



REPORT TO

SPECIAL BOARD

## REPORT OF THE GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW POLICY (S.09)

*Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.  
Proverbs 16:3 | NIV*

### Created, Draft

February 16, 2016

### First Tabling

February 24, 2016

### Review

Maria Rizzo, Chair, Governance and Policy Committee

Caitlin Kavanagh, Sr. Manager, Employee Relations &amp; Policy Development

### RECOMMENDATION 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.*



### Members of the Committee:

Maria Rizzo, Chair  
Nancy Crawford, Vice Chair  
Jo-Ann Davis, Trustee Ward 9  
Angela Kennedy, Ex-Officio  
Frank D'Amico, Ex-Officio

## **A. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the Board approve the new Pupil Accommodation Review Policy (S. 09) and accompanying 'Operational Procedures' for consultation with the following amendments:

A. That Regulation 2 of the policy read: "A modified pupil accommodation review process may be approved and initiated by the Board of Trustees only under exceptional circumstances, and in consultation with the local trustee(s), and there are three (3) or more of the following factors present:

- i. Distance to the nearest available accommodation site is 2 kilometres or less for all elementary schools involved in the review and 7 kilometres or less for all secondary schools. The nearest accommodation indicated must be a single-gender school if a single-gender school is under review.
- ii. The utilization rate of all of the schools under review is equal to or below 50% for elementary and secondary schools
- iii. The number of students enrolled is 100 or fewer for all elementary schools involved in the review and 500 or fewer for all secondary schools involved in the review.
- iv. When the Board is planning the relocation of a program (in any school year or over a number of school years), in which the enrolment constitutes more than or equal to fifty percent (50%) of the school's enrolment (this calculation is based on the enrolment at the time of the relocation, or the first phase of a relocation carried over a number of school years);
- v. There are no more than two schools subject to the pupil accommodation review process.
- vi. The entire student population of the schools subject to a pupil accommodation review process can be accommodated in another school within 2 kilometres for elementary schools and within 7 kilometres for secondary schools.)

- B. That the ARC membership for the standard Pupil Accommodation Review Process include the local trustee(s), and that 'a member of the community' be 'such as a municipal councillor or active member of the community.'
- C. That under Regulation (1)(f) of the 'Operational Procedures' for the standard "Pupil Accommodation Review Process", that it be at the discretion of the consensus opinion of ARC members as to whether more Accommodation Review public meetings be held than are prescribed.
- D. That under Regulation 2(d)(i) of the 'Operational Procedures' for the "Modified Pupil Accommodation Review Process", that it be at the discretion of the consensus opinion of local School Superintendent(s) and local trustee(s) as to whether more Accommodation Review public meetings be held than are prescribed.
- E. That notice to the school communities of all of the public meeting described in the Operational Procedures - whether for the standard or modified review process - include a letter to go home with each student 30 business days in advance of the meeting, and notice in the bulletins of all school parishes at least 1 week in advance of the meeting. As well, every effort be made for notice to be given to the community surrounding the schools (e.g. notice sent out to local councillor, MPP, local community groups).
- F. That Regulation 2(f) ("Public Delegations") of the Operational Procedures for the 'modified' process read that, "No fewer than 18 business days after the Interim Staff Report is formally received at a public meeting of the Board of Trustees, members of the public shall be given the opportunity to provide feedback on the Interim Staff Report through public delegations at a meeting of the Board of Trustees. Written notice shall be provided to the school(s) and surrounding community(ies) no less than 14 business days prior to the meeting of the Board of Trustees at which public delegations

can be made. The 'maximum delegation time' will be 120 minutes for those delegating on the Interim Staff Report at this meeting.

2. That the public consultation occur at the level of 'consult' as defined in the Board's Community Engagement policy (T.07). That all acronyms in the policy be spelled out fully.

## **B. ORIGIN**

This Recommendation Report is on the Order Paper of the Special Board as it recommends a policy revision.

The revisions made to the current School Accommodation Review policy are in direct response to the Ministry of Education's release of a new "Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline" on March 26, 2015 which serves as a province-wide minimum standard for school boards to use when developing their own policies for pupil accommodation reviews. For further reference, the release of the new Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and the Community Planning and Partnerships Guideline was explained in a Ministry B-Memo- 2015 B09.

## **C. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Governance and Policy Committee first reviewed the policy at the January 27, 2016 committee meeting. Trustees raised concerns regarding the changes proposed, especially regarding the modified accommodation review process parameters included in the policy. On February 16, 2016, staff reported back with a revised policy for the trustees' review and approval. Trustees still had concerns regarding the parameters for the modified accommodation review process as well as ensuring enough notice was given to the affected schools and communities. The amendments to the policy as recommended by Trustees are highlighted in the attached APPENDIX A.

The policy and operational procedures as amended were passed by a vote of 3 to 1.

## **D. APPENDICES**

1. Appendix A: Revised Pupil Accommodation Review Policy & Operational Procedures (S.09)
2. Appendix B: Report to Governance Committee on School Accommodation Review Policy (S.09)

## **E. MOTIONS**

1. That the Board approve the revised Pupil Accommodation Review Policy (S.09) and accompanying 'Operational Procedures' with the proposed amendments, as contained in Appendix A.
2. That public consultation occur at the level of 'consult' as defined in the Board's Community Engagement Policy (T.07).

APPENDIX A



POLICY SECTION: SCHOOLS

SUB-SECTION:

POLICY NAME: PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW POLICY

POLICY NO: S. 09

<b>Date Approved:</b> January 24, 2007	<b>Date of Next Review:</b> February 2019	<b>Dates of Amendments:</b> September 11, 2014 January 15, 2015 February 24, 2016
<b>Cross References:</b> Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline (PARG), March 2015. Ministry of Education Administrative Review of Accommodation Review Process Ministry of Education Community Planning and Partnerships Guideline (CPPG), March 2015. Community Planning and Partnerships Policy (B.R. 07)		
<b>Appendix: Pupil Accommodation Review Operational Procedures</b>		

**Purpose:**

This policy outlines the process Toronto Catholic District School Board (the Board) will undertake to complete a pupil accommodation review or a modified pupil accommodation review of a school or schools.

On March 26, 2015, the Minister of Education released a new Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline, 2015 (the "PARG"). This Policy and the Operational Procedures are established by the Board in accordance with the PARG, as per ministry requirement.

**Scope and Responsibility:**

The Board is responsible for deciding the most appropriate pupil accommodation arrangements for the delivery of its elementary and secondary programs. These decisions are made by the Board of Trustees in dispensing of its primary responsibility which aligns with the over-arching objectives of fostering student



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academic achievement and well-being, and ensuring effective stewardship of the resources of the Board, including the Board's financial viability and sustainability. These objectives apply to any accommodation review conducted pursuant to this Policy, including those conducted under the modified accommodation review process.

