family
Keep St. Gertrude open!

To whom it may concern,

I am a parent from St. Gertrude and I'm writing this email to let you know that our family was concerned about the possible closure of St. Gertrude.

My daughter has started the french immersion program last year. Since then she had been part of this great school, made new friends and loved the time she spent in the school community. I have a younger daughter not going to school yet and my oldest is looking forward to go to St. Gertrude with her little sister. Our family does not live in the boundaries of the school, but the location of St. Gertrude was a big part of the decision that our family made a couple of years ago to register our daughter in the french immersion program.

Currently the french immersion program is working well at St. Gertrude. Our family was surprised to learn how many kids were attending the program and not living in the school boundaries of the school. As you know, our family has not access to the school bus for that same reason. I know it is difficult for all parents to drive their children each day, but we make it work as our kids love the school and teachers.

If you decide to close the school, the decision will impact our family as there is no other school offering the french immersion program from Grade 1 to 8 in the same school, east of Mavis Rd. If you decide to close our school, our daughter would not go to St. Gregory as it is not a good location for our family. The location is simply not good for us. If you move the program to another location, it may not be successful. Not all the french immersion students will register to St. Gregory and will either leave the program or choose another location, a result that was not included in the analysis of Option 1.

Please keep our children's best interest as a priority when making your decision. The decision impact not only the children but the whole family, teachers, staff and community.

Please keep St. Gertrude open.

Regards
To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I have two children that attend [redacted] and GR [redacted]. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.

Sent from my iPhone
Please don't close our school. There isn't a reason to do it. Kids need a place to go. It's important to have our kids stay together and a family. Parents kids and teachers r like a family. Having kids move is crazy. Don't do it save St Gertrude please

Sent from my iPhone
To Our Trustees

This email is in support of keeping St Herbert Open.
My preferred option is Option 1

Both my kids went to St Herbert School. It is a great Catholic school, where both our kids learnt Catholic Value and gained great education from the dedicated teachers of St Herbert. I would be saddened to see such a dedicated and beautiful school, where they teach religious values and love of community close. This is a great institution for our future.

I truly feel, this school is such a remarkable school for our community.

Member of the St Herbert Community
On behalf of one of our families
Terri Leslie Lavery Aziz [olgvarc@gmail.com]

We would like to pass on these comments shared with us by a parent in our community.

My children look forward to going to school every day and more so over the weekend given the fact they miss their teachers, friends, great learning experience due to the attention given to each and every child on account of the number of students in each class thus making it much more interactive amongst the teachers and students alike. Extra curricular activities like interschool sport competition, good leadership development like eco-club and most important of all enabling every children to live the faith in being good human beings.

Thank you, Terri and Leslie
OLGV ARC representatives
St Herbert is a Home away from Home

Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2016 11:08 PM
To: PAR - Info

To whom it may concern,

My son attends St. Herbert in grad 1. He has been with the same group of children and same staff for the last three years. I was a mother who was worried about leaving my child for the first day of JK and to be apart from him for the day was overwhelming more for me than for him. I soon felt the support and reassurance that the safety and wellbeing of my child was their top priority.

 Teachers have one of the toughest, most thankless jobs in the world. They are in charge of our stubborn, active, silly children for the majority of the day, not only feeding and caring for them but also teaching them life skills and educating them for the journey ahead.

I know all of this is true at probably all the other schools but St. Herbert is my child's home and safe haven during 6.5 hours a day, 5 days a week. Just as every child is different, every school is different and St. Herbert is a good, kind, strong school that would be sorely missed if it is taken away.

God bless,

--
Hello!
Can you please provide answers to the following questions:

1) Considering that there are currently 3 different child care centre providers, will there be any attempt to evenly redistribute centres if school closures are decided?

2) Is it possible to close down "wings" of existing schools to minimize operating costs and pupil places? These "wings" were added on as additions to schools - can they be shuttered to reduce heating and maintenance costs?

3) Is it possible to reduce staff costs by sharing administrative staff? eg/ One principal to oversee two schools, with a Vice Principal supplement at the "sister school"

4) Is there the option to transition schools beyond 2017? For example: could there be boundary revisions following the potential closure of schools that would allow children Gr 4 and up to move to a school without being separated from their classmates while students FDK-3 and new students would enroll in their boundary appropriate schools?

5) What is the secondary plan if funding for FDK rooms and child care centres cannot be secured through Consolidated Capital Funding Business Cases?

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration,
Keep St. Herbert Open

Why we should keep St. Herbert open

1. It’s one of the newest schools
2. It’s location, the wonderful yard
3. Warm, friendly staff – that make a point of knowing the children’s names and their parents too
4. The upset and disruption of the kids
5. It’s not even one of the first two options, clearly it’s not the best option – so let’s take it off the table
6. The community that this school is in. We chose to live in this area, and we fell in love with St. Herbert because it was walking distance, now we have to make arrangement to drive our kids to school
7. I have never seen such a place with so much principal and administrative involvement. Where the office staff and principal get involved and participate in the many activities the school holds.
8. Truly kind and remarkable teachers, staff and volunteers.
9. It’s closest for the kids to go St. Joseph’s Catholic church on Durie road, what’s the alternative?
10. The daycare located inside.

These are the first 10 that came to mind. Please consider this request – Let’s do everything we can to keep St. Herbert open

Concerned parent of a & year old,
St. Gertrude

To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.
To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.
Please keep St. Gertrude open.

To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.
Please keep St. Gertrude Open

Sent: Friday, February 26, 2016 8:28 AM
To: PAR - Info

To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.

Regards,
Please keep St. Gertrude open

Sent: Friday, February 26, 2016 9:28 AM
To: PAR - Info

Brampton Wards: 1, 3 & 4 Anna da Silva
Trustee - Brampton Wards: 2, 5 & 6 Darryl Brian D'Souza
Trustee - Brampton - Wards 7-10 Shawn Xaviour
Trustee - Mississauga Wards 2 & 8 Sharon Hobin
Trustee - Mississauga Ward 4 Anna Abbruscato
Trustee - Mississauga Wards 6 & 11 Luz del Rosario
Trustee - Mississauga Ward: 7 Bruno Iannicca
Trustee - Mississauga Wards: 9 & 10 Esther O'Toole

Save St. Gertrude Catholic Elementary School!

St. Gertrude Catholic Elementary School is currently home to 646 students. As you know, a current proposal has St. Gertrude potentially closing and being redirected into two different schools dividing the French Immersion and Regular Track students. Some of the most immediate and obvious impacts of this are:

Safety of the children who now are forced to cross Mavis Road with a 70km speed limit, additional transportation costs for nearly 200 students who are in the J.K. to Grade 5 category, disruption to the parents of all students but particularly the parents of the French Immersion community who will have to change travel routes and potentially start times at work to accommodate this change, impact to great teachers and support staff, etc.

St. Gertrude is not two separate populations, but one single school. It is largest and best utilized school in the review area.

Importantly, this school is also the most cost efficient school from an operating cost perspective and boasts the lowest costs per square metre and per student.

The rationale around closing the largest, best utilized, most cost efficient school in order to fill other schools with declining enrollment is questionable, at best.

Closing this school would be a travesty for the nearly 500 families impacted, the teachers, staff and supportive community. Please look to the facts: it is a great performing school and make the right decision - please keep St. Gertrude open.

Sincerely,
Save St. Gertrude School

To whom it may concern,

I express my support to keep my son's school St. Gertrude open. It's close to my area and this is the best performing school among the schools identified closed. This is a community that has been there for a long time and built a good neighborhood.

(Mother)

Sincerely yours,
Good Morning,

My name is [REDACTED] and I am a very concerned parent. I’m going to tell you a bit of my story. In November 2003 I came to this wonderful country and the school of choice for my one year old son was St. Gertrude. My son did not speak one word of English, the staff was amazing, they made him feel like home, and he graduated with honours.

Last year, my nephew came to Canada, spoke very little English and the school of choice was St. Gertrude. WHY? Because it’s the best. Now I have my two year old there in French Immersion. I chose St. Gertrude because once again, it’s the best school and all I want is the best for my kids. My two year old has [REDACTED] and if it wasn’t for the teacher that he has now, I really don’t know what would be of him. This school is filled with amazing staff. Caring and loving. They love our kids as if they’re their own. They whole community is very blessed. If my son gets transferred to a different school, he’s not going make friends very easily, and I am really afraid he won’t fit in. Moving kids to a different school will affect them, especially the French Immersion students. They will be set aside for being “different”.

