

OUR MISSION

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.
We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.

OUR VISION

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world
through witness, faith, innovation and action.



AGENDA ADDENDUM THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CORPORATE SERVICES, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

PUBLIC SESSION

Michael Del Grande, Chair

Nancy Crawford, Vice-Chair

Thursday, January 16, 2020

7:00 P.M.

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TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

DELEGATION REGISTRATION FORM FOR STANDING OR OTHER COMMITTEES

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Delegation No. _____

☐ Public Session
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☐ Three (3)
Minutes

Name	Carla Amodio
Committee	Corporate Services Strategic Planning and Property
Date of Presentation	1/16/2020
Topic of Presentation	Relocation of Loretto Abbey
Topic or Issue	I have heard that Loretto Abbey will need to be relocated to fix their boiler/heating system. If the Nelson Boylen site is being considered, I strongly oppose this out-of-area location.
Details	I would like to hear what other considerations were discussed (i.e. possibility of completing in stages over summer/other breaks to minimize disruption to students/staff). Possibility of portables as they complete sections of school?
Action Requested	1) Other options available to prevent relocation 2) if relocation is deemed unavoidable for 18 months then a location closer to the Abbey (not out of area) should be proposed
I am here as a delegate to speak only on my own behalf	Yes
I am an official representative of the Catholic School Parent Committee(CSPC)	No Loretto Abbey
I am an official representative of student government	No
I am here as a spokesperson for another group or organization	No
I have read, understand and agree to comply with the rules for Delegations	Yes

as per the TCDSB Delegations Policy T14	
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Submittal Date	1/13/2020
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Name	Susan Halasz	
Committee	Corporate Services Strategic Planning and Property	
Date of Presentation	1/16/2020	
Topic of Presentation	2020-2021 Relocation Plans	
Topic or Issue	Proposed renovations and relocation re: Loretto Abbey	
Details	<p>I oppose the current reno plan due to lack of notice and unacceptability of the school selected for relocation. I strongly believe a better solution can be found to accommodate the renovations that are needed. The proposed location is not suitable or convenient for many families and will disrupt lives significantly. Given the late notice of this proposal, other educational accommodations are likely unavailable in schools which already have a high student population, e.g. Lawrence Park, North Toronto, Northern. Private school registration is already closed for next year - we are left with almost no options - the committee has imposed an unacceptable approach, most disrespectfully.</p>	
Action Requested	<p>To vote against the full plan to move forward and focus only on the immediate need - the boiler. Any consideration for a move in the future should not take place until there is proper consultation with the families and community affected, so that people are given the time and are assisted with options to consider as alternatives for their children. Any future plans proposed must strive to find solutions that keep the students on site – e.g. using unused parts of the building (the convent), temporary port-o-packs, etc.</p>	
I am here as a delegate to speak only on my own behalf	Yes	

I am an official representative of the Catholic School Parent Committee(CSPC)	
I am an official representative of student government	
I am here as a spokesperson for another group or organization	
I have read, understand and agree to comply with the rules for Delegations as per the TCDSB Delegations Policy T14	Yes
Submittal Date	1/14/2020



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Name	Hannah Pereira
Committee	Corporate Services Strategic Planning and Property
Date of Presentation	1/16/2020
Topic of Presentation	Loretto Abbey Relocation
Topic or Issue	Student viewpoint
Details	student viewpoint
Action Requested	defer vote / community consultation
I am here as a delegate to speak only on my own behalf	
I am an official representative of the Catholic School Parent Committee(CSPC)	
I am an official representative of student government	Yes Loretto Abbey Sports Rep
I am here as a spokesperson for another group or organization	
I have read, understand and agree to comply with the rules for Delegations as per the TCDSB Delegations Policy T14	Yes
Submittal Date	1/14/2020



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Name	Ciara Romano
Committee	Corporate Services Strategic Planning and Property
Date of Presentation	1/16/2020
Topic of Presentation	Relocation of Loretto Abbey
Topic or Issue	Pros and Cons of Relocation
Details	Pros and Cons of Relocation
Action Requested	seek out alternative site for relocation
I am here as a delegate to speak only on my own behalf	
I am an official representative of the Catholic School Parent Committee(CSPC)	
I am an official representative of student government	Yes Loretto Abbey Social Re
I am here as a spokesperson for another group or organization	
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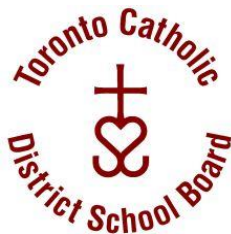
☐ Public Session

