

TO: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

November 11, 2015

FROM: SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW COMMITTEE – HOLY ANGELS, OUR LADY OF SORROWS, ST. LEO, ST. LOUIS, ST. MARK

SUBJECT: REPORT OF THE SOUTH ETOBICOKE “SARC COMMITTEE”

Executive Summary:

This report makes a number of recommendations for the five schools included in the Review Area. Specifically, it recommends:

- a new school at Holy Angels,
- new boundaries and a smaller catchment at Our Lady of Sorrows,
- a new school at St. Leo,
- innovative programming to increase enrolment at St. Louis and
- maintaining or increasing enrolment at St. Mark,
- changes to the admissions policy

Comments:

1. In accordance with Policy S.09 School Accommodation Review Policy, the Board approved the establishment of the South Etobicoke Review Area consisting of Holy Angels CS, Our Lady of Sorrows CS, St. Leo CS, St. Louis CS and St. Mark CS.
2. The committee was established with membership from each school, according to policy S.09. (Appendix A)
3. Five (5) public consultation meetings were held as follows:

	Date & Time	Location
1.	April 21, 2015; 7:00 – 9:00 pm	Holy Angels Parish Hall
2.	May 20, 2015; 7:00 – 9:00 pm	St. Louis CS
3.	June 9, 2015; 7:00 – 9:00 pm	St. Leo CS
4.	September 22, 2015; 7:00 – 9:00 pm	Holy Angels Parish Hall
5.	November 9, 2015; 6:30 – 8:30 pm	St. Leo CS

4. Further to this, the SARC held working sessions for committee members, as follows:

	Date & Time	Location
1.	April 13, 2015; 7:00 – 9:00 pm	St. Leo CS
2.	May 12, 2015; 7:00 – 9:00 pm	St. Louis CS
3.	May 26, 2015; 7:00 – 9:00 pm	St. Leo CS
4.	June 16, 2015; 6:30 – 8:30 pm	St. Leo CS
5.	July 3, 2015; 7:00 – 9:00 pm	St. Leo CS
6.	September 15, 2015; 6:30 – 8:30 pm	Our Lady of Sorrows CS
7.	October 5, 2015; 6:30 – 8:30 pm	St. Louis CS

5. All of the recommendations in this report were agreed upon by consensus of the SARC committee members.
6. This particular SARC was a challenging process because it included five diverse school communities with very different circumstances and interests.
7. Further documentation is provided to the Director of Education in hardcopy (a binder) , including:
- Approved minutes and Agendas of all meetings,
 - Letters received from community stakeholders,
 - Emails regarding the process and recommendations (pro and con),
8. Further details of the rationale for some recommendations, are included in the binder to be submitted to the Director of Education.

Recommendations:

	Objective	Recommendation	Impact	Details
Our Lady of Sorrows				
1a	Ease enrolment pressure at Our Lady of Sorrows	Boundary change	Medium Term	Scenario 9 (a) is the recommended boundary for all schools – Map - (APPENDIX B); Enrolment Projections – (APPENDIX C)
1b				All current students and their siblings to be grandfathered.
1c				Transportation to OLS to continue for families outside of new boundary area.
1d				OLS to be included in any or all future boundary reviews and/or SARCs
1e		Admissions policy change	Short Term	Where the school is oversubscribed, the policy is changed to redirect families that move out of the school's catchment, to their new home school.
1f			Short Term	In order to right-size OLS, the admissions policy would need to allow the school administration to manage the admittance of new students in grades 1 through 8. ELP admissions will be guided by the new boundary.
Holy Angels				
2a	Ease over-crowding at Holy Angels	Build a new school at Holy Angels	Medium Term	Make a new school at Holy Angels/Kerr Candy Factory property a top capital priority. Holy Angels' enrolment is projected to increase under Scenario 9a) and current facility will not be adequate.
2b		Phase building project	Long Term	Retain current students in existing facility while new school is built. A boundary change for OLS will move the over-crowding problem to Holy Angels. Implement boundary change for OLS once new facility is constructed.
2c		Admissions policy change	Short Term	Base policy on postal codes Gradual decrease in enrolment.

St. Leo				
	Objective	Recommendation	Impact	Details
3	Immediately access Ministry and Board funds to build a new school on St. Leo property	<p>It is St. Leo's recommendation that the TCDSB apply for Ministry funds to build a new school on St. Leo property. St. Leo Catholic school meets the following criteria for funding as set out by the Ministry.</p> <p>A) Consolidation St. Leo is in favor of consolidation in order to access ministry funds. (Detail A)</p> <p>B) High FCI and prohibitive costs to repair (Detail B)</p> <p>C) Land share with St. Leo's Parish and Archdiocese (Detail C)</p> <p>D) Community Hub with key</p>	<p>short term: increased enrollment; TCDSB savings of over \$6.4 million in Deferred Maintenance costs</p> <p>long term: increased health and safety; enhanced curriculum for all students attending St. Leo new school</p>	<p>A) It is St. Leo's strong recommendation that, if consolidation is inevitable, St. Louis should be repurposed into a specialty elementary school that would serve the entire South Etobicoke community. We also recommend that postal code be the primary admission criteria in secondary school admission policy to reflect geographic proximity to each school.</p> <p>B) St. Leo's Facilities Condition Index is 47.9. Deferred Maintenance is at \$6,412,467.00 and growing rapidly. Accessing Ministry funds would allow for \$6,412,467.00 to be allocated elsewhere.</p> <p>C) Discussions underway with Father Frank Carpinelli, (of St. Leo's Parish) The Archdiocese and the TCDSB concerning a land share opportunity adjacent to St. Leo School. The land share would expand the square footage of the new school building site, allow for parishioners to use the school gym as a parish hall while supporting the mandate of Catholic education to unite parish, school and family as well as serving the entire community. This is in keeping with the long-term vision for the community as per point C below.</p> <p>D) The opportunity for a Community Hub. Ongoing discussions with key stakeholders (community members, City of Toronto, TCDSB, TDSB, Parks and Recreation, Humber College and Mos Architects) for a Community Hub adjacent to St. Leo's, dovetailing with Councilor Mark Grimes's "20/20 Plan for South Etobicoke" which would offer expanded amenities and curriculum opportunities for St. Leo students ie. kitchen, gymnasium, sports field, a designated space for before/after school care.</p> <p>E) Increased enrolment is inevitable due to the success of our new French Immersion program and the proposed boundary changes. These factors alone will stress St. Leo's capacity. In the event that the board mandates the consolidation of St. Louis into St. Leo, we recommend that this take</p>