I am very concerned. And I think I speak for all the parents that haven’t yet send you an email.

Please keep St. Gertrude open

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

A very concerned mother

Confidential: The information contained in this electronic message is legally privileged and confidential information that is exempt from disclosure under applicable law and is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephoning [REDACTED] or by E-Mail at [REDACTED]. Thank you for your co-operation.
Delegation Night Question

Sent: Friday, February 26, 2016 3:52 PM  
To: PAR - Info

As we move through the PAR process, I have a question relating to delegation night. Are we permitted to present student videos voicing why they want our school to stay open?

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Regards

St Gertrude
From a Concerned Parent!

To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude.
I am voicing my support to save our school.
We have a great school community.
We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program.
Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision.
We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation.
My children have been in this school since Junior Kindergarten and my elder daughter has graduated from St Gertrude with Honours. Also received an award for Religion.
We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community.
Please keep St. Gertrude open.
Thanking your for all these years of service towards our children.
A concerned parent.
St Gertrude school closure

To Whom it may concern.

I am a concerned parent of a child that is studying at the St. Gertrude school, in the French Immersion faculty. It is with great sadness I express my disappointment regarding the school closure. We are a close knit community and the educational needs of our children are foremost so closing the school to displace 800+ students whether or not they are part of the French Immersion program is appalling. Please keep our children’s best interest at heart. It can be very stressful for parents to drive distances to schools further than those in the vicinity. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.

Perhaps the school board can consider opening seats in the catholic schools to people of different faiths that would be willing to accept the Catholic education system.
To: PAR

I attended ARC meeting on Feb 24th, 2016 and I offer my petition below:

Keep St. Gertrude School open. St. Gertrude School has the highest pupil space utilization, largest pupil population and capacity to accommodate more students with its popular French Immersion program attracting enrollees from diverse ethnic people groups in Mississauga and neighbouring municipalities. This will boost tax-dollar base supporting school funding. St. Gertrude School is conducive place for learning with its green forest backdrop environment, safe, quiet and peaceful neighbourhood for kids. St. Gertrude School academic ranking results (better than most other schools) is testament to the quality of education and dedication of its teachers and staff. The School Board option to split St Gertrude School French and English programs would result to large number of students displaced, sending them to different recipient schools without regard to safety - forcing students crossing major roads at high speed traffic with no busing or crossing guards, and additional burden to parents of French Immersion program students providing own/private transport who has chosen St. Gertrude for long-term school commitment. Well-being of students promoted by the Ministry of Education as guiding principle should be paramount if not equal criteria and consideration and not just purely on cost or financial impacts. Proposal by St Gertrude sets well-defined and measurable criteria to follow with Option 6 as the most beneficial choice with least impact (most greens with least red/yellow flags).

The planning board preferred Option 1 closing St. Gertrude School will not guarantee students transfer to out of boundary recipient school as there are public schools offering both French and English programs at nearby and safer location which could mean potential loss of tax-dollar education support to separate school.

Sincerely,
Parent
St Gertrude School
I attended ARC meeting on Feb 24th, 2016 as parent of two children attending St Gertrude and I have chosen this school with its French Immersion program, high academic standing/ranking, safe environment, and full elementary offering from grade 1 to 8 in one school location. The Board's preferential option to close this school is in contrast to the many well-researched options presented by experts, parent-school representatives and other schools recommendation which clearly favours St Gertrude to remain status quo or take-in more students given the capacity and comparable or lower cost/capital outlay, avoid displacement of large population of students and social impact to parents and the community in general. Please consider St. Gertrude proposal Option 6 which has the least negative impact to overall set criteria in the areas of Socio-Economical, Environmental, and Financial impact. Keep St Gertrude open -- this school is regarded as heritage to the community.

God bless,

Parent
St. Gertrude School
Please keep St. Gertrude open.

To whom it may concern:
I am a concerned community member from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay together with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.

Parent - Community member - St. Gertrude
Please keep St. Gertrude open

To whom it may concern

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation. We need to consider student safety in this process. This closure will impact our school family - all the teachers, staff, students and school community. Please keep St. Gertrude open.
To Our Trustees,

This email is in support of keeping St. Herbert Open. My preferred option is Option 1.

I am in Grade 11 now and I still have very fond memories of my years at St. Herbert. This school was the place where I met my closest friends, had great teachers, who have helped me discover and pursue my talents. From choir, to the science club, I have participated in many clubs at this school and this school has also brought me closer to my faith.

Therefore, I strongly feel that St. Herbert School should remain open so that children of the future may experience the memorable moments which I have experienced at St. Herbert School.

Sincerely,
Safe St. Gertrude School.

I am a concerned parent from St. Gertrude. I am voicing my support to save our school. We have a great school community. We are united as one school with a strong French immersion program. Please keep our children's best interests as a priority when making your decision. We need our children to stay with their friends, avoiding stressful separation.
In the Education Service Area map provided by DPCDB, St. Gertrude belongs to the Hurontario as the east boundary of East Credit ends at Mavis. The 2013 Long Term Accommodation Plan identified Hurontario District area is “overall enrollment is stable, will monitor”, which is consistent with St. Gertrude’s status of stable and high enrollment. Although the Board has the right to choose which school to study irrelevant to the map, it might be better for the Board to not deviate from previous recommendations and send a consistent message to the public.

The Board is in the rational that the FI program is a feature added to a school and therefore transferable. Option 1 has several downsides, after relocating all FI students to St. Gregory, the school will be over the capacity of up to 62 students; and after relocating all remaining St. Gertrude students to St. Valentine, the students will be exceed the capacity up to 125. To make the situation worse, some parents may have to switch their kids from FI to regular track as they can no longer pick up or drop them off, which means more students will go to St. Valentine. How many portables need to set up to accommodate these students?

St. Gertrude built the FI program seven years ago with one grade been added each year. In September this year, it will have full Grade 1 to Grade 8 FI program. Over years, St. Gertrude FI has become the hub of many families in the vicinity. To uproot the FI to St. Gregory located further north in a sudden will be very disruptive to the students and have reciprocal social impacts.

Since after the January 20 public meeting, many constructive options have surfaced meeting the MOE's guidelines and Board's requirements. Appreciate you can consider the above factors and remove St. Gertrude from the preferred option of being closed in your forthcoming revised report.

Regards,
During the first public meeting, parents expressed the confusion and lack of clarity regarding what criteria used to decide the fate of schools. It appears that utilization rate and financial savings are the main theme in the initial draft report however many other important factors are not well addressed such as safety issues to cross major roads without a crossing guard, impacts to students to be displaced, over capacity issues after school merging, additional bus transportation, students academic achievement, environment impact etc.

What the Ministry of Education provided is only a guideline. It is up to the planning staff to consider all these criteria and develop a ranking and weighting system to fairly evaluate all the schools and different options on the same base. There have been many new options, and only by ranking the pros and cons with visual chart can provide an unbiased evaluation, and keep the public and trustee transparent in the process of decision making.

Hope that by the 2nd public meeting, these criteria can be clarified and ranked and made available to the public. It is interesting that the first survey result shows more parents are in favor of Option 3 than Option 2 without knowing the exaggerated overcapacity issue in Option 3. Secondly, there are conflicts of interests in the questionnaires and the results are influenced. Parents should be consulted with what factors/criteria detailed from the MoE’s guidelines matters more, rather than to directly vote which option they are in favor of.

In this approach, the option with most cost savings won’t necessary be the preferred option. With this regard, John Duong has provided a report with many good suggestions.

Among all the factors, students’ safety is paramount in priority. There has been news not long time ago about a pedestrian struck at the intersection of Mavis and Lafayette Drive (north Bristol Rd): http://www.mississauga.com/news-story/6180657-pedestrian-struck-on-mavis-road-police-investigating/

It is bone-chilly to even think about letting our students cross these major roads at their own risk. The operation cost is only a small section of the overall pie. The Board should look into other means to balance the book by going through other capital and operation costs. Please consider seriously the social impact of closing three schools and displacing so many students.

Regards,
It was a very sad day in our house on the day that we found out St. Gertrude could close its doors. My children have been attending St. Gertrude for all their school years which collectively is over 16 years.

It was heartbreaking to hear this news. St. Gertrude is not just a school it's a family, our family and the family of many, many others. The teachers and staff are amazing people who go above and beyond what is expected of them. Their dedication day after day and year after year makes St. Gertrude truly an amazing school and it would be devastating to explain to my children that St. Gertrude is closing and that my youngest will have to go to another school.