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☐ Three (3) Minutes

Name	Elise Latour
Committee	Corporate Services Strategic Planning and Property
Date of Presentation	1/16/2020
Topic of Presentation	upcoming Loretto Abbey Construction and Relocation
Topic or Issue	Relocation of Loretto Abbey in September 2020
Details	Although the parents at Loretto Abbey appreciate the need to undergo renovations and repairs on the building, the parent community opposes the proposed relocation to Nelson A Boylen Secondary School located at 155 Falstaff Avenue.
Action Requested	We respectfully ask the Board to consider NOT relocating the students to Nelson A Boylen and rather to consider approaching the repair and renovation project of Loretto Abbey in a manner that would allow the girls to remain in their school. We believe that the alternative of re ocating the girls should be a last resort and we request that options be considered to conduct the repair and renovation work in steps, during the summer, utilizing the other side of the building as a temporary location and installing portables on the grounds if required. We request that these options be fully considered and evaluated before a final decision is made.
I am here as a delegate to speak only on my own behalf	No
I am an official representative of the Catholic School Parent Committee(CSPC)	Yes Loretto Abbey member at large
I am an official representative of student government	
I am here as a spokesperson for another group or organization	

I have read, understand and agree to comply with the rules for Delegations as per the TCDSB Delegations Policy T14	Yes
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Name	Theresa Cook
Committee	Regular / Special Board
Date of Presentation	1/16/2020
Topic of Presentation	Relocation of Loretto Abbey
Topic or Issue	I learned on Sunday January 12th that there is a plan to temporarily move Loretto Abbey to Nelson A Boylen SS. This school is not close to us, it is not in our community and this poses a serious hardship on not only my children and my family but others as well. This planned move will be very disruptive to their days with 2 1/2 hours of commuting daily, affecting their study hours, increasing their stress and impacting their ability to get to their extra-curricular activities and after school jobs. There was no announcement made to involve parents in this decision. I feel that there must be other options explored to keep the students in their current community.
Details	I understand that renovations are needed for Loretto Abbey. I understand that the boiler needs attention and that this involves accessing pipes that may disturb asbestos. I find the process of how this is being pushed through unacceptable. I believe uprooting the students to a different community goes against providing accessible education and affects their wellbeing. At a time when there is such an emphasis on promoting mental health in teens, this move to uproot the students goes against this; it is in complete contrast to promoting mental health - causing stress on long daily commutes each way, sacrificing extra curricular activities and jobs, losing study time because of the commute and losing friendships for students who are not able to travel to the new location. There is uncertainty with the duration of the move as they are aware that that discussed 18 months duration will certainly be more as construction rarely

	is completed on time. This adds to their stress level having this uncertainty.
Action Requested	There must be options to keep the students in their community. There must be other buildings that can be used (whether owned by TCDSB or otherwise), or it must be further analyzed to remain at Loretto Abbey and access half of the school for education while closing off the other half for renovations. I understand portables will be required at Nelson A Boylen school, this can also be done at Loretto Abbey. I understand there are health and safety concerns, however, if it can be done in hospital setting that run 24/7 then it should be able to be done at Loretto Abbey.
I am here as a delegate to speak only on my own behalf	Yes
I am an official representative of the Catholic School Parent Committee(CSPC)	No Loretto Abbey My children go to Loretto Abbey, however, I am not on the parent council
I am an official representative of student government	No
I am here as a spokesperson for another group or organization	No
I have read, understand and agree to comply with the rules for Delegations as per the TCDSB Delegations Policy T14	Yes
Submittal Date	1/14/2020



