



REPORT TO

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

ARCHBISHOP ROMERO CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL NAME CHANGE

Happy are those who observe justice,
who do righteousness at all times. Psalm 106:3

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
September 8, 2015	September 21, 2015	October 8, 2015
Doug Yack, Superintendent of Education, Area 2 Schools		

INFORMATION REPORT

Vision:

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

Mission:

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



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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Oscar Romero y Galdamez (August 15, 1917 – March 24, 1980) was a prominent Roman Catholic priest in El Salvador during the 1960s and 1970s becoming Archbishop of San Salvador in 1977. After witnessing numerous violations of human rights, he began to speak out on behalf of the people and the victims of repression. Romero spent the first two and a half decades of his ministerial career as a parish priest and diocesan secretary in San Miguel. In 1970 he became auxiliary bishop of San Salvador and served in that position until 1974 when the Vatican named him to the diocese of Santiago de Maria, a poor rural region which included his boyhood hometown. In 1977 he returned to the capital to succeed San Salvador's aging archbishop. Romero's rise to prominence in the Catholic hierarchy coincided with a period of dramatic change in the Church in Latin America. Romero became an outspoken opponent of injustice and defender of the continent's poor. On March 24, 1980, an assassin fired from the door of the chapel of the Hospital of Divine Providence, where Romero was celebrating mass and shot him dead.

The TCDSB Archbishop Romero Catholic Secondary School will hold a Beatification celebration for their school's namesake during the 2015-16 school year.

B. PURPOSE

1. In 1997, Pope John Paul II bestowed upon Romero the title of Servant of God, and a cause for beatification and canonization was opened for him. He was declared a martyr by Pope Francis on February 3, 2015 paving the way for his beatification which took place on May 23, 2015, thirty-five years after his assassination.
2. This name change is in accordance with Board policy School Names (S.07). Specifically, "where the title of the individual for whom the school has been named is changed by the Catholic Church, the local superintendent shall consult with the school CSAC (CSPC) shall draft a report to the Board recommending renaming the school to incorporate the new title."

C. BACKGROUND

1. The beatification of Archbishop Romero took place on May 23, 2015. It is consistent with Board policy and past practice to rename the school.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

1. In light of the beatification of Archbishop Romero, and in accordance with Board policy, the name of the school should be changed to: **Blessed Archbishop Romero Catholic Secondary School.**
2. School signage and printed material, including school letterheads will need to be updated to reflect the name change.

E. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Board approve the renaming of Archbishop Romero Catholic Secondary School to **Blessed Archbishop Romero Catholic Secondary School.**