



## REPORT TO

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL BEING, CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

### ST. JOSEPH MORROW PARK

*“For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.”*

*Romans 12: 4-5*

#### Drafted

May 16, 2022

G. Danfulani, Superintendent, Area 4

#### Meeting Date

May 26, 2022

#### INFORMATION REPORT

**Vision:** *IN GOD’S IMAGE: Growing in Knowledge, with Justice and Hope.*

**Mission:** *Nurturing the faith development and academic excellence of our Catholic learning community through the love of God, neighbour, and self.*



**MULTI-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN**  
2022 - 2025

**IN GOD’S IMAGE:** Growing in Knowledge, with Justice and Hope



Brendan Browne  
Director of Education

Adrian Della Mora  
Associate Director of Academic  
Affairs & Chief Operating Officer

Derek Boyce  
Associate Director of Facilities,  
Business & Community Development

Ryan Putnam  
Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer

## **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In response to a Board motion on May 12, 2022, this report provides Trustees with information pertaining to the name used for St. Joseph Morrow Park Catholic Secondary School.

## **B. PURPOSE**

In response to a Board motion on May 12, 2022, this report provides Trustees with information pertaining to the name used for St. Joseph Morrow Park Catholic Secondary School.

## **C. BACKGROUND**

1. TCDSB staff were contacted by the delegate regarding concerns with the name of the school as it appeared on the school's signage.
2. Staff engaged several stakeholders to understand the nature of the concern and history of the school's name.
3. Staff discovered that the school had the apostrophe 's' at the Tyndale site

## **D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS**

The delegation to Committee – Corporate Services by the alumni executive of St. Joseph Morrow Park on May 12, 2022, sought to draw to the committee's attention an urgent need to restore the name to St. Joseph's Morrow Park to its new location. They stated that when the school re-opened at the new site in September 2021, the apostrophe 's' after the name St. Joseph had been omitted from the signage. They believed that the apostrophe 's' had been inadvertently dropped from the exterior signage of the building. They shared that the Catholic School Parent Council of St. Joseph Morrow Park voted unanimously to restore the name to St. Joseph's Morrow Park at their last meeting on Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Thereafter, staff undertook an investigation and consulted with some alumni of the school, a reverend sister of the order, the archivist, and the Archdiocese of Toronto.

The investigation revealed that the use of an apostrophe 's' does not change

the name of the school but denotes possession. An excerpt of the response from the Archdiocese of Toronto in reference to this matter is as stated below:

“For schools, however, I usually see them named not in the possessive tense... usually it is something like St. Thomas More School not St. Thomas More's School. Or Philip Pocock High School, not Philip Pocock's High School. Schools seem to be named in honor of a saint or person, but there does not seem to be the same notion of naming it for a patron who is looking after it. To that end, schools are sometimes named after living people, so there does not seem to be the same understanding as having a heavenly patron as in the case of a parish ...”

“In the case of a parish, it was noted that the protocol should include the possessive tense as the saint is assigned to the parish as its patron to look after it, and hence, St. Patrick's Parish would make more sense than “St. Patrick Parish”. This does not apply in the same way for schools.”

Based on the information gathered by staff, some of the changes that will have to occur if the apostrophe ‘s’ is reinstated would be the exterior signage, interior signage where necessary, the school's website, uniforms, etc. The cost of changing the exterior signage only (pylon sign and exterior wall sign) will be about \$12,000.00. It is important to note that most of these changes would have to be done over time.

## **E. CONCLUDING STATEMENT**

That the Board of Trustees provide direction as to the name of the school moving forward, based on information provided in this report.