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Name	Marisa Chiera Fiumara
Committee	Corporate Services Strategic Planning and Property
Date of Presentation	1/16/2020
Topic of Presentation	Relocation of Loretto Abbey
Topic or Issue	Support for Relocation
Details	I wish to address some of the misinformation that is happening within the Loretto Abbey community regarding the proposed temporary relocation to Nelson A Boylen
Action Requested	More information should have been provided to the Abbey community prior to discussions at the board level so that the parent community did not feel blindsided. The lack of information before the public meeting resulted in the spread of misinformation and lack of support within the student and parent community.
I am here as a delegate to speak only on my own behalf	Yes
I am an official representative of the Catholic School Parent Committee(CSPC)	
I am an official representative of student government	
I am here as a spokesperson for another group or organization	
I have read, understand and agree to comply with the rules for Delegations as per the TCDSB Delegations Policy T14	Yes

Submittal Date	1/16/2020
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Name	Bernie Ledic
Committee	Regular / Special Board
Date of Presentation	1/16/2020
Topic of Presentation	Loretto Abbey Construction Project and Relocation of Students
Topic or Issue	Relocation of Students and feasibility of the proposal
Details	Impact of relocation such as: - cultural impact on Student body, LAT community as LAT is an iconic Catholic Institution in this city. - drop in student enrolment - timing of decision as local public high schools may be at capacity - potential transportation options from LAT to proposed site - what is the quality of the proposed relocation site (air quality, water quality etc.) - is 18 months a reasonable timeframe as LAT is a historic building - can the work be done in phases without relocation
Action Requested	Request to speak at the board meeting

I am here as a delegate to speak only on my own behalf	Yes
I am an official representative of the Catholic School Parent Committee(CSPC)	No
I am an official representative of student government	No
I am here as a spokesperson for another group or organization	No

I have read, understand and agree to
comply with the rules for Delegations as
per the TCDSB Delegations Policy T14

Yes

Submittal Date

1/14/2020



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Name	Madeleine Moore
Committee	Regular / Special Board
Date of Presentation	1/16/2020
Topic of Presentation	Renovation of Loretto Abbey Secondary School
Topic or Issue	Renovation of Loretto Abbey Secondary School
Details	Questions and considerations related to the planning of the construction
Action Requested	Further analysis of the concluded proposal to relocate students and staff
I am here as a delegate to speak only on my own behalf	No
I am an official representative of the Catholic School Parent Committee(CSPC)	Yes Loretto Abbey Member at Large
am an official representative of student government	No
I am here as a spokesperson for another group or organization	No
I have read, understand and agree to comply with the rules for Delegations as per the TCDSB Delegations Policy T14	Yes
Submittal Date	1/15/2020



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Name	Glen Marshall
Committee	Regular / Special Board
Date of Presentation	1/16/2020
Topic of Presentation	The temporary closing and relocation of Loretto Abbey
Topic or Issue	The "temporary" relocation site of the Loretto Abbey students
Details	I understand that the school needs urgent work, however I want the board to take more time to come up with a reasonable relocation. The proposed location is over an hour each way which will drastically impact my daughter's homework time and extracurricular activities. It also breaks up her school community which has had such a great impact on her life. The proposal may say 18-months but it will effectively cover the rest of her high school tenure.
Action Requested	Do not rush the vote before a suitable location can be arranged.
I am here as a delegate to speak only on my own behalf	Yes
I am an official representative of the Catholic School Parent Committee(CSPC)	No
I am an official representative of student government	No
I am here as a spokesperson for another group or organization	No

I have read, understand and agree to comply with the rules for Delegations as per the TCDSB Delegations Policy T14	Yes
Submittal Date	1/15/2020

TCDSB Board Members

I am writing to you to express significant concerns related to the potential temporary relocation of Loretto Abby Catholic High School. I am raising concerns about the process as well as the appropriateness of the proposed solution.

I would like to start by recognizing that the school's infrastructure needs to be addressed. It is obvious from our daughters' experiences and the board observations that there are repairs required to keep the school in good working order. It is also fair to note that these issues have been long standing and the board and school administration have been fully aware of these issues for some time. The concerns I am raising are not about the need for the repairs but rather about the lack of a transparent, informed process to determine a solution to allow the repairs to occur in a manner that reflects a well- informed, fair and appropriate approach.