		community stakeholders (Detail D) E) Increased Enrolment due to proposed boundary changes, growth of current St. Leo's programming and possible board mandated consolidation (Detail E)		place once the new school is built. Consolidation in conjunction with the French Immersion program and boundary changes would create an over-capacity scenario in an already compromised school facility.
	Objective	Recommendation	Impact	Details
St. Louis				
4a	To build capacity at St. Louis and more efficiently leverage any underutilized space, as the school has a current utilization rate of 60% for the 2015-2016 school year.	Pilot innovative and dynamic alternative programming at the elementary level, allowing the TCDSB to remain competitive with similar program offerings in at the public and private schools within our high demand community.	Long Term	The addition of alternative programming to the core elementary program at St. Louis will retain existing students and attract new students that wish to pursue this type of curriculum. Recommendations include Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) based curriculum with an emphasis on math and engineering, arts based curriculum, congregated Gifted programming, and/or curriculum with a focus on either leadership, Native studies and Native languages or the environment. St. Louis is in excellent condition and is ideally placed in the heart of a growing community. The TCDSB will be able to quickly and efficiently pilot a new program at St. Louis without taking on the risk and capital costs of building a new facility.
4b	Address walkability and proximity in the	Revisit secondary school admission policy for TCDSB	Long Term	Current secondary school admission policy gives TCDSB students attending the feeder schools for a secondary school first priority over those that attend other TCDSB schools as well as those who attend private or TDSB

	secondary school admission policy.	students to prioritize students living in close proximity regardless of which TCDSB school they attend.		schools, regardless of where the student lives. Priority should instead be given to any TCDSB student who meets the secondary school admission criteria and lives within close proximity to the school, regardless of which TCDSB school that student attends. To maintain the school, parish and home connection, students should be encouraged to attend the secondary school that is part of their home and parish community.
4c	To build capacity at St. Louis and ease the enrolment pressure at Surrounding schools within our community.	Pilot innovative and dynamic alternative programming at the elementary level, allowing the TCDSB to remain competitive with similar program offerings in at the public and private schools within our high demand community.	Medium Term	The addition of alternative programming to the core elementary program at St. Louis will retain existing students and attract new students that wish to pursue this type of curriculum. Recommendations include Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) based curriculum with an emphasis on math and engineering, arts based curriculum, congregated Gifted programming, and/or curriculum with a focus on either leadership, Native studies and Native languages or the environment. St. Louis is in excellent condition and is ideally placed in the heart of a growing community. The TCDSB will be able to quickly and efficiently pilot a new program at St. Louis without taking on the risk and capital costs of building a new facility.
4d	Efficient use of any underutilized space at St. Louis.	Increase community use of the school by making underutilized space available to community organizations.	Short Term	Making space available to community organizations to use for programs such as daycare, preschool, seniors and Toronto Parks and Recreation will allow St. Louis to leverage any underutilized space more efficiently in the short term and establish the school as a community hub while generating revenue for TCDSB.
4e	Address the inequity of the	Include the student population that	Short Term	When evaluating the efficient use of space in an undersubscribed school, TCDSB students attending withdrawal programs at the school must be

	current utilization rate metrics to better reflect the true utilization of TCDSB schools.	attends withdrawal programs, such as PAST or Gifted, when calculating the utilization rate of a school. Using the current metrics, with 214 students enrolled in the core elementary program St. Louis sits at 60% utilization. When the 33 PAST students and 52 gifted students enrolled in withdrawal programs at St. Louis are taken into account, the true utilization rate is 83%.		taken into account. Withdrawal programs play an important role in supporting exceptional students, however they should not take up valuable classroom space in oversubscribed schools. St. Louis is both a Gifted withdrawal centre with a dedicated classroom space for grades five through eight as well as a Program to Assist Social Learning (PAST) withdrawal centre with two classrooms dedicated to this program. The current need for PAST programming far outstrips the space available in existing programs. St. Louis has been approached to dedicate a third classroom to a pilot program to assist grade seven and eight students' transition to secondary school. All of the classrooms dedicated to these programs are being used efficiently, especially in a community where two of the local schools are so heavily oversubscribed. When the students that attend withdrawal programs at oversubscribed schools are taken into account, the true picture of the strain still additional population puts on the facilities becomes immediately apparent.
St. Mark				
	Objective	Recommendation	Impact	Details
5	School is underutilized. Increase student enrolment.	Increase student enrolment as a result of new development in the area.	Medium term	Future boundary changes and condo project completion should result in increased enrolment at St. Mark.

Conclusion: This report is for the information of the Director of Education