In some cases, to address student populations that are constantly changing, the Board of Trustees must consider undertaking pupil accommodation reviews that could lead to school consolidations and closures. Wherever practical, pupil accommodation reviews will include a school or group of schools to facilitate the development of viable solutions for pupil accommodation that support the objectives noted above. Wherever possible, schools will be subject to a pupil accommodation review only once in a five-year period, unless there are circumstances that warrant a review, as determined by the Board, such as a significant change in enrolment.

**Alignment with MYSP:**

Living Our Catholic values

Strengthening Public Confidence

Fostering Student Achievement and Well-Being

Providing Stewardship of Resources

**Financial Impact:**

It is anticipated that the Board would incur limited costs associated with the implementation of the accommodation review process itself. A pupil accommodation review could potentially provide the Board with the opportunity to realize substantial savings by balancing enrolment and right-sizing schools.



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**Legal Impact:**

The Board could be involved in legal proceedings if the pupil accommodation review process is not implemented in accordance with this Policy. The Ministry Guidelines provide a formal process which must be followed if the implementation of the pupil accommodation review process is challenged.

**Policy:**

A pupil accommodation review of a school or schools will occur in the context of the Board's long-term capital and accommodation planning process, and after the necessary assessment of the options for the school(s) in accordance with that process. This assessment will be made in accordance with Board policy made pursuant to the Community Planning and Partnership Guideline (CPPG) issued by the Ministry of Education.

As a result of some assessments, the Board of Trustees must consider undertaking pupil accommodation reviews that may lead to school consolidations and/or closures. Wherever practical, pupil accommodation reviews will include a school or schools to facilitate the development of viable solutions for pupil accommodation.

The Board welcomes the opportunity for the public and affected school communities to be heard with respect to pupil accommodation reviews. The Board will share relevant information with those affected by the process.

The Board of Trustees will make the final decision regarding any pupil accommodation review.

The Regulations and any Schedules of this Policy may be amended from time to time in accordance with the PARG. In all cases, any minimum timelines set out in the PARG will be followed by the Board.





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A copy of this Policy, together with the PARG and Administrative Review of Accommodation Review Process issued by the Minister of Education are available to the public upon request at the Board office and on the Board's website.

### Principles:

Through the Catholic Social Teachings and its Multi-Year Strategic Plan, the Board is committed to establishing integrated decision making structures and processes to support responsive and responsible allocation of resources, including the provision of equitable, affordable and sustainable learning facilities. The following principles will be used as a foundation to support the mission and vision of the Board while undertaking pupil accommodation reviews.

1. The TCDSB is committed to responsibly providing optimal learning facilities for the common good while, at the same time, making it possible for all to come to their full potential as persons and to be all that God intends them to be.
2. Schools will have meaningful connections with a Roman Catholic parish and structured links to their community.
3. Students of the TCDSB have the right to attend Catholic schools that provide reasonable community access, and the Board has a responsibility to provide schools that optimally enhance student learning opportunities in the 21st century.
4. The Catholic principle of subsidiarity promotes the establishment of groups of parents and stakeholders whose purpose is to actively participate in the school accommodation review process, contributing to decisions that consider the value of schools to the parish and community.



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### Regulations:

#### 1. Pupil Accommodation Review Process

The pupil accommodation review process shall consist of the following components:

- i. Preparation and submission to the Board of Trustees of an Initial Staff Report and School Information Profile(s);
- ii. Approval by the Board of Trustees to undertake a pupil accommodation review process;
- iii. Establishment of the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC), including its Terms of Reference;
- iv. Consultation with the City of Toronto and Community Partners;
- v. Accommodation Review Public Meetings;
- vi. Preparation and submission of an Interim Staff Report to the Board of Trustees, including a Community Consultation section;
- vii. Public Delegations to the Board of Trustees;
- viii. Preparation and submission of a Final Staff Report to the Board of Trustees;
- ix. Decision by the Board of Trustees;
- x. Establishment of a Transition Committee.

#### 2. Modified Pupil Accommodation Review Approval & Initiation

A modified pupil accommodation review process may be approved and initiated by the Board of Trustees **only under exceptional circumstances, and in consultation with the local trustee(s)** where **three (3)** or more of the following factors are present:

- i. Distance to the nearest available accommodation is **2** kilometers or less for elementary schools **involved in the review** and **7** kilometers or less



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for all secondary schools. The nearest accommodation indicated must be a single-gender school if a single-gender school is under review;

- ii. Utilization rate of all of the schools under review is equal to or below 50% for elementary and secondary schools;
- iii. The number of students enrolled is 100 or fewer for elementary schools involved in the review and 500 or fewer for all secondary schools in the review;
- iv. When the Board is planning the relocation of a program (in any school year or over a number of school years), in which the enrolment constitutes more than or equal to fifty percent (50%) of the school's enrolment (this calculation is based on the enrolment at the time of the relocation, or the first phase of a relocation carried over a number of school years);
- v. There are no more than two (2) schools subject to the pupil accommodation review process; or
- vi. The entire student population of the schools subject to a pupil accommodation review process can be accommodated in another within 2 kilometers for elementary schools and within 7 kilometers for secondary schools.

### 3. Modified Pupil Accommodation Review Process

The modified pupil accommodation review process shall consist of the following components.

- i. Preparation and submission of an Initial Staff Report and School Information Profile(s) to the Board of Trustees;
- ii. Approval by the Board of Trustees to undertake a modified pupil accommodation review process;
- iii. Consultation with the City of Toronto and Community Partners;



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- iv. An Accommodation Review Public Meeting;
- v. Preparation and submission of an Interim Staff Report to the Board of Trustees, including a Community Consultation section;
- vi. Public Delegations to the Board of Trustees;
- vii. Preparation and submission of a Final Staff Report to the Board of Trustees;
- viii. Decision by the Board of Trustees;
- ix. Establishment of a Transition Committee.