I have to say that I am truly at a loss to understand how this can happen and how it came to be that St. Gertrude was included on the list of possible schools to close. Many years ago St. Gertrude's enrollment was low and because of this, and other reasons I'm sure, French Immersion started at St. Gertrude. I feel that it would be unfair to take these FI children (most who have been at St. Gertrude for 7 years) and transfer them to another school just so that school would not have to close its doors. It should be noted that some of these FI children have been at St. Gertrude from kindergarten and some of these children are good and close friends with my child and to split them up would be sad.

I would also like to mention that I think it would be unfair for St. Gertrude to close and for these children to be placed at another school which would bring that school over capacity - meaning that some of these children will have to spend their days in portables. I would also like to say how very troubled I am that these children will have to cross a major road, Mavis Road, which is a very, very busy street, to get to school. I am aware that children from K to Grade 5 will be bussed but Grade 6 - 8's will have to walk. I cannot comprehend how this can be safe. The safety of our children should be the first priority.

I am writing this letter with the hope that another solution will be discovered and St. Gertrude will continue on as an exceptional place a second home for my kids.

In closing, I would like to reiterate that the best interests of these children and their safety should be first and foremost in any decisions being made.

Thank you for your time.
Re: Evaluating criteria for PAR

Sent: Monday, February 29, 2016 12:50 PM
To: PAR - Info
Cc: Thomas, Thomas; chelme@eol.ca; shelley bonello [shellrob72@hotmail.com]

I am following up on my email dated January 14, 2016. I have not been able to find a response to my question, which is what is the evaluation criteria that is going to be used by the Board of Trustees in their final decision. For consistency, reliability and validity, there needs to be established criteria. When will these criteria become available?

Thanks

St. Gertrude

From: "PARinfo@dpcdsb.org" <PARinfo@dpcdsb.org>
To: "PARinfo@dpcdsb.org" <PARinfo@dpcdsb.org>
Cc: "thomas.thomas@dpcdsb.org" <thomas.thomas@dpcdsb.org>; "chelme@eol.ca" <chelme@eol.ca>; shelley bonello <shellrob72@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2016 12:09 PM
Subject: Evaluating criteria for PAR

To whom it may concern

Can information please be provided about the evaluation criteria that will be used in the final section by the board of trustees.

Thank you

St Gertrude
support for St. Gertrude school

To the ARC Committee,

I would like to know if keeping schools and their affiliated parishes together has been considered. Many families have their roots and ties to a church long before they have children, and often live in the community where their parish is located. If the St. Gertrude French Immersion program is moved to St Gregory, the families that live within the St Gertrude boundaries and who have strong ties to St. Francis Xavier Church will now have their children celebrating there sacraments at a church different from the one they attend on a weekly basis. This is a strong concern for many of the parents affected by Option 1. Can you please let me know if the parish location is taken into consideration in this process.

I support to keep St Gertrude open.

Thank you for your attention,

Parent of St Gertrude.
support for St. Gertrude school

Sent: Monday, February 29, 2016 1:41 PM
To: PAR - Info; Da Silva, Anna; D'Souza, Darryl; Xaviour, Shawn; Di Cosola, Frank; Pascucci, Mario; Hobin, Sharon; Abbruscato, Anna; Thomas, Thomas; del Rosario, Luz; Iannicca, Bruno; O'Toole, Esther
Cc: shellrob72@hotmail.com; chelme@eol.ca

To the ARC Commitee,

I have recently been attending the ARC working group sessions as a concerned parent from the St. Gertrude school community. Based on the discussions at these meetings, I would like to understand the rationale for some of the comments made by the Planning Department regarding questions asked by the ARC members and replies to parent emails sent to PAR. The response form the Planning Department states that some information is irrelevant. For example, an ARC member and parent who sent an email to PAR requested enrolment rates for all schools in the DPCDSB. The response was that the Board did not have this information, it would take a lot of time and resources to obtain this information and that the data was irrelevant to this specific review process for the East Credit area. This comment was noted at both the February 11th and February 24th ARC meetings. Additionally, when a comment was made at the February 11th meeting regarding enrolment rates for St. Joseph and St. Hilary by an ARC member, the response was that the data was irrelevant. I disagree.

If Option 1 is selected, St Hillary is closer for many of the students from the St Gertrude community, than St Valentine; their enrolment rates are noted at 50% utilization. Given the choice of sending my children to St. Valentine by crossing Mavis at 6 lanes, a semi-blind corner with a speed limit of 70 km/hour with no crossing guard versus going to St. Hilary and crossing McLaughlin, a 2 lane road, I would sending my children to St. Hilary. Additionally, I would choose St. Hilary as my children would not be placed in portables, whereas if they are moved to St. Valentine, they would be placed in portables, which is unacceptable to me.

Therefore I believe questions such as enrolment/utilization rates for St. Hilary should be seriously considered as St Hillary would be a more appealing option to many parents.

At the end of the day, I do not want to move my children and I support to keep St. Gertrude open.

Thanks for your time,

Concerned Parent, St Gertrude.
Dear Ms. Rogers,

Can the Transportation Dept. please confirm what the average bussing cost is per student for each school in East Credit. It appears to be about $170 except for St. Dunstan. Has any revised data been provided to the ARC regarding the bussing costs listed in the Initial Staff Report? Also, why is the per student cost so much higher for St. Dunstan?

Option 1 – 260 students bussed @ $44,500 = $171.15 per student
Option 2 – 168 students @ $28,200 = $167.86 per student
Option 3 – 165 students @ $28,200 = $170.91 per student
St. Dunstan – 199 students @ $63,956 = $321.39 per student

Can the Transportation Dept. also please identify any or all other school areas within the DPCDSB where students within a school’s boundary are required to walk across Eglinton, Britannia, Mavis, or Creditview to get to their school. For example, I have heard that students have to cross Eglinton in the Winston Churchill area. Can they please provide the full details of all schools where its students have to cross Eglinton, Britannia, Mavis, or Creditview including how many are bussed, if any, and why they are bussed (due to distance from school or safety) and how many do not qualify for bussing?

Thank you.

Regards,
To Whom it May Concern,

I'm writing today to express my interest in keeping St. Herbert open. I am a former student and graduated three years ago, however my affiliation and dedication to it lives on today. I attended St. Herbert from junior kindergarten all the way to grade eight and shared a countless amount of memories, good times and laughter. St. Herbert is a school I hold very dearly to my heart and have always been very active within the community. The teachers at St. Herbert are some of the kindest and most dedicated people I've ever met. The parents of the children at this school really care, as demonstrated through constant volunteering for events and productions in which this school has held. The connection this school has formed with students resonates through the alumni, as alumni are constantly active within the community whether it be volunteering for plays or sport teams, co-op education or even just to visit where it all began. The time I spent at St. Herbert was some of the best of my life, I know first hand how dedicated the students and staff are as I was on a number of school teams and part of the Wizard of Oz play years ago. This school cannot close, simply because there's way too many memories instilled within the walls and the beginning of so many lives have started here due to the solid foundation students built their lives from. The students and teachers are truly one of a kind. The school has a lot of room to grow as it is a large, two story school and can accommodate a number of students. Through the new principal Mr. Matos so many new initiatives have been implemented and my sister who graduated just last year was incredibly impressed by the work performed by this amazing principal. St. Herbert is truly an amazing school where students grow, learn and develop passion which will resonate with them for years to come. This school is what has inspired my passion for science and why I am continuing my education within this specific subject and intend on building my career off of it. It has shaped my character and has contributed greatly to the person I am today, without the wonderful staff at this school I would not have reached my full potential and reached for the stars in fear of barriers. Now whenever I have a rough time in a class I always think of my team of people at St. Herbert cheering me on. I graduated top of my class and received the Overall Academic Achievement Award upon graduation, through the support and wonderful teaching techniques of my former teachers this achievement of mine may not have been reached. I thank God everyday for the people I encountered at St. Herbert and the close knit community I grew up in. I am still friends with so many people whom I graduated with and I am glad this school was a common ground for us to meet each other and begin our life journey. I believe we all have a plan set out for us from God and this school was really part of my plan as it has shaped myself and many others into the intelligent, brave and compassionate people we are today.

Please take my word, closing St. Herbert would be a big mistake as so many people have been inspired and grown into well rounded individuals because of the loving staff at this school.

