**REPORT TO**



**CORPORATE AFFAIRS, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

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| school accommodation review – Senhor Santo Cristo/St. Luke Trustee Ward 9 |
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| “Do two walk together, unless they have agreed to meet?”, Amos 3:3 |

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| **Created, Draft** | **First Tabling** | **Review** |
| November 19, 2015 | December 8, 2015 | Click here to enter a date. |
| John Volek, Sr. Coordinator, Planning Assessment, Admissions and Accountability  Mario Silva, Comptroller of Planning and Development Services | | |
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| Recommendation REPORT | | |

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| **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.* |  | G. Poole  Associate Director of Academic Affairs  A. Sangiorgio  Associate Director of Planning and Facilities  Angela Gauthier  Director of Education |

1. Executive Summary

At its Corporate Affairs, Strategic Planning and Property committee meeting held on January 22, 2015, the Board of Trustees approved the initiation of a school accommodation review for St. Luke and Senhor Santo Cristo, in accordance with Board Policy *S.09 School Accommodation Review* (*Appendix‘A’)*.The Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) has submitted its report to the Director of Education and has presented its recommendations to the Board in accordance with the Policy *(Appendix ‘B’)*.

This report supports the ARC’s recommendation and recommends that the closure and consolidation of Senhor Santo Cristo at St. Luke, as detailed in *Appendix ‘C’*, be considered for approval at the Corporate Affairs, Strategic Planning and Property Committee meeting in January 21, 2016.

It is further recommended for consideration in January 2016, that the closure of Senhor Santo Cristo be effective for June 30, 2016 and that the consolidation of the students at St. Luke be implemented for the start of school in September 2016.

It is also recommended that opportunity for public input with respect to the recommendations contained herein, as well as the ARC’s report, be provided at the scheduled meeting of the Corporate Affairs, Strategic Planning and Property Committee on December 14, 2015.

1. purpose

The purpose of this report is to recommend a school accommodation option that considers the ARC’s recommendation submitted to the Director to address the declining enrolment and underutilized facilities at Senhor Santo Cristo and St. Luke elementary schools.

1. BACKGROUND
2. The initiation of a school accommodation review for St. Luke and Senhor Santo Cristo elementary schools was approved by the Board on January 22, 2015.
3. The accommodation review, undertaken in accordance with Policy (S.09), spanned approximately eight months, with public meetings held on February 26, 2015, March 24, 2015, April 14, 2015, June 10, 2015 and September 28, 2015. Members of the ARC also met on several occasions as a group for further discussion.
4. Minutes from the public meetings as well as any public input received by the ARC or the Board are included in *Appendix ‘D’*. All information discussed as part of the school accommodation review process, material provided to the ARC for consideration, and the notes from public meetings has been made available on the Board’s website.
5. The ARC submitted its report to the Director of Education on October 20, 2015 (*Appendix ‘B’*). It was presented to Trustees at the Board meeting of November 19, 2015. Members of the ARC reached a consensus recommendation (Scenario #1 as it appears in *Appendix ‘C’).*
6. EVIDENCE/research/ANALYSIS
7. Over the past decade, the St. Luke and Senhor Santo Cristo school communities have experienced a steady decline in enrolment (refer to table below). Demographic trends a higher demand in the area for high density development consisting of smaller (bachelor and one-bedroom) unit sizes. Combined with fewer forecasted residential developments in the area, enrolment is projected to decline in the future. These two schools were identified for an accommodation review in an effort to more efficiently utilize excess capacity.