#### **4. Exemptions**

- a) The Board is not obligated to undertake a pupil accommodation review under any of the following circumstances:
  - i. where a replacement school is to be built by the Board on the existing site, or built or acquired within the existing school attendance boundary, as identified by the Board, including in its relevant policies;
  - ii. where a replacement school is to be built by the Board on the existing site, or built or acquired within the existing school attendance boundary and the school community must be temporarily relocated to ensure the safety of students and staff during the reconstruction, as identified by the Board, including in its relevant policies;
  - iii. when a lease for the school is terminated;
  - iv. when the Board is planning the relocation (in any school year or over a number of school years) of grades or programs, in which the enrolment constitutes less than 50% of the school's enrolment (this calculation is based on the enrolment at the time of the relocation, or the first phase of a relocation carried over a number of school years);
  - v. when the Board is repairing or renovating a school, and the school community must be temporarily relocated to ensure the safety of students during the renovations;



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- vi. where a facility has been serving as a holding school for a school community whose permanent school is over-capacity and/or is under construction or repair; or
  - vii. where there are no students enrolled at the school at any time throughout the school year.
- b) Board staff shall ensure that school communities are informed about proposed accommodation plans for students before a decision is made by the Board of Trustees to consolidate, close or move a school or students in accordance with an exemption to the pupil accommodation review process.
- c) Board staff shall prepare a report to the Board of Trustees setting out the circumstances supporting the exemption to the accommodation review process in respect of the school(s) under consideration for such exemption.
- d) Board staff shall, no fewer than five (5) business days after the Board of Trustees make a decision that such exemption applies, provide written notice to the following:
- the City of Toronto (through the Clerks' Department or equivalent);
  - other community partners that expressed an interest prior to the exemption (as defined above);
  - the coterminous school boards through the Director of Education; and
  - the Ministry of Education through the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Financial Policy and Business Division, unless the Ministry of Education has informed the Board to direct such notice to a different office.
- e) The Board will prepare a transition plan following the Board of Trustees' decision to consolidate, close or move a school or students pursuant to an exemption to the pupil accommodation review process.



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#### **5. Access to Pupil Accommodation Review Documents**

This Policy and Operational Procedures, together with the PARG and Administrative Review of Accommodation Review Process issued by the Minister of Education are available to the public on the Board's website and will be available upon request.

APPENDIX A



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## Definitions

### Accommodation Review

A process undertaken by the Board to determine the future of a school or group of schools, as described in this Policy.

### Accommodation Review Committee (ARC)

An advisory committee established by the Board that represents the affected school(s) of a pupil accommodation review, which acts as the official conduit for information shared between the Board and the affected school communities.

### Accommodation Review Public Meeting

An open meeting held by Board staff to gather broader community feedback on a pupil accommodation review.

### ARC Working Meeting

A meeting of ARC members to discuss a pupil accommodation review, including the gathering of feedback from the affected school communities of a pupil accommodation review.

### Business Day

A calendar day that is not a weekend or statutory holiday. It also does not include days the Board is scheduled to be closed including the Board's Christmas, spring, Easter and summer break. For schools with a year-round calendar, any break that is five (5) calendar days or longer is not a business day.

### Consultation



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The sharing of relevant information as well as providing the opportunity for municipalities and other community partners, the public and affected school communities to be heard.

### **Facility Condition Index (FCI)**

A measure of the condition of a building as determined by the Ministry of Education by calculating the ratio between the five-year renewal needs and the replacement value for each facility.

### **On-the-Ground (OTG) Capacity**

The capacity of the school as determined by the Ministry of Education by loading all instructional spaces within the facility to current Ministry standards for class size requirements and room areas.

### **Public Delegation**

A presentation by an individual or a group of individuals to the Board of Trustees at a meeting of the Board, made in accordance with Board policies and procedures regarding public delegations, which permits the individual or group of individuals to have their concerns heard directly by the Board of Trustees.

### **Initial Staff Report (Report 1)**

A report drafted by Board staff containing option(s) and identifying a preferred option with a recommendation to Trustees with respect to a school(s) that should be subject to a pupil accommodation review process or a modified pupil accommodation review process.

### **Interim Staff Report (Report 2)**

A report drafted by Board staff for consideration by the Board of Trustees with respect to a pupil accommodation review process, or a modified pupil





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accommodation review process, that also incorporates information obtained during community consultations. The Interim Staff Report may, or may not, include the same option(s) as contained in the Initial Staff Report related to a pupil accommodation review process.

### **Final Staff Report (Report 3)**

A report drafted by Board staff which contains recommendation(s) for consideration by the Board of Trustees with respect to a pupil accommodation review process, or a modified pupil accommodation review process, and which also incorporates information obtained during community consultations and from public delegations (and any staff response to such information).

### **School Information Profile (SIP)**

An orientation document with point-in-time data for each of the schools under a pupil accommodation review.

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## PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

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### APPENDIX TO POLICY S.09 PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW

These Operational Procedures incorporate the following Schedules:

Schedule 'A' - School Information Profile

Schedule 'B' - Template Terms of Reference for the Accommodation  
Review Committee

Schedule 'C' - Pupil Accommodation Review Timeline and Checklist  
(Regular)

Schedule 'D' - Pupil Accommodation Review Timeline and Checklist  
(Modified)

These Operational Procedures and related Schedules may be amended from time to time provided such amendments are made in accordance with the Ministry Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines and Board Policy.

### 1. The Pupil Accommodation Review Process

#### a) Initial Staff Report

- i. Board staff shall prepare for the consideration of the Board of Trustees an Initial Staff Report and a School Information Profile (School Information Profile) for each school that may be subject to review. The Initial Staff Report shall identify accommodation issue(s) and will contain:
  - one or more options to address the accommodation issue(s) with supporting rationale;
  - a recommended option if more than one option is presented;
  - proposed timelines for implementation of each option; and
  - information about actions taken by Board staff prior to recommending a pupil accommodation review process and supporting rationale as to any actions taken or not taken.

ii. The option(s) included in the Initial Staff Report shall address the following:

- summary of accommodation issue(s) for the school(s) under review;
- where students would be accommodated;
- if proposed changes to existing facility or facilities are required as a result of the pupil accommodation review;
- identify any program changes as a result of the proposed option;
- how student transportation would be affected if changes take place;
- if new capital investment is required as a result of the pupil accommodation review, how the Board intends to fund this, as well as a proposal on how students would be accommodated if funding does not become available;
- any relevant information obtained from the City of Toronto and other community partners prior to the commencement of the pupil accommodation review, including any confirmed interest in using the underutilized space; and
- a timeline for implementation.

iii. The Initial Staff Report and School Information Profiles will be posted on the Board's website and made available to the public upon request, following the decision to proceed with a pupil accommodation review by the Board of Trustees.

**b) School Information Profile (School Information Profile)**

- i. Board staff shall prepare School Information Profiles as orientation documents to assist the Accommodation Review Committee (Accommodation Review Committee) and the community understand the context surrounding the decision to include the specific school(s) in a pupil accommodation review.
- ii. A template for the School Information Profile, which includes the minimum data requirements and required criteria to be considered, is included as Schedule 'A' to this Policy. Board staff shall complete a School Information Profile, at the same point-in-time, for each of the schools under review.

- iii. The Board may introduce additional items that reflect local circumstances and priorities which may help to further understand the school(s) under review.