Sincerely,

To Whom it May Concern,

I'm writing today to express my interest in keeping St. Herbert open. I am a former student and graduated three years ago, however my affiliation and dedication to it lives on today. I attended St. Herbert from junior kindergarten all the way to grade eight and shared a countless amount of memories, good times and laughter. St. Herbert is a school I hold very dearly to my heart and have always been very active within the community. The teachers at St. Herbert are some of the kindest and most dedicated people I've ever met. The parents of the children at this school really care, as demonstrated through constant volunteering for events and productions in which this school has held. The connection this school has formed with students resonates through the alumni, as alumni are constantly active within the community whether it be volunteering for plays or sport teams, co-op education or even just to visit where it all began. The time I spent at St. Herbert was some of the best of my life, I know first hand how dedicated the students and staff are as I was on a number of school teams and part of the Wizard of Oz play years ago. This school cannot close, simply because there's way too many memories instilled within the walls and the beginning of so many lives have started here due to the solid foundation students built their lives from. The students and teachers are truly one of a kind. The school has a lot of room to grow as it is a large, two story school and can accommodate a number of students. Through the new principal Mr. Matos so many new initiatives have been implemented and my sister who graduated just last year was incredibly impressed by the work performed by this amazing principal. St. Herbert is truly an amazing school where students grow, learn and develop passion which will resonate with them for years to come. This school is what has inspired my passion for science and why I am continuing my education within this specific subject and intend on building my career off of it. It has shaped my character and has contributed greatly to the person I am today, without the wonderful staff at this school I would not have reached my full potential and reached for the stars in fear of barriers. Now whenever I have a rough time in a class I always think of my team of people at St. Herbert cheering me on. I graduated top of my class and received the Overall Academic Achievement Award upon graduation, through the support and wonderful teaching techniques of my former teachers this achievement of mine may not have been reached. I thank God everyday for the people I encountered at St. Herbert and the close knit community I grew up in. I am still friends with so many people whom I graduated with and I am glad this school was a common ground for us to meet each other and begin our life journey. I believe we all have a plan set out for us from God and this school was really part of my plan as it has shaped myself and many others into the intelligent, brave and compassionate people we are today.

Please take my word, closing St. Herbert would be a big mistake as so many people have been inspired and grown into well rounded individuals because of the loving staff at this school.

Sincerely,
Dear members of ARC and staff of the Planning Department of DPCDSB,

Firstly, I would like to recognize and applaud everyone for their dedication and hard work in the unwieldy PAR processes. Although many of the parents volunteered to be ARC representatives for their school, I am fairly certain that the level of work expended for the PAR processes each week has exceeded many expectations, so thank you.

Resource staff from the Planning Department and Superintendents Amaral and Del Bianco should also be commended for their guidance and openness during each ARC meeting as well as the extraordinary amount of work required to prepare and coordinate material and speakers for each meeting.

You have been put in a very difficult position that may result in a recommendation that is NOT very popular amongst some parents, teachers and students. After hearing the comments made in the February 24th ARC meeting regarding determination of criteria and the next steps, I want to offer my comments and suggestions to possibly reduce the negative feedback that will surely but unjustly come your way. As indicated in my previous email and in my report, I agree completely with the decision made at the February 24th ARC meeting to identify the criteria that should be used in the evaluation of options.

However, I want to suggest that the criteria be taken one step further by establishing scoring of each criteria along with a weighting factor to represent the importance of the criteria. I truly believe that if the criteria and their importance can be captured in the evaluation methodology, then the outcome once the options are evaluated, will be the best outcome for the East Credit Review area and the DPCDSB. I also believe that once the criteria and ratings have been established and that all options have been evaluate, the result should be one or two preferred options that the ARC members can stand behind and should be the basis of the Planning Departments' final report.

Below are a couple of examples of how a criteria and weighting factor could be identified and used on a few Options. Please note that not all Options have been put forward and evaluated as this is to just provide an example:

1. Criteria to keep students together

  - throughout all discussions, keeping students together has been identified as a very high priority if not the highest
  **Suggested weighting: 10 out of 10**

Evaluation Methodology
If an option results in all students staying together, the rating is 10
If an option results in one school splitting the students, the rating is 5
If an option results in two or more schools splitting their students, the rating is 1

Option 1:
-split St. Dunstan and St. Gertrude
-therefore, based on the rating and weighting factor identified here, Option 1 would score:
10 x 1 = 10

Option 2:
-split St. Dunstan and St. Valentine
-therefore, based on the rating and weighting factor identified here, Option 2 would score:
10 x 1 = 10

Option 3:
-split St. Dunstan and St. Herbert
-therefore, based on the rating and weighting factor identified here, Option 3 would score:
10 x 1 = 10

St. Dunstan's second Option:
-does not split any schools
-therefore, based on the rating and weighting factor identified here, Option 3 would score:
10 x 10 = 100

2. Criteria to maintain Catholic presence in the major districts of the East Credit area:

-it has been stated that this is one of the criteria used by the Planning staff to arrive at the options in the Initial Staff Report.
-however, there may be some leeway considering that two of the three options identified in the Initial Staff Report did not maintain Catholic presence in all quadrants of the East Credit area
-therefore, I would suggest that this criteria be weighted lower that keeping students together
-Suggested weighting: 7 out of 10

Evaluation Methodology
If an option results in a balanced presence of Catholic schools centrally, east-west, and north-south, the rating is 10
If an option results in Catholic school presence centrally, east-west, but NOT north-south, the rating is 8
If an option results in Catholic school presence centrally, north-south, but NOT east-west, the rating is 8
If an option results in Catholic school presence centrally, but NOT north-south and NOT east-west, the rating is 1

Option 1:
-no schools west of Creditview
-one school north of Britannia, one school south of Eglinton, one school east of Mavis: based on the rating and weighting factor, Option 1 would score:
7 x 8 (weighting factor x rating) = 56

Option 2:
-no schools west of Creditview
- one school north of Britannia, one school south of Eglinton, one school east of Mavis: based on the rating and weighting factor, Option 2 would score:
  \[ 7 \times 8 = 56 \]

Option 3:
- no schools north of Britannia
- one school west of Creditview, one school south of Eglinton, one school east of Mavis: based on the rating and weighting factor, Option 3 would score:
  \[ 7 \times 8 = 56 \]

St. Dunstan's second Option:
- one school west of Creditview, one school south of Eglinton, one school east of Mavis, one school north of Britannia: based on the rating and weighting factor, St. Dunstan's second option would score:
  \[ 7 \times 10 = 70 \]

Once all the scores for the criteria are summed up, a preferred option should be evident. If there are two or more options that are relatively close, there could be some fine tuning of the scoring or all options could be brought forward as the recommended option to the Board of Trustees. Evaluating options becomes an easier task once all the criteria is provided with an agreed upon rating as well as a weighting factor. By spending more time with this up front work, it will be easier to explain and justify.

To ensure that there is a sense of collaboration from parents, I would suggest that the criteria established at the ARC meetings by the ARC members be presented at the Second Open House. This will allow parents to gain a greater understanding of what criteria were used, why they were used and even to give some feedback and perhaps suggest other criteria that the ARC committee may want to consider before finalizing on the preferred option.

Again, I would like to thank everyone involve in the ARC meetings for your profound efforts and dedication to getting us a solution that fulfils the mandate of the Ministry of Education, meeting the financial sustainability needs of the DPCDSB, ensuring that student's well being is met and with the highest academic potential.

Sincerely,
Dear ARC Committee members,

I read the responses regarding the safety of St. Gertrude students displaced to St. Valentine and crossing Mavis which is 6 lanes and 70km/hr. I am very concerned that it was considered unsafe enough to include busing for grades JK-5 but grades 6-8 will in fact be expected to safely cross here. Furthermore could someone please address why the request for Stopr to the City of Mississauga Traffic Safety Council for site assessment to identify any issues or to make recommendations for safety is done AFTER the board of trustees final decision. It seems any decision criteria involving student safety be considered BEFORE a final decision is made.

Regards,

St. Gertrude parent
Keep St Herbert Opened

Sent: Wednesday, March 02, 2016 10:31 AM
To: PAR - Info

Why would a "Catholic" school board want to close a "Catholic" elementary school that is surrounded by a "public" elementary by a "public" middle and by a "public" high school?
Where is the maintaining a "Catholic" presence if choosing to close a "Catholic" school?

Keep St Herbert Opened!
A letter from my grade 4 French Immersion student of St. Gertrude School:
(I am attaching the actual letter she wrote)

Dear School Board,

Hello, my name is [redacted] I am a grade 4 french immersion at St. Gertrude School and I think that the other students at this school don't want you to close down the school.