There appears to have been virtually no consultation or communication to parents or students about the board's recommendation that is to go forward at the January 16, 2020 board meeting. There was no formal communication shared with parents as most of us found out about the issue through social media on the weekend of January 11/12, 2020. This left us unable to discuss the issue with our daughters, who found out at the same time, through the same means. A communication was sent out by our principal on Monday January 13 advising us about a parent council meeting that evening. This approach left many parents who wanted to attend unable to do so due to the lack of notice and lack of any substantive understanding of the issue, the timelines or the proposed solution.

It is my understanding from the information shared at the Monday January 13, 2020 meeting that the urgency of the move is the result of the school boilers requiring urgent repair (again, an issue which has been long standing) and the risk that a failure of the boiler would render the school non-functioning requiring students to be dispersed. It is my understanding that the board is using the opportunity to repair the boilers to also address some other needed repairs. My concern is that it appears that there has not been a transparent and complete assessment undertaken to understand both the repairs needed, the costs and the timelines required to complete the repairs. I understand the proposed relocation site is only available for 20 months. Given that the estimated time for repairs is 18 months but that a full assessment and timeline has not been determined, it seems premature to force a decision to relocate the students to a school that may require a subsequent move should the repairs take longer than estimated. I would suggest

that it would be more prudent for the board to defer the decision until it can provide the trustees (and the school community) with a full assessment of the repairs required, the timelines, the cost and options for the school's relocation.

The board may also want to explore alternative locations for the relocation once it has an accurate, informed understanding of the repairs required and the timelines. The current school is located on the Yonge subway line. It is easily accessible and centrally located for the students who come from various areas of the city. A number of students have selected the school for these reasons and would be challenges to commute to the relocation school which would require significantly longer and less direct routes on public transit (e.g. multiple transfers).

I am requesting that this decision be deferred and that the board be directed to provide a full assessment to the trustees which reflect the due diligence necessary to enable the trustees to make an informed decision about an issue that will have a significant impact to our school community.

It is my opinion that the board is requesting a decision based on information that is incomplete and proposing a relocation site that is not appropriate. The little information that has been shared and the very urgent timelines suggests a poorly thought out plan. Given that these issues are not new and I am appealing to the trustees and the board to undertake the necessary due diligence to make an informed decision, particularly given the significance of this decision and the impact to our school community.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the discussion.

Catia Creatura-Amelio

Hi,

My name is Tracy Barber and I am a parent to Olivia Buston in Grade 9 at Loretto Abbey. My other daughter Emma is at CCAA in Grade 11. I chose the Catholic School Boards for my daughters as I feel it is a far superior education system, with values I want my girls to be learning in. However by saying that, I am disgusted in how the matter of a renovation and relocation of the Loretto Abbey students has been handled. If someone had not “ leaked “ this information out via social media no one would have been informed to “oppose “ it, exactly I’m sure what the Board wanted having it approved via the back door.

The parents should be consulted about the renovation and relocation. The students should have been told via their parents and not a bunch of hysterical students via snap chat! The parents should been informed of this BEFORE they registered for a 4 year high school education. We had many choices of where to send my daughter CCAA Lawrence Park, Havergal, Northern and Loretto Abbey. We choose the Abbey, for many reasons. The proximity to our home (literally steps away) allowing for her to come home at lunch and also in older grades being able to come home with spares.

Relocating the school to Keele and Wilson is ridiculous, it’s not even on a subway stop. Parents cannot drive there and it’s in my opinion not in the best of areas to relocate a bunch of girls to. Students / Parents are now left high and dry to find a new school as most of my daughters friends will be looking for new schools, therefore you will be breaking up friendships and bonds that have been formed, you have left it too late for private school admissions and most people do not want to go to their home schools because they are awful, which is why they applied out of district to a good school like the Abbey. The students are hysterical coming home crying thinking of their school changing friends changing and starting the high school experience over again.

It is possible to repair the heating and boiler in the summer, it is possible to renovate while closing off sections of the school (its done every day in malls, hospitals) the abbey has a large amount of space to bring in required portables to house the girls during renovation.

I feel that there is literally no thought process to how this was handled or communicated to anyone and I am disgusted by the Catholic School Board for allowing such upheaval, stress and anxiety in their students.

There will be a huge number of parents at the meeting on Thursday who are all so upset but this proposed relocation and we will do everything possible to stop it. Our children deserve better than this.

