



REPORT TO

REGULAR BOARD

BLESSED MOTHER TERESA CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL NAME CHANGE

One who is gracious to a poor man lends to the Lord, And He will repay him for his good deed (Proverbs 19:17)

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August 22, 2016	October 20, 2016	Click here to enter a date.
Kevin Malcolm, Superintendent of Education, Area 7 Schools		
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 uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.

We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.



R. McGuckin

Associate Director of Academic Affairs

A. Sangiorgio

Associate Director of Planning and Facilities

C. Jackson

Executive Superintendent of Business Services and Chief Financial Officer

Angela Gauthier

Director of Education

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Blessed Mother Teresa was canonized a saint by Pope Francis on September 4, 2016. The Blessed Mother Teresa Catholic Secondary School community is requesting an official name change in recognition of the canonization.

B. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to request an official name change for the school from “Blessed Mother Teresa Catholic Secondary School” to “Saint Mother Teresa Catholic Academy”.

C. BACKGROUND

1. Anjeze Gonxhe Bojaxhiu or **Mother Teresa** (August 26, 1910 – September 5, 1997) was an Albanian-Indian Roman Catholic nun born in Skopje, Republic of Macedonia. After having lived in Macedonia for eighteen years, she moved to Ireland and then India where she lived for most of her life. In 1950, she founded the Missionaries of Charity, a Roman Catholic religious congregation, which in 2012 consisted of over 4,500 sisters and was active in 133 countries. The Missionaries of Charity run homes for the sick and dying, soup kitchens, dispensaries and mobile clinics, children’s and family counselling programmes, orphanages and schools. In 1979, Mother Teresa won the Nobel Peace Prize.
2. Mother Teresa died on September 5, 1997, was beatified by Pope John Paul II on October 19, 2003 and was canonized a saint on September 4, 2016 by Pope Francis.
3. When the canonization of Blessed Mother Teresa was announced, members of the school community began to meet to plan events to celebrate this joyful occasion and to discuss school renaming possibilities. Multiple members of the community were consulted including staff, the Administration Team, the Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC), students, the local Trustee, the Area Superintendent, Board staff, the local Pastor and the Archdiocese of Toronto.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

1. After considerable consultation, the preferred choice of name for the school is Saint Mother Teresa Catholic Academy. On September 9, 2016 a letter was delivered to the Director of Education, in accordance with Board Policy S.07 School Names, requesting this name change signed by the school Principal, the CSPC Chair, the local Pastor, the local Trustee and the school Superintendent. (**Appendix A**)
2. The Office of the Cardinal was contacted and his blessing of the change of name to Saint Mother Teresa Catholic Academy was requested. On September 23, 2016, a letter was received from the Cardinal providing support for the proposed name change to the school. (**Appendix B**)
3. The consultation process has further allowed the school community to review and enhance programming possibilities at the school. The following are examples of program priorities for 2016-2017:
 - Continue to build on recent strong gains in grade 9 Applied Math results (from 20% in 2013-2014 to 42% in 2014-2015 to 54% in 2015-2016)
 - Further integrate the emphasis of robotics into the grade 9 Mathematics Program at both Applied and Academic levels, supported by a grant recently received from the retailer Best Buy.
 - Develop units of study based on curriculum expectations for the grade 9 Applied/Academic Math courses that incorporate robotics and allow for a close working relationship with the NSBE (National Society of Black Engineers) and the University of Waterloo. A partnership with the Toronto Police Service that focuses on robotics in policing will be further explored and developed.
 - Enhance a research project/collaborative inquiry partnership with the University of Toronto (Scarborough Campus) that currently exists at the school – Blessed Mother Teresa and University of Toronto students collaborating and problem solving local issues in the neighbourhood and community.

- Continued relationship building and partnerships with community organizations to support existing programs such as: Advanced Placement courses, the Regional Arts Program, the Specialist High Skills Major Programs in Hospitality and Tourism and Arts and Culture (working in partnership with Rogers Media).

E. IMPLEMENTATION, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

1. Once approved officially by the Board of Trustees, the school community will be informed of the new school name.
2. The selection of Saint Mother Teresa Catholic Academy will be communicated to the general public through a media release and supported by various social and traditional media channels.
3. School signage and all other identification, including web-based information, will be implemented as soon as possible.

E. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Trustees approve the name change of the school from “Blessed Mother Teresa Catholic Secondary School” to “Saint Mother Teresa Catholic Academy”.