Our school tries to make the world a healthier place for everyone like for example, we have toy, food and toiletry drives each year. The french immersion classes are fun and educational for all people at this school. Here at the school, there are always new faces each school year and it would be disappointing for those new students at this school because they may not know everything they need to know about this school yet. The teachers are very good teachers, all teachers are very good at our school. They teach us a lot of things. Everyone at our school has friends. Our custodians keep the school halls nice and clean during every class, even after school. We would be so greatful for all of you to keep our school open.

Sincerely,

[redacted]
Dear school board,

Hello, my name is [redacted]. I am a grade 6 French immersion student at St. Gertrude School, and I think that the other students at this school don't want you to close down the school. Our school tries to make the world a healthier place for everyone like for example, we have toy, food, and toiletry drives each year. The French immersion classes are fun and educational for all people at this school. Here at our school, there are always new faces each school year and it would be disappointing for those new students at this school because they may not know everything they need to know about this school yet. The teachers are very good teachers, all teachers are very good at our school, they teach us a lot of things. Everyone at our school has friends. Our custodians keep the school halls nice and clean during every class, even after school. We would be so greatful for all of you to keep our school open.

Sincerely,
[Redacted]
Hello,

I have currently 2 children in st Herbert. We love this school. It's clean, the kids are good and the principal is amazing. He is so involved with the kids and you really can't get anyone better then mr matos. They have a great drama team that outs fabulous shows. I would be so sad to see this place close.

Thanks

Sent from my iPhone
To whom it may concern,

I am a parent of two children that attend programs at St. Herbert School. My oldest is in Sr. Kindergarten and is thriving in their program. He is very academic and social and loves going to school. Originally he was a very shy child but has just blossomed under the tutelage of the teachers in this wonderful school. Mr. Matos the principal is very visible and accessible for any issues or concerns that should arise.

My other son is currently attending the family daycare at St. Herbert eagerly waiting to follow in his big brother’s footsteps. We transferred him from a much bigger daycare program that he was just not progressing well in. When he started at St. Herbert’s family daycare we never had anymore tantrums or breakdowns attending the program. The daycare program attached to the school has made our lives as a family (and extended family) so much easier. With one drop off and pick up either myself or my in-laws can ensure our children get safely home.

I am concerned about the disruption that would be caused by the closing of St. Herbert, for my children, for myself and my husband, as well as my mother-in-law and my sister-in-law and my nephews who both currently attend the school as well. We chose St. Herbert for their great reputation, loving environment and convenience for our family.

Also, the school itself is immaculate, it’s very clean and bright which makes learning so much easier. It also has air conditioning and when I remember as a child in the hot portables without air conditioning in June was almost intolerable. It’s accessible for children, staff and visitors with disabilities, therefore no retrofitting would need to be done as this should be a standard in all our schools in Canada. I have seen some of the older schools and to me it makes no sense to close such a wonderful up to date facility.

Please consider keeping St. Herbert open for our children.

thanks,

Mother of [name] and [name]

Aunt of [name] and [name]
KEEP ST HERBERT OPEN

Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2016 8:29 PM
To: PAR - Info

Please DON’T close St. Herbert. It is a wonderful school. It has great teachers/activities and a strong presence in the community.

The school is clean, in great condition, has lots of amenities and is in a safe neighbourhood.

I have 3 kids at St. Herbert and the change in schools would cause them anxiety and be a disruption to their routine and current education and support.

Please KEEP ST HERBERT OPEN.

Thanks,
Please DON'T close St. Herbert. It is a wonderful school. It has great teachers/activities and a strong presence in the community.

The school is clean, in great condition, has lots of amenities and is in a safe neighbourhood.

I have 3 kids at St. Herbert and the change in schools would cause them anxiety and be a disruption to their routine and current education and support.

Please KEEP ST HERBERT OPEN.
Hello,
Kids are safer in this school and do not need to cross a major intersection.

Please, please do not close this close school.

Regards,

Sent from my iPhone
Please keep St Herbert Open

Sent: Friday, March 04, 2016 1:32 PM
To: PAR - Info

Hello

I am writing to please ask you to keep St Herbert open. There are many other ways to address the challenges faced by the board but closing schools is not the right solution. Kids will be left adjusting to new environments, needing to walk a much further distance and possibly crossing a major intersection if they are transferred to St Bernadette. Not only that, please remember too that the area of St Herbert is surrounded by public school for all levels, as sad it might be to state this, parents will probably opt to send their kids to the public schools because its nearer and safer to let their kids go there, anyway, faith can continue being taught at home. This can do more damage to the Catholic School Board and as a parent, I know that most other parents would be doing the same as just putting kids in the nearby public schools. If that happens and let’s say 50% of parents decide to send their kids to public school, then St Bernadette would still be on the same dilemma as it is now and maybe a few years down the road would need to close as well. Please make the right decision and KEEP ST HERBERT OPEN.

May the Holy Spirit guide you all as you make this decision that affects so many families in Mississauga.

Thanks
Parents of children going to St Herbert

This e-mail may be privileged and/or confidential, and the sender does not waive any related rights and obligations. Any distribution, use or copying of this e-mail or the information it contains by other than an intended recipient(s) is unauthorized. If you received this e-mail in error, please advise me (by return e-mail or otherwise) immediately and delete this e-mail.

The contents of any attachment to this e-mail may contain software viruses or other defect which might affect your own computer system once received or opened. While companies under whose name this e-mail was sent take reasonable precautions to minimize that risk, we cannot accept liability or responsibility for any damage or loss which may occur or be sustained as a result of a software virus or other defect. You are responsible for virus checks before opening any attachment.
Please keep St. Herbert Open

Kids are safer in this school and do not need to cross a major intersection.

Thank you for hearing our voice!
To Our Trustees,

I sent my e-mail to you before but I really need to share my opinion with you, again.

This e-mail is in Support of Keeping St. Herbert Open.
I am surprise to see some many new options. I believe that you will consider what is the best for the students in your final decision. I understand that each student likes the school she or he attends and that they and their parents will try to keep it open.
But you are not closing the school because of people or communities.
St. Herbert is one of the newest schools and doesn't need some many repairs compare to others. It is a nice building located in a quiet neighbourhood. It is a safe school with all the accommodations that children deserve to have for example air-conditioning.
The facts say it all!
I have 2 kids in St. Herbert - grade 1 and 5. They love their school - their teachers, friends, and I as their mother want the best for them.
I understand that you are getting hundreds e-mails like mine - just please make decision best on the clear facts - KEEP ST. HERBERT OPEN!
It is great school for the kids and families who want to rise their children in Catholic Spirit. My preferred option is Option1.
To whom it may concern.

My name is [redacted] I have been a part of the St Herbert community since the school's opening in February 2000. I have been an active member of the parent council since 2003 holding numerous positions like chair, co-chair, treasurer, fundraising and all other types of positions. Keeping St Herbert school is very important to myself for numerous reasons. My husband and myself both legally blind I need a school within walking distance for our safety and our daughters safety as well. We chose to live in this community for the last 20 or so because of the fact that St Herbert was within 5 to 10 minute walking distance for us and not having to cross any major intersections. I cannot rely on the schools bussing transportation for my daughter due to the fact that I have to take my daughter to St Herbert's daycare at 7 AM each and every morning. I really don't know what I know I'm going to do it my daughter would either have to go to Saint Dunstan or Saint Valentines. They are both over a two kilometer walk from my home. And having to cross over major intersections. This is putting me in tough decision on whether I should keep my daughter in a Catholic school which is been a part of her life and my life for a very long time. I am now forced to consider having to put my daughter into the public school board as there is a school still within reasonable walking distance for myself and my daughter safely.

St Herbert is a new school that requires very little upkeep and maintenance. It is in a safe neighborhood with green belt parks behind it and all around it. It can accommodate many more students that then it has already. With very little school portables. Our school community is a very close knit and loving school community. We have the size capacity to be able to house another full schools community into our community and be as one community. It is hard enough growing up nowadays, than to be separated from your classmates that you have grown up with not by choice. All I'm asking you is to strongly consider keeping St Herbert school open it is the most economical and viable choice.

Sincerely [redacted], Concerned parent.