**c) Accommodation Review Committee (Accommodation Review Committee)**

- i. Following consideration of the Initial Staff Report and approval to proceed but prior to the first Accommodation Review Public Meeting, the Board shall establish an Accommodation Review Committee that represents the school(s) under review. The Accommodation Review Committee provides feedback to the Board on behalf of the affected school communities and acts as an official conduit for information shared between the Board and the school communities.
- ii. The Accommodation Review Committee shall be comprised of the following members:
  - At least two parent / guardian representatives from each school under review and one alternate parent/guardian, chosen by the school community;
  - School Superintendent from each school under review;
  - Principal or designate from each school under review;
  - One student representative from each secondary school under review and one alternate, selected by the School Principal;
  - Pastor or representative of the parish to which belong each of the schools under review;
  - **The local trustee(s); and**
  - **A member of the community such as a municipal councilor or active member of the community**
- iii. One of the School Superintendents whose school is under review shall be appointed as Chair of the Accommodation Review Committee by the Director of Education.

- iv. Staff from the following areas may be assigned to assist the Accommodation Review Committee in a resource capacity as required.
  - Planning Department
  - Facilities Department
  - Finance Department
  - Toronto Student Transportation Group
  - Other administrative staff as required
- v. The Board shall provide the Accommodation Review Committee with Terms of Reference that describe the following. A template for the Terms of Reference is provided in Schedule 'B'.
  - Mandate of the Accommodation Review Committee;
  - Membership of the Accommodation Review Committee;
  - Role and Responsibilities of the Accommodation Review Committee;
  - Meetings of the Accommodation Review Committee.
- vi. The Board shall invite Accommodation Review Committee members from the school(s) under review to an orientation session that will describe the mandate, roles and responsibilities, and procedures of the Accommodation Review Committee.

**d) Consultation with City of Toronto and Community Partners**

- i. Within five (5) business days of the Board of Trustees' decision to conduct a pupil accommodation review, Board staff shall provide written notice of the decision to the City of Toronto (through the Clerks' Department or equivalent) and other community partners that expressed an interest prior to the pupil accommodation review and shall invite them to a meeting, to be held before the Final Accommodation Review Public Meeting, to discuss and comment on the option(s) in the Initial Staff Report.
- ii. The City of Toronto and other community partners that expressed an interest prior to the pupil accommodation review, must provide their response (if any)

on the recommended option(s) in the Initial Staff Report before the Final Accommodation Review Public Meeting.

- iii. Board staff shall document their efforts to meet with the City of Toronto, as well as the community partners, as described above.
- iv. The Board shall provide advance notice of when the Final Accommodation Review Public Meeting is scheduled to take place.

**e) Notice to Co-terminous School Boards and the Ministry of Education**

- i. Within five (5) business days of the Board of Trustees' decision to conduct a pupil accommodation review, Board staff will provide written notice of the decision to the following:
  - the Directors of Education for the coterminous boards; and
  - the Ministry of Education, Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister of Financial Policy and Business Division, unless the Ministry of Education has informed the Board to direct such notice to a different office.

**f) Accommodation Review Public Meetings**

- i. The Board shall hold two (2) Accommodation Review Public Meetings to gather broader community feedback on the Initial Staff Report. The **Accommodation Review Committee** may, at its discretion, hold additional Accommodation Review Public Meetings. Board staff shall facilitate the Accommodation Review Public Meetings.
- ii. For greater clarity, the Accommodation Review Public Meetings are not meetings of the Board of Trustees. Accommodation Review Committee members may attend Accommodation Review Public Meetings. Accommodation Review Public Meetings shall proceed if Accommodation Review Committee members are not present.

- iii. The Accommodation Review Public Meetings will be announced and advertised publicly by the Board through a range of media. **Notice to the school communities of the public meeting will include a letter to go home with each student 30 business days in advance of the meeting, and notice in the bulletins of all school parishes at least 1 week in advance of the meeting. As well, every effort be made for notice to be given to the community surrounding the schools (e.g. notice sent out to local councilor, MPP, local community groups).**
- iv. The First Accommodation Review Public Meeting shall be held no fewer than thirty (30) business days after the Board of Trustees' decision to conduct a pupil accommodation review.
- v. At a minimum, the First Accommodation Review Public Meeting shall include the following:
  - an overview of the Accommodation Review Committee orientation session;
  - the Initial Staff Report with recommended option(s); and
  - a presentation of the School Information Profiles.
- vi. The Final Accommodation Review Public Meeting shall be held at least forty (40) business days from the date of the First Accommodation Review Public Meeting.

**g) Interim Staff Report**

- i. At the conclusion of the pupil accommodation review process, an Interim Staff Report shall be prepared for the consideration of the Board of Trustees. The Interim Staff Report shall be posted on the Board's website and made available to the public upon request no fewer than ten (10) business days after the Final Accommodation Review Public Meeting.

- ii. The Interim Staff Report shall include all the information provided in the Initial Staff Report as well as the following:
- modifications to proposed and preferred options, including proposed accommodation plans and implementation timelines, previously identified in the Initial Staff Report, if required;
  - Accommodation Review Committee comments and feedback, and any recommendations which the Accommodation Review Committee requests be included;
  - public comments and feedback;
  - information and feedback obtained from the City of Toronto and other community partners; and
  - a summary of the efforts of Board staff to meet with the City of Toronto, as well as other community partners that expressed an interest prior to the pupil accommodation review.
- iii. A minimum of ten (10) business days must be allowed from the posting of the Interim Staff Report to a meeting of the Board of Trustees to receive public delegations.

**h) Public Delegations to the Board of Trustees**

- i. Members of the public shall be given the opportunity to provide feedback on the Interim Staff Report through public delegations at a meeting of the Board of Trustees no fewer than ten (10) business days from the posting of the Interim Staff Report on the Board website. Written notice shall be provided to school(s) and surrounding community(ies) in advance of the meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- ii. A meeting of the Board of Trustees to receive public delegations shall be announced and advertised publicly by the Board through a range of media. Written notice shall be provided to school(s) and surrounding community(ies) in advance of the meeting of the Board of Trustees Delegations shall be



received in accordance with the Board's policy and procedure on public delegations.

**i) Final Staff Report and Decision by the Board of Trustees**

- i. At the conclusion of the pupil accommodation review process, and no fewer than ten (10) business days after public delegations, the Board of Trustees shall consider the Final Staff Report, including information from the public delegations and any staff response to such information. The Final Staff Report shall also be posted on the Board website and made available upon request to the public, in advance of the meeting at which Trustees will make a decision regarding the pupil accommodation review.
- ii. The Board of Trustees has the discretion to approve the recommendation(s) of the Final Staff Report as presented, modify the recommendation(s) of the Final Staff Report, or to approve a different outcome.
- iii. The Board of Trustees will make a decision regarding the pupil accommodation review.

**j) Transition Planning**

- i. The transition of students shall be carried out in consultation with parents/guardians and staff. Following the decision to consolidate and/or close a school, the Board shall establish a separate committee that will work in consultation with parents/guardians and staff to address the transition for students and staff.
- ii. A Terms of Reference will be established for the Transition Planning Committee.