Tracy Barber

I am writing to you to express significant concerns related to the potential temporary relocation of Loretto Abby Catholic High School. I am raising concerns about the process as well as the appropriateness of the proposed solution and I ask that my letter be submitted as communication for the meeting on Thursday.

The families at Loretto were blindsided this weekend by an unsubstantiated rumor that Loretto Abbey students were being relocated as of Sept. 2020 and that the trustees would be voting on a proposal this Thursday. Considering that the School and the Board have still not communicated anything to the parents at this writing (Tuesday 2 pm), it is difficult to see this as anything other than the School Board trying to ram through a proposal without any community input to the best solution to solve a long standing mechanical problem that they have been ignoring for years.

I do not believe that there has been due diligence preformed in making this decision, and certainly no transparency. The proposed temporary school is scheduled for demolition in 2022, making it likely that the current grade 9 - 10 Loretto girls will be relocated or dispersed once again in two years, as I believe it is extremely unlikely that a project of this scope could be completed in this amount of time. A second relocation is irresponsible and reckless to the mental health of these girls who are experiencing extreme anxiety about this sudden disruption.

It is my understanding that St. Edward Catholic School which is a feeder school to Loretto Abbey (a school with historically over 90% of girls attending Loretto as their secondary school) has also not been informed of this issue. The Grade 8 parents are now filling out applications and making decisions for their children without having important information that will certainly impact their decisions. This seems like very underhanded behavior from the Catholic Board and I would expect better.

There needs to be information provided to the voting trustees and the community that assure us that all options were looked into and that data was collected and considered regarding location, demographics, timelines, and health & safety. Is there an architectural plan? Is there a construction plan and scope of work? Have contractors been asked to bid and on what? Has the viability of portables and sectioning the building been fully looked at? What is the cost associated with refurbishing the now empty school that is proposed for relocation? Is this a good use of tax dollars when the building will be torn down shortly to make way for a new school? All of these questions that have not had the opportunity to be asked

or answered are leaving the Loretto Abbey community with a deep distrust of this Board and this process.

As a result, I am requesting that this decision be deferred and that the Board be directed to provide a full assessment to the trustees which reflect the due diligence necessary to enable the trustees to make an informed decision about an issue that will have a significant impact to our school community.

Kindly,

Shannon Soro

Attention: TCDSB Board Members and Trustees

We are writing this letter to express significant concerns related to the proposed temporary relocation of Loretto Abbey Catholic High School. We have concerns with both the process as well as the solution recommended by TCDSB Board Members.

We have two daughters currently attending Loretto Abbey, in Grades 9 and 11. During our visits to the school, through our daughters' daily experiences and the Board's assessments, it is evident that the school building is in need of attention. It is an historic building which requires repair to keep the school in good working condition. This letter is not meant to dispute the need for repairs, but rather is meant to address the lack of an informed and transparent process which will impact decisions that will directly affect many people in our school community.

There has been no communication about the school's need for repair and the subsequent relocation. Many parents were made aware of the issue through social media and rumours circulating between our daughters. We spent most of this past weekend fact-checking amongst ourselves, checking the board website for information and wondering if we had missed important communication from the school. Our school's Principal works tirelessly to communicate important information to parents on a regular basis, yet we were not informed that this issue would be addressed at the Parent Council Meeting on Monday, January 13, 2020 until that morning. This left many parents with little time to discuss the issues with our daughters and unable to attend the Parent Council meeting. In addition, we have just learned that decisions about the future of Loretto Abbey will be made at a Board Meeting this Thursday, January 16th. As we are writing this letter, the parents and families which will be directly affected have not yet received official communication of this important Board Meeting. While I am hopeful that all decisions are made with our students' best interest in mind, the way in which the information has been dispersed to our community leaves us questioning the integrity of the decision-making process at the Board and compromises our trust in the school Board. In addition, this situation is taking a toll on our daughters who are questioning their future at a school that they love so dearly. The lack of information and transparency has created an environment of stress and anxiety for parents and students.