Sent from my iPhone
To whom it may concern,

First of all, I would like to share that I have been to every ARC working group meeting in their entirety as well as the first open house. Initially, I was attending to be informed and aware for the well-being of my own child. However, several weeks later it has become "for the well-being of all the children" in our eight schools. My child struggles with speech articulation and sometimes people are unable to understand what he is saying. However, if you ask his classmates who have spent the last four school years with him if they understand they always say yes - as I have asked both students and teachers. With the board options proposing to split our school - he would be one of a handful in his grade going to St Herbert while 90% of his grade moves to St Bernadette. These new students will likely not understand my son and unfortunately, children are not always nice and I can see the start of bullying (as witnessed in activities outside of school). This would have a huge impact on the well-being of him and all the children involved. It has been very humbling to see how the board members have all come to agree that "Splitting schools should NOT happen." This applies to all schools not just ours. I only hope that this is being relayed to the trustees.

The amount of respect that is evident in the ARC meetings should definitely be commended as I have witnessed week after week from the peanut gallery. Unfortunately, recently there has been some parents/community members that have chosen to resort to child like comments in an attempt to demean the St Dunstan community. There has been talk about our signs that we were lucky enough to have donated by one family within our school. However, it was St. Gregory who gave us this idea with their own signs and media attention. I will not attack this particular school community in this email as that is only sinking to their level. St Dunstan is sooooo much more that the bricks and mortar. We heard that when the school tours happened that ours was definitely not the "prettiest or cleanest." But, within those walls is some amazing teachers who care ALOT about our kids. Teachers that come to our school don't leave unless forced to do so and the occasional teachers really enjoy coming. The YMCA child care program is outstanding. I have volunteered a lot and the children are well-mannered and respectful to adults and classmates alike. There is no bullying issues to speak of. The parent council is phenomenal and always fund raising to get all sorts of extras for our kids. The entire school goes to the movie theatre to watch a movie as a pre-Christmas treat and the agendas in September are all paid for by the Parent Council. They say our gym is small and stage is not accessible - which is totally false as we have a ramp to the stage and the huge amount of extra curricular sports that occur in our gym don't seem to be affected by size. When our school "family" found out about the PAR we came together fast. It was amazing and impressive! Our school community has not had a single meeting for parents compared to many schools who have had several. Our reps have worked VERY hard and the options they presented involved a lot of time and effort.

This late in the game is not the time for school communities to verbally attack other schools. The ARC committee has worked far too hard to let it come down to this behavior.

I do have a couple of questions for the Board members:
1- What exactly are the principal and teachers allowed to do/say during the PAR process?
2- Are meetings for parents allowed to be held at schools?
3- Can teachers attend the ARC meetings?
4- Are signs allowed to be posted on school property?

Thank you to all the members that have given up their personal time "FOR THE WELL-BEING of ALL OUR CHILDREN."

Sincerely,

An appreciative parent and proud member of the St. Dunstan community
Save St. Valentine
St. Valentine School ARC [braveheartsarc@outlook.com]

To the Board of Trustees,

The community of St. Valentine School has petitioned to keep our school open. Our school is a very short walking distance to St. Francis Xavier church, without having to cross any major roads. Our community holds majority of our school masses at the church, along with our Sacraments of First Communion, Reconciliation and Confirmation. The pastoral staff, especially Monsignor Pan, attend occasional school events.

We feel that this keeps a strong Catholic presence in our community and if our school will close that connection with our school and church would vanish and our children would not be able to benefit from it.

Please keep St. Valentine School open,
Thank you,
St. Valentine community
Ps. Attached is a list from our community petitioning to keep our school open

Sent from Mail for Windows 10
Signed Petitions - St. Herbert Elementary School

Sent: Monday, March 07, 2016 11:15 AM
To: PAR - Info

Good morning!

We at St. Herbert Elementary School have started a petition to keep our school open. Below are the comments and signatures we have received to date. This is not a school that should be closed.

https://change-production.s3.amazonaws.com/petition_comment_lists/e0f686f79bcfef3f4f8f6ff1bb8a3cb09a04793b6020417e96adcaee37a841972/6308237/comments_1457365863.pdf

https://change-production.s3.amazonaws.com/petition_signature_lists/e28b8e9303d38edcbd19c16c7f0d78a33fa612eb77d80a4961f8a0e1487e5be/6308237/signatures_1457365716.csv

Thanks,

[Signature]

