



CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

Box 2222, 2755 Highway 43 - Kemptville, Ontario - K0G 1J0
Phone: 613-258-7757 Toll-Free: 1-800-443-4562 Fax: 613-258-7134
www.cdsbeo.on.ca



October 5, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians:

This letter is to inform you that at the Board Meeting held on Tuesday, October 4, 2016, the Board of Trustees for the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario approved the commencement of a Pupil Accommodation Review (ARC) in the Cornwall area. Your child's school is one of nine schools involved in this review:

- Bishop Macdonell
- Holy Trinity
- Immaculate Conception
- Sacred Heart
- St. Anne
- St. Columban's
- St. Peter
- St. Joseph CSS
- St. Matthew CSS

Parents and Guardians are encouraged to read the Board Report and proposed options identified in the Initial Staff Report that were presented to trustees by staff. These reports are posted in their entirety on the board website at www.cdsbeo.on.ca.

The inclusion of our school in the accommodation review process does not necessarily mean that it will close. Accommodation reviews are designed to look at a grouping of schools to determine the best solution for everyone involved in the process. While the Initial Staff Report may contain a proposed option that impacts your school, it does not mean that this will be the option that will ultimately be approved. The final decision by the Board of Trustees to move forward with a recommendation will not take place until after extensive consultation with the community takes place. This is part of the review process.

Public consultations is at the heart of the accommodation review process. Two public meetings will be held by the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC), which will be comprised of parents/guardians, principals and board staff, as well as a number of additional working group meetings.

A public delegation evening will also be part of the consultation process. The goal of the ARC is to engage a wide range of school and community groups to participate in the consultation in

order to gather feedback on the proposed accommodation options, developed by staff, to present to the Board for its consideration. The review could result in recommendations including:

- The closure or consolidation of a school(s);
- Changes to grades and programs offered at a school(s);
- New facilities and/or upgrades
- School boundary changes
- Partnerships and/or joint use opportunities;
- Status quo (no changes).

The staff recommendations, outlined in the October 4, 2016 Initial Staff Report, will be presented at the first public meeting, which is scheduled for November 30, 2016. These recommendations provide a foundation for the committee's discussions. The committee may also create alternative accommodation options, which should be consistent with the objectives and criteria outlined in the committee's terms of reference.

Accommodation review committees act as the official conduit for information shared between the Board and the affected school communities. Please feel free to speak with me about how you can get involved.

One does not have to be a member of the ARC to express his/her opinion and provide feedback. Everyone is welcome to submit his/her comments directly via email to PAR@cdsbeo.on.ca.

The Board of Trustees makes the final decision on all recommendations related to the accommodation review.

We are aware that this is a lot of information to consider. As indicated, all information related to the process, including Policy documents, Board Reports, Initial Staff Reports, Q and As, and other data will be posted on the Board's website at www.cdsbeo.on.ca. Simply click on the banner "Pupil Accommodation Review – Cornwall Area" from the main page.

We will continue to keep parents and guardians updated as we move through the process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me for assistance or email us at PAR@cdsbeo.on.ca.

Sincerely,

PRINCIPAL

Copies: Executive Council