**2. Modified Pupil Accommodation Review Process**

The Board of Trustees may, under exceptional circumstances, undertake a modified pupil accommodation review process for the identified school(s).

**a) Initial Staff Reports and School Information Profiles**

- i. An Initial Staff Report shall be prepared for the consideration of the Board of Trustees. In addition to the components of the Initial Staff Report identified above, the Initial Staff Report will identify those factors on which a recommendation to proceed with the modified accommodation review process is based, and provide supporting rationale.
- ii. Using the School Information Profile template (Schedule 'A'), Board staff shall also prepare School Information Profiles for each of the schools that may be subject to the modified pupil accommodation review process.
- iii. The decision to proceed with a modified pupil accommodation review process will be at the sole discretion of the Board of Trustees.

**b) Accommodation Review Committee (Accommodation Review Committee)**

The formation of an Accommodation Review Committee is not required under the modified pupil accommodation review process.

**c) Notice and Consultation Requirements**

- i. Following the decision of the Board of Trustees to proceed with a modified pupil accommodation review, the Initial Staff Report and School Information Profiles shall be posted on the Board's website and shall be made available to the public upon request.
- ii. Within five (5) business days of the decision of the Board of Trustees, Board staff shall provide to the City of Toronto (through the Clerk's Department or equivalent) and other community partners that expressed an interest prior to the modified pupil accommodation review, written notice of the decision and a meeting invitation to discuss and comment on the recommended option(s) in the Initial Staff Report.

- iii. Within five (5) business days of the decision of the Board of Trustees, Board staff shall also provide written notice of the decision to:
- the Directors of Education for the coterminous boards; and
  - the Ministry of Education through the office of the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Financial Policy and Business Division, unless the Ministry of Education has informed the Board to direct such notice to a different office.
- iv. The City of Toronto and other community partners who were provided with notice must provide their responses (if any) on the recommended option(s) in the Initial Staff Report before the Accommodation Review Public Meeting (or, if more than one Accommodation Review Public Meeting is convened, prior to the Final Accommodation Review Public Meeting).

**d) Accommodation Review Public Meetings**

- i. Board staff shall convene and facilitate an Accommodation Review Public Meeting no fewer than thirty (30) business days from the date on which the Board of Trustees decide to hold a modified pupil accommodation review. **The local school superintendent(s) and local trustee(s), at their discretion, may convene more than one Accommodation Review Public Meeting.**
- ii. For greater clarity, the Accommodation Review Public Meeting is not a meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- iii. An Accommodation Review Public Meeting shall be announced and advertised through a range of media, including a minimum thirty (30) business days advance notification to school communities. **Notice to the school communities of the public meeting will include a letter to go home with each student 30 business days in advance of the meeting, and notice in the bulletins of all school parishes at least 1 week in advance of the meeting. As well, every effort be made for notice to be given to the community**

surrounding the schools (e.g. notice sent out to local councilor, MPP, local community groups).

- iv. Board staff shall record feedback from the community at the Accommodation Review Public Meeting.

#### e) Interim Staff Report

- i. After the Accommodation Review Public Meeting, or if more than one Accommodation Review Public Meeting is held, after the Final Accommodation Review Public Meeting, an Interim Staff Report shall be prepared for the consideration of the Board of Trustees, and posted on the Board's website and made available to the public upon request, no fewer than ten (10) business days after the Final Accommodation Review Public Meeting.
- ii. The Interim Staff Report shall include all information provided in the Initial Staff Report, as well as the following:
  - modifications to the proposed and preferred options, including the proposed accommodation plans and implementation timelines in the Initial Staff Report, if required;
  - feedback from any public consultations; and
  - any relevant information obtained from the City of Toronto and other community partners prior to and during the modified pupil accommodation review.

#### f) Public Delegations

- i. No fewer than **eighteen (18)** business days after the Interim Staff Report is **formally received at a public meeting of the Board of Trustees**, members of the public shall be given the opportunity to provide feedback on the Interim Staff Report through public delegations at a meeting of the Board of Trustees. **Written notice shall be provided to the school(s) and surrounding**

**community(ies) no less than 14 business days prior to the meeting of the Board of Trustees at which public delegations can be made. The 'maximum delegation time' will be 120 minutes for those delegating on the Interim Staff Report at this meeting.**

- ii. A meeting of the Board of Trustees to receive public delegations will be announced and advertised publicly by the Board through a range of media. Written notice shall be provide to school(s) and surrounding community(ies) in advance of the meeting of the Board of Trustees. Delegations will be received in accordance with the Board's policy and procedure on public delegations. Board staff shall compile feedback from the public delegations.

**g) Final Staff Report and Decision by Board of Trustees**

- i. No fewer than ten (10) business days from the public delegations, the Board of Trustees shall consider the Final Staff Report, which will include feedback received from the public delegations and any staff response to the feedback received. The Final Staff Report shall also be posted on the Board website and made available to the public upon request, in advance of the meeting at which Trustees will make a decision regarding the pupil accommodation review.
- ii. The final decision regarding the modified pupil accommodation review shall be made by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees has the discretion to approve the recommendations in the Final Staff Report as presented, modify the recommendations, or approve a different outcome.
- iii. A Transition Planning Committee along with a Terms of Reference for the Committee shall be established following the Board of Trustees' decision to consolidate and/or close a school.

## **SCHEDULE 'A'**

### **School Information Profile**

1. The School Information Profile (SIP) is an orientation document prepared by Board staff that contains point-in-time data for each school that is under a pupil accommodation review. The School Information Profile must be prepared prior to the start of a pupil accommodation review.
2. The purpose of the School Information Profile is to help the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) and members of the public understand the context surrounding the decision to include the school in an accommodation review process and to allow easier comparison between each school in an accommodation review process.
3. An Accommodation Review Committee is a committee established by the Board that represents the affected school(s) of a pupil accommodation review and that acts as the official conduit for information shared between the Board and the affected school communities. The Accommodation Review Committee may request clarification about the information provided in the School Information Profile, however it is not the role of the Accommodation Review Committee to approve the School Information Profile.
4. Each School Information Profile includes consideration of a detailed list of factors as well as the value of the school to the students and the value of the school to the Board.
5. The School Information Profile is established pursuant to and in compliance with the *Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline* (Ministry of Education, 2015) and Board Policy S.09.
6. The School Information Profile is to include the factors identified below for consideration during the accommodation review process. This list represents the minimum information/data requirements; the Board may introduce additional factors that reflect local circumstances and priorities which may help to further understand the school(s) under review.