[Signature]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>St. Herbert is an awesome school with a modern facilities, ample parking and school grounds. St. Herbert should be part of the Dufferin Catholic School Boards long term goal.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>I’m signing because the school is really great. Ausome principal and staff!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>I out the school to remain open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>From the teachers with an open communication policy always available to discuss our children's needs to Mr. Matos, Principal, whose patience, work ethic and integrity are of the highest caliber. There is always a friendly smile to greet you at any time of the day. All educators play a very positive role in the betterment of our children. As parents we have a responsibility to advocate for our children's best interest. By advocating to keep St. Herbert Elementary School open that is exactly what we're doing. Let's keep the Catholic presence within the neighbourhood.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>Stop St Herbert from closing. Only 16 years old and has lots of extras to offer children.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>St. Herbert is a special school with many extra's for children to enjoy. It is only 16 years old and there are many children who benefit from it being open.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>My child school, principal and teachers are amazing! Please don't close the school!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>I strongly feel that I need to be a voice for those</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>There are so many pluses in keeping the school open. Due to the diversity of school I feel I have to be a voice for those who are unable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>I’m signing for all the reasons that have been listed by Team St. Herbert. May i also add that St. Herbert has a fabulous Information Centre, spacious and loaded with resources and computers. It would truly be a shame to let all this go.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orangeville, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>Keep GOD in the community</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>I'm signing because my niece and nephew both go to this school and love it! Please don't take them away from their school.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brampton, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>We need more education not less. Let's divert money from something we don't need.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>I work in the Child Care Centre that runs out of St&gt; Herbert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Burlington, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>St. Herbert should not be closed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>i dont want my school to close because the other schools might not have the same programs as my school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-01</td>
<td>I am signing this because I have 3 children in d school, looking forward to get a job soon and the daycare is located inside the school which will be better to drop off the children because it has before and after school programe for the kids, please we really want to keep St - Herbert open.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>As the school serve my community and it is in my best interest to have it opened.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I don't want my school to close down because I live close, I have a wonderful teacher, awesome principal and other staff. The school also serves my area wonderfully and contributed to the growth of the community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I have three kids in this school and I live in the community. If you close this school most of the parents would put their children in the public school. A great catholic education system gone to waste which will result in another PAR.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>St. Herbert is an amazing facility and it deserves to stay open!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>My brother goes to this school, and if it closes down he'll have to move schools. Which will give my family a lot of issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>St. Herbert is my home and is a great school that has produced many successful and respectful individuals. It deserves to and needs to stay open.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I want the school to stay open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I went to this elementary school and I do not want to see it close</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Toronto, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I love my school. Please keep my school open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I went to this school, I had the best experience there. It was better than high school to be honest, I miss it. We have an amazing community, with caring and happy faculty members who care about the students and do their jobs very well. Great extra curricular activities: Sports, clubs, even musicals, fantastic ones. Some things other schools couldn't do. Please don't close this school down, it's a home to some of the best teachers and kids I know &lt;3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>Was the best 8 years of my life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Toronto, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>St Herbert is a wonderful school with amazing staff and facilities. It is a newer school with a lot to offer the students and the community at large. Please keep St Herbert's open and help keep the Catholic presence in our neighbourhood alive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>St. Herbert was an awesome school! Everyone, including the teachers were a pleasure to have spent my entire childhood with, and it would be a shame to see it go. All of the teachers were awesome and always put 100% into making the students as successful as possible and making the school an awesome learning environment!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>My daughter attended St. Herbert, and she came home every day with a smile on her face. The teachers, principal and all of the staff have taken in young students and turned them into skillful, talented and happy young adults. I urge you not to take that away from them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, OR</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>St. Herbets is where my kids studied n have done exceedingly well in all round growth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>Both our boys started from JK to Grade 8 and the teachers were excellent and they loved the school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I went to this school JK - 8 and it was were i made lifelong friends, it would be horrible to see that other children will not get the same experience as I did.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I love this school to death they brought me up so well and I would hate to see the place where I made my favourite memory's go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>Please keep St Herbert open. It's a fantastic school in a great location surrounded by large play areas and green spaces, thus promoting both the mental and physical well being of our children.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>Got em! but on a serious note it's a great school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>St. Herbert is an awesome school and they have great teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>It is Catholic center piece of our community. It is a relatively new facility with a caring staff that serves more than just the students who attend the school. It would be a shame to lose such an integral part of the neighborhood. Save St. Herbert School.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>St. Herbert is a beautiful school, a pillar for the community at large.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I'm singing because I went to this school from grade 7 &amp; 8 and it was great. I have good friends there, and the childcare services they provide are helpful to many people around the area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I went to St.Herbert from sk-grade 8. It was a very important part of growing up to me as it was like a family. It would be a real shame if it closed down.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>My three children go to this wonderful school. It offers the students a variety of extra-curricular activities to enrich their academic and social lives. It would be a complete shame to close a school that is only 16 years old and in a good, safe location with a caring staff. Please make the right decision to keep St. Herbert School open!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>St. Herbert is a great place and it would be a great loss if it closes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>My daughters both go to this school and I can’t say enough good things about it! Firstly it’s a wonderful community, it's not on a busy street which is safe for the kids to walk to school. It is a newer school, has 2 levels with an elevator. Wonderful yard! I would hate to see our school close! We need to keep St. Herbert open!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>S is for Safe Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>T is for Teachers are friendly &amp; caring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>H is for Heartfelt staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>E is for Excellent principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>R is for Respectful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B is for Brilliant students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>E is for Extra-curricular activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>R is for Religious environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>T is for Teamwork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Put these words all together and you have a great school!! Please keep St. Herbert open!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I've found what I truly love to do at St. Herbert: to sing and act. All of the teachers and friends supported us from the beginning when it came to any of our decisions. We've created not only a community, but a family. And St. Herbert is their home, our home. We were loving, caring and we never had bullying issues, everyone was welcoming and accepting of each other.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toronto Ontario, Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I am signing because closing this close does not see</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>St. Herbert is a wonderful school. My 3 children love it. The staff are wonderful and make it possible for students to get involved in both academic and sports related activities. The building is beautiful and has been well maintained. Please keep St. Herbert open!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milton, Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I work in the child care center inside the school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I work in the child care centre in the school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brampton, Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I would like my child and nephews and nieces to continue their education at St Herbert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>Why would a &quot;Catholic&quot; school board want to close a &quot;Catholic&quot; elementary school that is surrounded by a &quot;public&quot; elementary by a &quot;public&quot; middle and by a &quot;public&quot; high school? Where is the maintaining a &quot;Catholic&quot; presence if choosing to close a &quot;Catholic&quot; school? Keep St Herbert Opened!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>St. Herbert is an amazing school. It was the greatest 10 years of my life. Lots of memories were created, and they were lots of fun. They have a huge play ground for everyone to use. The staff and students are amazing and it would be sad to see the school go. DON'T CLOSE THE SCHOOL!!!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>It is ridiculous to close a relatively new school with so many amenities both in-house and nearby!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>This school has so much to offer to the community. St. Herbert is truly a beautiful school, and the added bonus is the incredible and dedicated staff that genuinely cares about its students. Please keep St. Herbert open.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>St. Herbert was my school from Gr 3 to 8. Those were some of the best years of my life. I made plenty of memories there, and I really wouldn't want to see it close. It's in a great neighbourhood and the staff and students are amazing. Please keep it open :)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica Plain, MA</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>This is my cousin's school and she loves the place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oakville, Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I'm signing this petition for the local children to keep attending near their home and not be transported away to a further school. This would cause emotional anxiety for all. This means teachers, parents and most significantly the children!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oakville, Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>Doesn't make sense? .... Or cents? The foundation has already been poured for the children why dismantle it now?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>St. Herbert was my son's school from Gr 2 to 8, where he had memorable time with his teachers and friends. It is a great school to see close... it's very well kept also with great staff. It is not fair to this community... please keep it open!!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>Schools are an integral part of every neighbourhood. Amalgamation is good for budgets bad for children.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I work in the daycare centre in the school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brampton, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>Working at St.Herbert C.C.C.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I am signing with petition because I am a former student of St. Herbert!! Not only myself but, my older brother and sister graduated from this school!! My little sister is goes to this at this time, and I can speak for all siblings that, we'd like to see all our siblings graduate from the same school we did!! Many memories created at that school from every single student!! St. Herbert is an amazing school with amazing people in it!! I'd be said to see it go!!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>As a retired teacher I can appreciate the loss to all the good teachers that currently at that school. Also, I can't understand the Board closing such a young school that must have cost so much to build.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>Marilia Toste</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>That the board is even considering closing this school makes no sense to me. There are so many reasons that make it essential to keeping it opened. I'm confident that once the board truly becomes more familiar with everything this school has to offer, they will easily agree that it must stay open.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>It's a wonderful school with amazing teachers.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>This is an amazing School, from the staff to the outside playground everything runs smoothly : )</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I want St. Herbert School to stand tall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>Catholic education nurtures conscientious adults.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I believe by closing down Catholic Schools we are sending the wrong message to everyone else. We have to keep this school open to have a choice for our kids. If the closest Catholic school is too far, parents may choose to send their children to a public school. Our religion will get affected tremendously.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanta, Egypt</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>Its a excelant school .my son study there and he love this school very much</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>In all the schools in the area, you will not find a school like St. Herbert that has such an exceptional staff, is diverse and has such wonderful memories that will never be forgotten. KEEP ST. HERBERT OPEN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milton, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>My 2 children belong to St herbert community, they love it and wouldnt like to have it gone.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I want st Herbert's to stay open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>I transferred my 3 boys to St. Herbert from the public school system and I can honestly say that this was by far, one of the best decisions I have ever made. I had no idea what to expect with the change and what we found was not only a school but a family. The teachers are truly wonderful people who work so hard and care so much about their students. The students are close and look out for one another and that in itself is a blessing. It would be so sad to have my children go to another school when they have found a second home in St. Herbert. Please do not close down St. Herbert...it is a beautiful place with an even more beautiful spirit.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-02</td>