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|  |  |  | **October Pupil Count by Year** | | | |
|  | OTG Capacity |  | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 |
| St. Luke | 571 | Enrolment | 306 | 272 | 257 | 237 |
| Util. Rate | 54% | 48% | 45% | 42% |
| Senhor Santo Cristo | 507 | Enrolment | 98 | 98 | 97 | 100 |
| Util. Rate | 19% | 19% | 19% | 20% |

1. To assist the ARC with its discussion on school accommodation solutions, Planning staff submitted options for consideration as part of the review process. Scenario #1 demonstrates the impact on enrolment following the closure and consolidation of Senhor Santo Cristo at St. Luke. Scenario #2 demonstrates the impact on enrolment following closure and consolidation of St. Luke at Senhor Santo Cristo.
2. The ARC has recommended Scenario #1 for consideration by the Board as an accommodation solution for this group of schools. St. Luke is in good condition (22% FCI) and is large enough that it can accommodate the combined enrolment of both schools without the need for any modifications. The existing tenant and program uses in Senhor Santo Cristo, namely SALEP, STEP and Niagara University, can also be accommodated in the St. Luke facility. Several considerations have been identified by the ARC for the newly combined facility including a review of transportation services, pick up and drop off areas, and the inclusion of additional programming such as early childhood accommodations. It is the opinion of the ARC that St. Luke, the larger site of the two schools, presents the best opportunity to receive Ministry funding through the School Board Efficiencies and Modernization (SBEM) initiative for a replacement facility of an appropriate size to accommodate the combined enrolment of Senhor Santo Cristo and St. Luke. A smaller replacement building would provide much needed play space for the school and the surrounding community.
3. After consideration of all comments and input received from members of the ARC, individuals from the school communities, and the local parish during the public consultation process, and after a full review of the ARC recommendations contained in its report, Board staff support the ARC recommendation that the most effective accommodation solution for this group of schools is Scenario #1 (*Appendix ‘C’),* closure of Senhor Santo Cristo and consolidation of both schools at St. Luke.
4. In summary, the recommendation to close Senhor Santo Cristo and consolidate the students into one facility at St. Luke will have the following impacts on the overall operation of the Board:
   * Overall Board capacity will be reduced by over 500 pupil places thereby improving utilization of Board assets.
   * A savings of over $4M in deferred maintenance and approximately $250K in operating costs.
   * Potential uses for a closed facility are community partnerships, disposition or joint development.
   * Class sizes will better reflect Ministry of Education targeted averages.
   * Optimization of class sizes and teaching staff allocations could provide opportunity for additional Special Needs and Itinerant teaching allocations.
5. If Senhor Santo Cristo is approved for closure, further study of the long term need and potential uses for the facility will be evaluated. Options will be prepared for Board consideration in a future report.
6. ACTION PLAN
7. In accordance with the School Accommodation Review Policy (S.09), the following sequence of Committee/Board meetings will be required prior to final approval of recommendations.

**December 8, 2015 – Corporate Affairs, Strategic Planning and Property Committee**

* Director’s Report in response to the ARC report is considered.
* Defer any final decisions on school accommodation recommendations.

**December 14,15,16, 2015 - Corporate Affairs, Strategic Planning and Property Committee**

* Opportunity for public input through delegations and written submissions in response to the Director’s Report and the ARC Report.
* Defer any final decisions on school accommodation recommendations.

**January XX, 2016 – Corporate Affairs, Strategic Planning and Property Committee**

* Further report from Director of Education is considered, which takes into account the results of public input provided at the previous meeting.
* Board to make final decision on school accommodation recommendations.

1. Staff Recommendation
   1. That opportunity for public input regarding this report and the ARC report be provided at the scheduled meeting of the Corporate Affairs, Strategic Planning and Property Committee on December 14, 2015.
   2. That the following recommendations be considered by Corporate Affairs, Strategic Planning and Property Committee at its meeting of January 21, 2016.
      1. That Senhor Santo Cristo be closed effective June 30, 2016 and consolidated at St. Luke, as detailed in Scenario #1 of the options (Appendix ‘C’).
      2. That the consolidation of Senhor Santo Cristo students at St. Luke be implemented for September 2016.
      3. That the attendance boundaries of Senhor Santo Cristo and St. Luke be combined to form the new boundary for St. Luke effective September 2016.