## Facility Profile

- a) School Name and Address
- b) Site plan and floor plan(s) of the school with the date of school construction and any subsequent additions; or space template which is a Ministry of Education template used by the Board to determine the number and type of instructional areas to be included within a new school, and the size of the required operational and circulation areas within that school.
- c) School attendance area (boundary) map.
- d) Context map (or air photo) of the school indicating the existing land uses surrounding the school.
- e) Planning map of the school with zoning, Official Plan or secondary plan land use designations.
- f) Size of the school site (acres or hectares).
- g) Building area (square feet or square metres).
- h) Number of portable classrooms.
- i) Number and type of instructional rooms as well as specialized classroom teaching spaces (e.g. science lab, tech shop, gymnasium, etc.).
- j) Area of hard surfaced outdoor play area and/or green space, the number of play fields, and the presence of outdoor facilities (e.g. tracks, courts for basketball, tennis, etc.).
- k) Ten-year history of major facility improvements (item and cost).
- l) Projected five-year facility renewal needs of school (item and cost).
- m) Current Facility Condition Index (FCI) with a definition of what the index represents. FCI is the building condition as determined by the Ministry of Education by calculating the ratio between the five-year renewal needs and the replacement value for each facility.
- n) A measure of proximity of the students to their existing school, and the average distance to the school for students.
- o) Percentage of students that are and are not eligible for transportation under the Board policy, and the length of bus ride to the school (longest, shortest, and average length of bus ride times).
- p) School utility costs (totals, per square foot, and per student).
- q) Number of parking spaces on site at the school, an assessment of the adequacy of parking, and bus/car access and egress.

- r) Measures that the Board has identified and/or addressed for accessibility of the school for students, staff, and the public with disabilities (i.e. barrier-free).
- s) On-the-ground (OTG) capacity, and surplus/shortage of pupil places. OTG capacity is the capacity of the school as determined by the Ministry of Education by loading all instructional spaces within the facility to current Ministry standards for class size requirements and room areas.

### **Instructional Profile**

- a) Describe the number and type of teaching staff, non-teaching staff, support staff, itinerant staff, and administrative staff at the school.
- b) Describe the course and program offerings at the school.
- c) Describe the specialized service offerings at the school (e.g. cooperative placements, guidance counseling, etc.).
- d) Current grade configuration of the school (e.g. junior kindergarten to Grade 6, junior kindergarten to Grade 12, etc.).
- e) Current grade organization of the school (e.g. number of combined grades, etc.).
- f) Number of out-of-area students.
- g) Utilization factor/classroom usage.
- h) Summary of previous five years enrolment and 10-year enrolment projection by grade and program.
- i) Current extracurricular activities.

### **Other School Use Profile**

- a) Current non-school programs or services resident at or co-located with the school as well as any revenue from these non-school programs or services and whether or not it is at full cost recovery.
- b) Current facility partnerships as well as any revenue from the facility partnerships and whether or not it is at full cost recovery.
- c) Community use of the school as well as any revenue from the community use of the school and whether or not it is at full cost recovery.
- d) Availability of before and after school programs or services (e.g. child care) as well as any revenue from the before and after school programs and whether or not it is at full cost recovery.



- e) Lease terms at the school as well as any revenue from the lease and whether or not it is at full cost recovery.
- f) Description of the school's suitability for facility partnerships.

APPENDIX A

## **SCHEDULE 'B'**

### **Template Terms of Reference of the Accommodation Review Committee**

#### **Background**

The Board is responsible for fostering student achievement and well-being and ensuring effective stewardship of the Board's resources. In this regard, the Board is responsible for deciding the most appropriate pupil accommodation arrangements for the delivery of elementary and secondary programs. The Board may from time to time be required to consider school consolidations and school closures by undertaking an accommodation review process that is consistent with the Board's Pupil Accommodation Review Policy. These are the terms of reference applicable to the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) established for the [identify accommodation review].

#### **1. Mandate**

- a) The Accommodation Review Committee is an advisory committee established by the Board that represents the school(s) affected by a pupil accommodation review and which acts as the official conduit for information shared between the Board and the affected school communities.
- b) The Accommodation Review Committee provides feedback with respect to staff report(s) and the options set out therein and may also present alternative accommodation option(s), including rationale for the option(s), recognizing the principles outlined in the Background section above. The overall goal of the Accommodation Review Committee is to provide the local perspective of stakeholders impacted by the decision of the Board of Trustees, and to provide constructive feedback on behalf of the community to the Director of Education regarding the Initial Staff Report, School Information Profile (SIP), options, and preferred option.
- c) The final decision regarding the future of a school or a group of schools rests solely with the Board of Trustees.
- d) This Accommodation Review Committee is formed with respect to the following school(s):

**[Insert List of Schools]**

## **2. Membership of the Accommodation Review Committee**

- a) The Accommodation Review Committee shall be comprised of the following members.
  - i. At least one parent / guardian representative from each school under review and one alternate parent/guardian, chosen by the school community;
  - ii. School Superintendent from each school under review;
  - iii. Principal or designate from each school under review;
  - iv. One student representative from each secondary school under review and one alternate, selected by the School Principal;
  - v. Pastor or representative of the parish to which belong each of the schools under review;
  - vi. **The local trustee(s); and**
  - vii. **A member of the community such as a municipal councilor or active member of the community.**
- b) Staff from the following areas may be assigned to assist the Accommodation Review Committee in a resource capacity, as required.
  - i. Planning Department
  - ii. Facilities Department
  - iii. Finance Department
  - iv. Toronto Student Transportation Group
  - v. Other administrative staff as required

## **3. Roles and Responsibilities of the Accommodation Review Committee**

- a) A School Superintendent whose school is under review shall be appointed as Chair of the Accommodation Review Committee by the Director of Education. The Chair will facilitate the accommodation review process and ensure it is consistent with the Board's Policy. The Chair may also serve as secretary to the Accommodation Review Committee, or delegate this role to another member of the Committee.

- b) Members of the Accommodation Review Committee shall attend an orientation session where members will learn about the mandate, roles, responsibilities and procedures of the Accommodation Review Committee.
- c) Members of the Accommodation Review Committee shall attend working meetings of the Accommodation Review Committee and participate in the process.
- d) The Accommodation Review Committee shall be provided with copies of the Initial Staff Report and the School Information Profiles for each school under review.
- e) The Accommodation Review Committee shall review the School Information Profile for each school under review. The Accommodation Review Committee may request clarification with respect to information provided in the School Information Profile, however it is not the role of the Accommodation Review Committee to approve the School Information Profile. A School Information Profile is an orientation document with point-in-time data for each of the schools under a pupil accommodation review. The School Information Profile is intended to help the Accommodation Review Committee and the school community understand the context surrounding the decision to include the specific school(s) in a pupil accommodation review. The School Information Profile provides an understanding of, and familiarity with the facilities under review.
- f) The Accommodation Review Committee shall review the information provided and accommodation options proposed in the Initial Staff Report and shall seek clarification, ask questions and provide feedback as necessary. The Initial Staff Report is drafted by Board staff and identifies accommodation issues, sets out one or more options to address accommodation issues, identifies a recommended option if more than one is proposed, and includes proposed timelines for implementation.