<td>Preferred option 1 without question, makes the most sense from all other options noted. St. Herbert is an excellent school with terrific teachers. New students coming from other potential school closures can only benefit from coming to St. Herbert. This neighbourhood needs the Catholic presence.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>This school represents more than just a school. It is also a strong representation of the Catholic community and with its potential closure, it would bring a huge loss to the many Catholic families in the area. It is the only Catholic representation left in this community. Please do not close St. Herbert.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>St. Herbert is a great school with wonderful staff. Modern facility, spacious parking, Green area and park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>St Herbert is a great school with great staff and students . My kids love it there would love for it to stay open.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>St. Herbert's is an exceptional School. They have the most amazing teachers and the best Principal I have ever seen. Mr. Matos goes well above his duties even directing traffic so the kids can BC before and after school. He even helped my daughter through a possible bullying situation. St. Herbert's has a fantastic balance of academic and extracurrilic activities. It will be a shame to close St. Herbert's please keep the school open. God bless St. Herbert's school I can't thank them enough for the past eight years my daughter has attended this fantastic school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>My son attends this school and loves it!!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>I’m singing because I used to work at that school. The staff, students &amp; families need this school for their community. Also to continue employing the ECE’s that work at the daycare attached to the school that provide childcare for the families in the community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pickering, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>I support the school to be open.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>Rosie Oakley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>I want my child to receive the education he deserves!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>I went to this school, since the beginning. It is an amazing school and has amazing teacher, that are still there.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brampton, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>Because of my sister in law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>St Herbert is an excellent school which enhances the lives of many families in the Neighbourhood. They provided my two sons with a safe and stable environment for learning, and someone has to be seriously mistaken to even think of the idea of shutting it down. Think of the Catholic taxpayers! Keep it open please!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>St. Herbert School has it all - excellent staff, academic programs, extracurricular activities, child-care services, good infrastructure and lots of green-space around it. Keep St. Herbert open!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>I used to attend St. Herbert and it was an amazing school. I am now doing my concurrent education 3rd year placement there and it is STILL an amazing place to work, teach, and learn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>St. Herbert is a nice newer school with great facilities compared to others and is in a very nice neighbourhood far from busy streets. It should stay open because other schools are not as appealing for the community and for the students/teachers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>Beautiful school surrounded by exciting educational properties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Toronto, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>I have attended several concerts and plays in St.Herbert's spacious gymnasium; I was impressed by the size of the stage and by their excellent sound system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>I started JK at this school when it first opened up and stayed until grade 8 graduation. So many memories of growing up in that place.. It was like home to me and I wouldn't want to see it go.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TORONTO, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>As part of the opening staff of St Herbert 16 years ago I am appalled that DPSSB would consider closing such a facility. This community needs this school to remain open!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>It is the choice to keep St Herbert open budget wise. And my husband and I are both legally blind we need our school to be in safe walking distance for us. We have been apart of this school community since 2000 and St Herbert is the reason why we chose to make this our home community for over 20 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malton, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>My children started kindergarten in this wonderful school and spent every year until high school. The school was excellent with dedicated teachers.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>Closing St Herbert a major school in the center of the community with a Day Care center, plus parks that the children can use. benefits the students in our community.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>I am signing it because I know there is a strong need of Catholic schools and Catholic Education in this area as well as Mississauga as a whole.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orangeville, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>The Godinho Family.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>St Herbert is a relatively new school. It is situated in an accommodating environment with respect to traffic conditions and demographics. The Day Care is a wonderful advantage and should definitely be heavily considered in this process. As well, given the number of Public Schools in direct proximity, I strongly feel it is necessary to maintain a Catholic presence in this part of the community. It has been a wonderful, well run school. The staff have done a marvelous job in providing a strong education for our children.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>Catholic presence and day care are very important part of this community.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halton Hills, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>Godinho Family</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>I’m signing this because closing the school would be a detriment to the close-knit community of which St. Herbert has become the centre. The school is a beacon of warmth and houses not just students and teachers, but years of wonderful memories from past students - as well as unrealized memories for future and existing students.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>I was a graduate of St. Herbert and to see the school that helped developed me into the human that I am today would be tragic. Not only was I there for the opening of the school but through my sister who is a current student at the school I have seen that the school has developed and become one of the many schools that has embraced technology and the traits and activities for the school.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brampton, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>This shouldn’t happen for obvious reasons.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toronto, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>I am signing because the school is amazing. The kids should not suffer because SOMEONE decides it should close.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summerside, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>I’m signing because this is my nephew’s school. He along with his peers deserve a good, quality education in their own neighbourhood.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>This is my feeder school. So many memories made here with such great students and staff. Don't let my childhood be destroyed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>I Work in the daycare centre that runs in the school.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>I'm signing this petition because we are very happy with St Herbert school and if you closed it, you will affect the children, the parents and all the community. And you need to think not only in the present, you need to think in the future. St Herbert school is newer than the others school. It building does not need reparations and can receive more children now. And the children and parents that you will move to St Herbert would be very happy there.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Calgary, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-03</td>
<td>Through my nephew's experience, I have seen first-hand, the value of St. Herbert. I believe the community school gives all our children the best possible start with a caring and personal environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-04</td>
<td>My grandson attends this school and loves it. His brothers are looking forward to attending as well. One starting next year. It would be nice to have the continuity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-04</td>
<td>Please keep St. Herbert open. Within walking get distance for our community. Newer school, beautiful grounds and surrounding areas. Amazing teachers present and past that keep coming back because they love this school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-04</td>
<td>I'm a concerned parent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-04</td>
<td>I am a student here, it is a great school community which I am very happy to be a part of.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-04</td>
<td>My younger siblings attend this school and although I'll be graduating this year, this school has taught me life long lessons that I will take with me to high school, and I hope that my younger brothers may continue on at this amazing place with an amazing community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Whites Lake, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-04</td>
<td>As a teacher and a grandmother to one (two of your students in Sept), I know of the excellent teaching, care and school community of St Herbert's. Why ever would you consider closing such an fine institution of learning when it is such an important part of the community? Please reconsider as these eager young minds need to have schooling in their home area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brampton, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-04</td>
<td>This is a great school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brampton, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-04</td>
<td>I work at the daycare centre that is inside the school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Halifax, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-04</td>
<td>This school offers more positives to the education system than many others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-04</td>
<td>St Herbert is a great school and we in the community would be trilled if the school can remain open and it would be disappointing to see it close.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Toronto, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-04</td>
<td>I am signing this petition because I have 3 of my grandchildren going to this school and would like to see all 3 of them graduate from this amazing Catholic school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-04</td>
<td>St. Herbert is a great school who's students excel in academics as well as in there catholic faith! It is in an area surrounded by other schools which makes it a safe environment for our children. All of the community is a where of this area and precautions are always taken when driving through this school zone which gives parents and children peace of mind when going to and coming home from school. It is a well maintained and newer school that requires minimal to no upgrades. It's staff is excellent and in long standing at St. Herbert. Please keep St. Herbert open for our children who love going to school there and for our Catholic community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-04</td>
<td>St Herbert is a great school where both my granddaughters attended. Great location as well!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-04</td>
<td>We need that school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summerside, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-05</td>
<td>My grandson attends St. Herbert and I think it is very important to keep this school open and maintain the teacher/Student ratio. Because it is only 16 yrs old and it provides the children with so many opportunities but especially the Catholic presence. It has been well maintained and provides the children with wonderful green space and park facility. I know my grandson loves his school and I think it would be a real sin to close this school. It is just so comforting to know that my grandson can go to school and say a prayer at his school. Bring home newsletters regarding Catholic saints. I pray that the Holy Spirit guides the decision makers and helps them know how important this school is to the many children and their families. God Bless.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Burlington, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-05</td>
<td>I'm signing because it's important to keep neighborhood schools open, where there is a better support for all children especially special needs children. As a parent of a child with learning disabilities, I could not imagine him ever thriving the way he does if our neighborhood school closed and he was forced to attend the next large school in the area. Our schools are their future and none should be displaced, no matter the economics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charlottetown, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-05</td>
<td>We definitely need prayer in school. Please do not close this one. We have lost enough.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deep River, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-05</td>
<td>I have three grandchildren attending St. Herbert.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-05</td>
<td>St. Herbert is the best elementary school that offers academic, athletic and the arts! That's 3 As for an A+ school!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oakville, Ontario, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-05</td>
<td>It is my great grandson school and would like to support it opened.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-05</td>
<td>I like to play manhunt at recess and Nathan brings soccer balls that we play with.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-06</td>
<td>Previous Head Secretary of St. Herbert from the school's opening until June 2012. I feel St. Herbert plays a vital role in the local community which would be irreplaceable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Milton, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-06</td>
<td>We need a Catholic school in that neighbourhood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Burlington, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-06</td>
<td>I'm signing because my niece and nephews attend this school and are able to walk to and from home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>2016-03-06</td>
<td>I am signing because my niece and nephews currently attend St. Herbert's and have had a great education and experience thus far.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-06</td>
<td>My niece n 2 nephews go to that school......and it is indeed a beautiful n well maintained school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>West Mifflin, PA</td>
<td>2016-03-07</td>
<td>The Catholic education is so very important and essential in our lives. Please keep St Herbert open.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-07</td>
<td>I'm signing because St. Herbert school is very important to my 2 kids. this school is really valuable for them. please keep it open.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-07</td>
<td>Please keep St. Albert open.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>India</td>
<td>2016-03-07</td>
<td>Keep St Herbert Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kitchener, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-07</td>
<td>I have four grandchildren in this school and I have frequented it a lot as I do babysitting off an on. I believe it is a beautiful school with a lot of potential and it would be a sin to close it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mississauga, Canada</td>
<td>2016-03-07</td>
<td>I am signing because my two kids is presently enrolled in St. Herbert and they love everything in this school. The principal, teacher and the school itself. We need a Catholic school and St..Herbert is one of the best Catholic education we have here in mississauga. And we need one like this in our area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Comment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cavite city, Philippines</td>
<td>2016-03-07</td>
<td>I want to stay open the St. Hetbert Elementary School open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caloocan City, Philippines</td>
<td>2016-03-07</td>
<td>I have two niece studying there and I still want them to have a good and quality education that St. Herbert offers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Sir/Madam;

I am writing this letter to respectfully request to keep St. Herbert School open. It is a clean and newly built and bigger than other schools that it can accommodate more students. It is also located in a safe neighborhood and environment.

Thank you for giving this matter your kindest consideration in keeping St. Herbert School open.

Respectfully yours,

Sent from my iPhone
Keep St. Herbert Open

Sent: Monday, March 07, 2016 3:03 PM
To: PAR - Info

Please keep St. Herbert open. The school is newer than the others. It's in a safer neighborhood and since its bigger, it can accommodate more students than other schools.

We would appreciate if you keep the school open.

Thanks,
Keep St Herbert Open

Keep St Herbert School open. Why? Because this school is newer than others. Also, this is in a safe neighborhood and big in size to accommodate more students than other school.

Thank you for your consideration.
Keep St Herbert Open

Sent: Monday, March 07, 2016 4:01 PM
To: PAR - Info

Please do not proceed on closing St Herbert School in Mississauga. This is a new school that can accommodate more students and a safe neighbourhood.

Please keep this school open.
Thank you in advance and support.

Regards,