In an attempt to gain a better understanding of the situation, I contacted the school and spoke with Mr. Rubino, Vice Principal. From our conversation I learned that the boilers are in need of urgent repair. I understand that this has been a long-

standing issue in the school and needs to be addressed in a timely manner. I also learned that the board is using the opportunity to repair the boilers to address other necessary repairs and renovations within the school. In my communication with parents who attended the Parent Council meeting on Monday, a complete understanding of the scope of the renovations and plans for improvement is not yet clear. However, an estimated 18 months was the suggested timeline for the work to be completed at Loretto Abbey. At the meeting it was also shared that the proposed housing school is scheduled to be demolished by 2022. Assuming that the decision to relocate our students will not interrupt this school year, the board is suggesting we use a school that has a window of roughly 18-20 months for work that is expected to take about the same time. Without a clear plan of the scope of work, I am concerned that our daughters will potentially face yet another relocation in two years.

The decision for our daughters to attend Loretto Abbey was made for a number of reasons including Catholic education, it's rich history in our community and the proximity to our home. Moving students to the suggested location will result in a disruption of our daughters' ability to participate in after school activities and work due to the extended travel time. The current school is located on the subway line making it easily accessible to many students. The new location requires lengthy commutes with buses and transfers. Has the Board considered other options such as portables, office buildings in the area, etc.?

Our community understands the need and importance of maintaining and upgrading the school facilities. We do not want to stall the Board's efforts to improve the school environment. We are asking that more information be gathered before proceeding with the suggested relocation. In addition, as community members who will be directly affected by the decisions made by the Board, we are requesting that thoughtful and informed consideration be given to all possible options, information is shared and presented to the parent, staff and student community and that we have input in selecting the option that will be the least disruptive to Loretto Abbey staff and students. From our perspective, decisions are being rushed and the full impact of those decisions is not being considered. We are appealing to the Board Members and Trustees to make informed decisions and gather all necessary information before making choices which will directly affect our daughters' academic, social and emotional development at Loretto Abbey.

Thank you for considering our concerns with this matter.
Remo Naccarato and Elena DeBiasio

My daughter should be entering Loretta Abbey this September, after dedicating the last decade to becoming Catholic and following through on each sacrament.

We feel completely blindsided by this project plan. After hearing just five days ago that she was accepted into the school of her dreams, she's now faced with the prospect of attending a school she's never even heard of, in a neighbourhood she doesn't know, traveling at high speeds on Canada's most dangerous stretch of highway. Surely there must be another option.

We feel this underhanded approach allowed the School Board to bolster their fall enrollment, all while placing teenage girls, in their hardest most precarious year in an unfathomable position of finding another school after optional attendance has closed. It is by this design that the School Board has placed their needs above those of the ones they are supposed to serve, how can children feel like they are the priority when they were the last ones to be thought of?

And still, with no formal announcement from the School, we're only left to find out by the grace of close friends and love from concerned neighbours, traits I would think that Catholic Board would hold onto dearly.

Plummeting children of such a tender and difficult age into the prospect of splitting up their high school education is nothing short of embarrassing. These are not the values that we have instilled in our youth.

I challenge you to explore other options or risk alienating our children who now feel duped and lied to.

Thank you kindly for your consideration.

Awaiting your response,
Carol Roach
Parent of two daughters

Details of Delegation re Loretto Abbey Project

I am a parent of a grade 11 student at Loretto Abbey and a representative of the School Parent Council.

I appreciate the opportunity to make representations to the Board this evening to express the significant concerns of the school community, both parents and students, regarding the proposed plan for school relocation in September 2020 due to renewal/upgrade of the school's HVAC, boiler and electrical systems.

The concerns relate primarily to the lack of notice and the inadequacy of information provided to the school community in regard to this project and the need for the proposed relocation. Given the profound impact of a relocation on many Loretto Abbey families, the lack of procedural fairness in this process goes to the heart of the reasonableness and legitimacy of any decision the Board may make in favour of the proposal at this time.

Lack of Notice

The school community only became aware of the proposed renewal project and school relocation on the evening of Sunday, January 13, 2020 – i.e. four days ago. This notification did not come from the superintendent, Board or Loretto Abbey school officials but from students. A student stumbled across the school relocation plan and circulated it to fellow students via social media on Sunday night. Students in turn, told their parents. As you can imagine, the reaction was one of shock and distress.