- i. The Accommodation Review Committee shall provide feedback with respect to the options in the Initial Staff Report prior to the first Accommodation Review Public Meeting.
  - ii. The Accommodation Review Committee may provide alternative option(s) to those set out in the Initial Staff Report. The Accommodation Review Committee must provide supporting rationale for the alternative option(s).
- g) Accommodation Review Committee members are not required to reach consensus with respect to the comments and feedback that will be provided to the Board of Trustees.

#### **4. Roles and Responsibilities of Staff Resources to the Accommodation Review Committee**

- a) Board staff from various areas of responsibility shall assist, as required, with answering questions, providing clarification and shall document and compile feedback for inclusion in staff reports.
- b) The comments, feedback, and any alternative option(s) shall be collected and compiled by Board staff in the form of meeting notes. This information shall be included in the Community Consultation Section of the Final Staff Report presented to the Board of Trustees.

#### **5. Meetings of the Accommodation Review Committee**

- a) The Accommodation Review Committee shall hold at least three (3) working meetings (not including the orientation meeting) to discuss the pupil accommodation review. The Accommodation Review Committee may choose to hold additional working meetings as deemed necessary within the timelines established by the Pupil Accommodation Review Policy, at the discretion of the Accommodation Review Committee Chair.

- b) At the working meetings, the Accommodation Review Committee shall review the materials presented to it by Board staff, may solicit input from the affected school communities, and shall provide feedback to Board staff.
- c) Working meetings of the Accommodation Review Committee shall be open to the public, however, the public may not participate in such meetings, unless specifically requested by the Accommodation Review Committee to provide input.
- d) Working meetings of the Accommodation Review Committee shall be deemed to be properly constituted even if all members are not in attendance. Quorum is not required for a working meeting of the Accommodation Review Committee.
- e) The Accommodation Review Committee shall be deemed to be properly constituted even if one or more members resign or do not attend working meetings of the Accommodation Review Committee.
- f) Meeting notes of Accommodation Review Committee working meetings shall be prepared.
- g) Accommodation Review Committee members may attend the Accommodation Review Public Meetings held by Board staff.
- h) Dates of Accommodation Review Committee working meetings shall be established by the Chair in consultation with the Accommodation Review Committee.

**[Insert Public Meeting Dates]**

## SCHEDULE 'C'

### Pupil Accommodation Review Timeline and Checklist

Note that the timeline is measured in business days from the date of the Trustees' decision to start the process of a Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR).

Item	Additional Information	Timeline <sup>1</sup>	Status
Initial Staff Report and School Information Profiles considered by Trustees.	Pupil Accommodation Review approved.	0	
Initial Staff Report and School Information Profiles to be posted on the Board's website and made available upon request.			
Written notice to City of Toronto through Clerk's Department (or equivalent) and to community partners who expressed an interest prior to the Pupil Accommodation Review.	Include meeting invitation to discuss and comment on options in Initial Staff Report.	Within 5 business days of Pupil Accommodation Review approval.	
Written notice to Director of Education of co-terminous school boards.		Within 5 business days of Pupil Accommodation Review approval.	
Written notice to Ministry of Education.	Send to the office of the Assistant Deputy	Within 5 business days of Pupil	

Time is measured in business days from the date the Pupil Accommodation Review is approved. "Business day" is defined as a calendar day that is not a weekend or statutory holiday. It also does not include calendar days that fall within school boards' Christmas, spring, and summer break. For schools with a year-round calendar, any break that is five calendar days or longer is not a business day.

	Minister of Financial Policy and Business Decisions.	Accommodation Review approval.	
Establish the Accommodation Review Committee (Accommodation Review Committee).	The Accommodation Review Committee should be formed in time to permit the Accommodation Review Committee orientation session to occur well in advance of the First Accommodation Review Public Meeting.	Within 5 business days of the Pupil Accommodation Review being approved.	
Arrange meeting with City of Toronto and with community partner(s).	Document attempts to meet.	First Accommodation Review Public Meeting.	
Announce and advertise First Accommodation Review Public Meeting through range of media.		<b>30 days before the meeting</b>	
First Accommodation Review Public Meeting.		At least 30 business days after Pupil Accommodation Review approval and after minimum 30 business days written notification to school and surrounding community.	



Provide notice to City of Toronto and community partners of Final Accommodation Review Public Meeting.			
Receive response from City of Toronto and community partners.		Prior to Final Accommodation Review Public Meeting.	
Final Accommodation Review Public Meeting.		At least 40 business days after First Public Meeting.	
Interim Staff Report considered by Trustees	Must be accessible to the public on Board website and available upon request.	At least 10 business days after Final Accommodation Review Public Meeting.	
Provide notice of date of public delegations.		After Interim Staff Report is available to the public, and at least 10 business days before the public delegations.	
Public delegations to Trustees.			
Compile feedback from public delegations and include in Final Staff Report			
Trustees to consider Final Staff Report including input from	Not to occur in the summer.	At least 10 business days after public delegations.	

public delegations and make final decision.			
Establish committee to address transition planning.			

APPENDIX A

## SCHEDULE 'D'

### Modified Pupil Accommodation Review Timeline and Checklist

Note that the timeline is measured in business days from the date of the Trustees' decision to start the process of a Modified Pupil Accommodation Review (MPAR).

Item	Additional Information	Timeline <sup>2</sup>	Status
Initial Staff Report and School Information Profiles considered by Trustees.	MPAR approved.	0	
Initial Staff Report and School Information Profiles to be posted on the Board's website and made available upon request.			
Written notice to City of Toronto through Clerk's Department (or equivalent) and to community partners who expressed an interest prior to the MPAR.	Include invitation to meeting to discuss and comment on options in Initial Staff Report.	Within 5 business days of MPAR approval.	
Written notice to Director of Education of co-terminous school boards.		Within 5 business days of MPAR approval.	
Written notice to Ministry of Education.	Send to the office of the Assistant Deputy Minister of Financial	Within 5 business days of MPAR approval.	

Time is measured in business days from the date the Pupil Accommodation Review is approved. "Business day" is defined as a calendar day that is not a weekend or statutory holiday. It also does not include calendar days that fall within school boards' Christmas, spring, and summer break. For schools with a year-round calendar, any break that is five calendar days or longer is not a business day.

