

Opening Prayer

Oh Lord, Divine Teacher
be with us as we begin this meeting
Your Son's command to teach all nations
is our concern

Assist us so that this meeting
will be for us who attend it,
an opportunity to learn.

In the process of dealing
with the material issues at hand
may we learn how to treat each others ideas
with reverence and respect.

May we be instructed in the Divine Truth
that in the variety of approaches,
out of the rich differences among us,
will come the balance of the Kingdom.

May we discover how to reject ideas
without rejecting people
and how to share visions
though we do not share the same means
for reaching our desired goals.

May this meeting then, be for each of us
A prayer, a lesson, and an opportunity to be
Servants to those whom we represent.

We ask this through our Eternal Teacher, Jesus Christ.

Amen

Report to Board of Trustees

➤ **Five meetings were scheduled for the ARC with the following topics for discussion:**

- February 5, 2008 at St. Therese Catholic School – Understanding the Problem
- March 4, 2008 at St. Margaret Catholic School – Evaluating the Schools from Different Perspectives
- April 1, 2008 at St. Benedict Catholic School – Considering the Possibilities
- April 29, 2008 at St. Peter Catholic School – Making the Recommendation
- May 20, 2008 at St. Patrick's Catholic High School – Confirming the Recommendation

Report to Board of Trustees

➤ **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:**

- All four south Sarnia Catholic elementary schools are under-capacity according to the Ministry of Education On the Ground Capacity rating. By 2012, fully one half of the pupil places are projected to be empty among the four school communities.

Report to Board of Trustees

➤ SCHOOL VALUATION:

- The Accommodation Review Committee toured all four south Sarnia Catholic elementary schools on two occasions – March 4, 2008 and April 29, 2008. A tour of two London schools was also arranged, with six of the 12 members of the ARC participating on April 9, 2008.

Report to Board of Trustees

- The ARC members used the School Valuation Instrument to make an assessment of each of the south Sarnia schools. At its meeting of April 29, 2008, the ARC confirmed the following values for each school:

Category	Total Value	St. Benedict	St. Margaret	St. Peter	St. Therese
Value to the Student	45	40	40	40	40
Value to the School Board	25	15	15	10	20
Value to the Community	20	18	13	10	20
Value to the Local Economy	10	5	5	5	5
Total	100	78	73	65	85

The comparison of the four schools using the instrument showed that St. Benedict and St. Therese were the first two choices are future sites in South Sarnia.

Report to Board of Trustees

➤ **CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES:**

- The ARC considered how many schools were needed to serve the students of south Sarnia. The ARC concluded that two new schools are needed and that the preferred sites are the present locations of St. Benedict Catholic School and St. Therese Catholic School.

Report to Board of Trustees

➤ **RECOMMENDATION:**

- The Accommodation Review Committee recommends that the four school communities of St. Benedict, St. Margaret, St. Peter and St. Therese Catholic schools be consolidated into two new Catholic school communities; that two new schools be built on the St. Benedict and St. Therese sites; and that the St. Margaret and St. Peter sites be closed. It is also recommended that Indian Road, running north/south be the boundary line between the proposed new sites of St. Benedict and St. Therese Catholic Schools. The area east of Modeland Road will be designated as part of the boundary area for St. Anne Catholic School.

Walking Together

Lord I know that not all roads are straight
That not all paths seem clear

We take each step trusting that you know
Where we are going
We take each step, aware that you have
been here before

As we walk together help us to
Seek you in each other

Help us to sense you in our own thoughts,
words and actions

Help us on this journey Lord
That we may seek and find you in the steps ahead

Hail Mary