It appears that school staff also had no advance notice of this proposal and the issue was hastily added to the agenda of the school parent council meeting on Monday, January 16th. Many parents attended this meeting and all expressed concerns about the relocation and the impact of such a relocation on the school community.

Unfortunately, few details were forthcoming about the proposed project and relocation. This issue will be discussed further in the next section on the lack of information / consultation.

The lack of notice has several negative impacts. There has been insufficient time to obtain additional information about the project and consider and provide input on possible alternatives to relocation, or if relocation is ultimately deemed necessary, on how to mitigate the negative impacts of such relocation – i.e. through

the possibility of finding an alternate temporary location closer to Loretto Abbey or the provision of busing.

It has also left minimal time for parents and students to consider other viable alternatives. It is clear that a number of families are considering transferring their children to other schools. The commuting time, which for some students will be close to 1.5 hours each way (3 buses and an over 20 min walk from Keele Street or Jane Street to the school) and the resulting impact on students' time with their families, for themselves, for homework, for part-time jobs and/or for extra-curricular activities both within and outside the school, may make it unfeasible to attend Nelson A. Boylen.

This means that parents/students have been left to scramble, in mid-January, to find other schools. There are no other Catholic high schools in the area so the ability to continue receiving religious instruction may be lost and students will be forced to attend their local district public high school. The course selection process for the 2020-2021 school year is happening imminently at most schools which means students looking to transfer to another school may be at a disadvantage in obtaining information about course options in time and in registering for those courses relative to incumbent students. For families who are considering and have the means to send their children to private schools, they have already missed the registration deadline, which was December 3, 2019 for most schools in the area (e.g. Havergal and St. Clement's).

The lack of notice and potential transfer of students to other schools has also had a significant emotional impact on the students who are understandably distressed about losing their friends or having to involuntarily consider relocation/transfer. This is particularly impactful for the current grade 11 students, many of whom have been together since grade 9. As we know, friendships that we make in high school can be some of the most enduring relationships of our lives. The transfer of students due to the proposed relocation means that next year's graduating class will lose some of its members, necessarily impacting on these close relationships and the entire school community.

Lack of Information / Consultation

As has been mentioned, the lack of information and meaningful consultation with the school community is also a significant concern. Apart from the one-page outline about Loretto Abbey contained in the Executive Summary of the 2020-

2021 School Relocations Plan as part of the materials for the January 16, 2020 Board meeting and the extremely limited information provided by school staff at the School Parent Council meeting four days ago, parents/students have been provided with none of the underlying evidence, research and analysis for the proposed upgrade and relocation. As a result, there has been no opportunity for meaningful consultation **before** a decision is made by the Board to determine if viable alternatives short of relocation, or at a minimum, mitigating some of the most harmful effects of relocation, can be mitigated. Such alternatives, may include, but are not limited to:

- conducting critical repairs to the boiler system now and/or over summer of 2020 to keep the system operational for the remainder of this school year and the 2020-2021 school year
- phasing the remainder of the work such that students can remain at the present location during upgrades – e.g. closing off parts of the school while work is being done in those areas and moving students to other parts of the school; making basic upgrades to the Convent over the summer of 2020 to allow it to be used as instruction space while work is being done in the school building proper; the use of portables on the current site
- if relocation is ultimately deemed necessary, consideration of other locations closer to the current school
- if relocation to Nelson A. Boylen is ultimately deemed necessary, putting in place more viable transportation options for affected students (i.e. bussing)

Also, from the Executive Summary, it appears that further assessments are necessary before renewal can occur. The results of these assessments may require further consultation.

There is also a concern about the lack of information about the safety of Nelson A. Boylen as the proposed temporary school. What is its current state as a building which has not housed students for four years? What renewal work is required there and will it be sufficient to address current concerns and completed in time for September occupancy?

All of these concerns underscore the fact that this proposal is premature. The lack of notice, information and meaningful consultation with the school community point to the inescapable conclusion that this decision should be deferred. A failure to do so amounts to an unfair process which may be reviewable.

Action Requested

Based on the above-noted concerns and the significant impacts on the school community, I respectfully ask that you vote NO to the proposed plan.

Thank you.

Cathy Tempesta (Loretto Abbey parent)