	Policy and Business Decisions.		
Announce and advertise Accommodation Review Public Meeting through range of media.			
Arrange meeting with City of Toronto and with community partner(s).	Document attempts to meet.	Prior to Public Meeting.	
Receive response from City of Toronto and community partner(s), if any.		Prior to Public Meeting.	
Accommodation Review Public Meeting.		At least 30 business days after MPAR approval and after minimum 30 business days written notification to school and surrounding community.	
Interim Staff Report considered by Trustees.	Must be accessible to the public on Board website and available upon request.	At least 10 business days after the Accommodation Review Public Meeting (or final Accommodation Review Public Meeting if more than one is held).	
Provide notice of date of public delegations, including written notice		After Interim Staff Report has been made available to	

to school(s) and surrounding community.		the public, and at least <b>18</b> business days before the public delegations.	
Public delegations to Trustees			
Compile feedback from public delegations			
Trustees to consider Final Staff Report including input from public delegations and make final decision.	Not to occur in the summer.	At least 10 business days after the public delegations.	
Establish committee to address transition planning.			



REPORT TO

## GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

### REVISIONS TO SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW POLICY (S.09)

*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*

*Jeremiah 29:11 | NIV*

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
February 3, 2016	February 16, 2016	<a href="#">Click here to enter a date.</a>
J. Ruscitti, Senior Manager, Planning Services C. Kavanagh, Senior Manager, Employee Relations and Policy Development P. Matthews, General Legal Counsel, Corporate Services M. J. Silva, Comptroller Planning and Development Services		

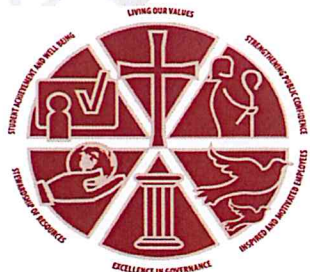
### RECOMMENDATION REPORT

#### 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.*



G. Poole

Associate Director of Academic Affairs

A. Sangiorgio

Associate Director of Planning and Facilities

Angela Gauthier

Director of Education

## **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The proposed School Accommodation Review Policy (S.09) has been revised in accordance with the Governance and Policy Committee's direction at its meeting held on January 27, 2016.

## **B. PURPOSE**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide for the consideration of the Governance and Policy Committee, a revised draft of the School Accommodation Review Policy (S.09) which reflects the changes requested by the Committee at its meeting of January 27, 2016.
2. Arising from discussion at its meeting of January 27, 2016, Governance and Policy Committee also requested confirmation that school boards' pupil accommodation review and facility partnerships policies must conform to the Ministry's Guidelines (issued March 2015) before boards can announce any new pupil accommodation reviews.
3. In addition, Governance and Policy Committee requested further discussion on the modified accommodation review process and whether it can be excluded entirely from the Policy.

## **C. COMMENT**

1. At its meeting held on January 27, 2016, the Governance and Policy Committee considered the report *School Accommodation Review Policy (S.09)* and approved the following.

“...that staff come back to the next Governance and Policy Committee with an amended proposed policy based on the following feedback provided by Trustees who have expressed concern around the broadness of the definition of modified process:

1. Under the ARC Process 1(c)(ii) the membership of the ARC to include at least 2 parent representatives and one community representative.

2. Under ARC Process 1(f)(iv) add the words “and notice has been provided to the school community” at the end of the sentence.
  3. Under ARC Process 1(g)(ii), second bullet point, add the words “any recommendations which the Committee by consensus asked to be included”.
  4. Under ARC Process 1(h)(i) and (ii), add the words “including written notice to school and the surrounding communities” after the first sentence.”
2. A side-by-side comparison of the policy proposed by staff with the revised proposal incorporating changes requested by Governance and Policy Committee is presented in *Appendix ‘A’*. A standalone document of the policy reflecting the Committee’s changes is provided in *Appendix ‘B’*.
  3. Trustees are referred to the previous report considered at the January 27, 2016 meeting of Governance and Policy Committee if reference to other appendices is necessary. Appendices included in the previous report are as follows.

*Appendix ‘A’ - School Accommodation Review Policy (S.09) - current Policy*

*Appendix ‘B’ - Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline (March 2015)*

*Appendix ‘C’ - Pupil Accommodation Review Process: Standard and Modified Review Process (flowchart)*

*Appendix ‘D’ - Ministry of Education Administrative Review of Accommodation Review Process*

*Appendix ‘E’ - Proposed School Accommodation Review Policy (S.09)*

*Appendix ‘F’ - Sequence of Events Prior to Initiation of Accommodation Review (flowchart)*

4. In Ministry Memorandum 2015: B09 to Directors of Education dated March 26, 2015 regarding *Release of New Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and Community Planning and Partnerships Guideline*, it states as follows:



**“The PARG and CPPG continue to represent a framework of minimum standards for school boards to meet in developing their pupil accommodation review and facility partnerships policies. School boards are expected to amend their existing pupil accommodation review and facility partnerships policies to reflect the changes incorporated into the new PARG and CPPG before announcing any new pupil accommodation reviews.”**

5. A major concern of the Committee with the staff proposal is the flexibility available to the Board to initiate a modified accommodation review if two or more of the criteria (used to assess whether such a review is warranted) are satisfied. It should be noted that the option for a school board to initiate a modified approach was one of the major changes introduced by the Ministry in its new Guidelines resulting from school board and stakeholder feedback from previous accommodation reviews. It should be further noted that the Ministry Guidelines do not obligate the Board to undertake a modified accommodation review if two or more of the criteria are met; the Board may still elect to initiate the longer, standard review process.
6. The major differences between the standard and modified accommodation review process is that the standard process requires the establishment of an Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) and a minimum of two public meetings, whereas the modified approach does not require the establishment of an ARC, and requires a minimum of one public meeting.
7. While the standard approach may provide a greater level of confidence with the review process, and it would be entirely up to the Board of Trustees to decide whether to proceed with this approach, it would be in the Board's interest to have the modified approach available to implement in certain situations, if and when necessary.
8. Having the modified process available as an option in the Policy, to use only under certain circumstances if two or more of the specified criteria are satisfied, and electing not to use the modified approach does not contravene the Policy, but by not having it available as an option, the Board's hands would be tied in situations where the modified approach would be the better choice.

9. Staff at the Ministry of Education have confirmed with staff that the modified approach, available as an option to the Board, may be excluded entirely from the Policy, if the Board so chooses. However, in the opinion of Ministry staff, this would not be in the Board's interest.
10. The suggestion was made at Governance and Policy Committee to make the criteria exceedingly difficult to satisfy so that the initiation of a modified review would rarely occur. This however, would defeat the whole purpose of the modified process in those situations where it would be in the Board's interest to pursue such an approach.

#### **D. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

1. That Pupil Accommodation Review Policy (S.09), as contained in *Appendix 'B'* of this report be approved for consultation.
2. That public consultation occur at the level of 'consult' as defined in the Board's Community Engagement Policy (T.07).