



REPORT TO

REGULAR BOARD

FINAL REPORT - PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW - DON BOSCO (TRUSTEE WARD 1)

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!, Psalms 133:1"

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
February 13, 2017	February 23, 2017	Click here to enter a date.
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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

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Executive Superintendent of Business Services and Chief Financial Officer

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Director of Education

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the November 24, 2016 meeting of the Board, the report '*Pupil Accommodation Review Don Bosco Catholic Secondary School Ward 1 – Interim Staff Report*' (Appendix 'A1') was considered following a public meeting on October 25, 2016.

In the current report, staff recommend the following:

1. That Don Bosco be closed effective September 2017.
2. That Grade 11 students attending Don Bosco be accommodated in neighbouring catholic secondary schools for February 2017.
3. That Grade 12 students who require additional time to earn credits, in 2017-18 in order to graduate, be counselled and assisted in placement in geographically proximate schools.

The opportunity for additional public input was provided at the February 1, 2017 Special Meeting of the Board.

This report represents the recommendations of the Director's Interim report in consideration of public input received throughout the pupil accommodation review process.

The cumulative staff time dedicated to developing this report was 30 hours.

B. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider public input and to present final recommendations for consideration and approval regarding the Modified Pupil Accommodation Review (MPAR) for Don Bosco.

C. BACKGROUND

1. The staff recommended pupil accommodation solution that best addresses the needs of the students at Don Bosco in this MPAR is that Grade 11 students be accommodated in neighbouring catholic secondary schools effective February 2017, and that Grade 12 students continue their academic program and graduate from Don Bosco in June 2017.

2. The rationale for the staff recommendations is summarized as follows:

Don Bosco has seen significant enrolment decline over the past decade. Currently, there are thirty four (34) grade 11 students, and sixty three (63) grade 12 students, totalling only 97 students.

3. Staff conducted a space assessment of the neighbouring secondary schools, and concluded that all of the 34 Grade 11 Don Bosco students can be accommodated in their respective community schools. Principals have been consulted, are supportive, and have made arrangements for the transfer of all Grade 11 students to commence studies in Semester 2. Neighbouring secondary schools include: Blessed Archbishop Romero, Chaminade, Michael Power/St. Joseph, Father Henry Carr, Monsignor Percy Johnson, and St. Basil the Great.
4. The staff recommendation to accommodate students into neighbouring catholic secondary schools will provide program-related benefits for Don Bosco students, including:
 - i. Proactive exposure to a full breadth of course options.
 - ii. Access to more programs and services.
 - iii. Deliberate sensitivity to transition for Grade 11 students (participation in the course selection process in February 2017 for the 2017-2018 academic year).
5. The community was given opportunities to provide feedback on October 25th 2016, and then to Trustees at a Special Meeting of the Board on February 1, 2017. No community members participated in the delegations on February 1st, only written submissions were received through the Board's website and concerns raised have been summarized in the table below. Staff have provided explanations or responses to these concerns. The actual submissions are included in *Appendix 'B'*.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

6. Summary of Written Submissions

Summary of Concerns	Staff Comments
Rebranding Names for Don Bosco.	<i>Too early to decide the future of the facility.</i>
Offer apprenticeship programs; night school and summer school programs; adult continuing education program; or commercial studies/cooperative education programs; etc.	<i>These programs are offered throughout the Board in several schools and are dependent on area need and interest.</i>
Partnership with a neighbouring large business or corporation.	<i>The Board is in constant contact with community partners regarding opportunities for collaboration.</i>
Open another Catholic Secondary School in an area TDSB school.	<i>Enrolment has declined to a point where a secondary school at this location is no longer viable. Staff will continue to access enrolment trends and identify needs for additional accommodation if required.</i>

7. Further study regarding the long-term need and potential uses for the Don Bosco facility will be undertaken including consideration of a community hub, facility partnerships or disposition. Options will be reported to Board at a future date.
8. To date the Grade 11 students have already been transitioned into their new secondary schools. The Transition Plan was undertaken in consultation with Don Bosco School and neighbouring catholic secondary schools, including students, parents/guardians and school staff.
9. Counselling will be available to grade 12 students who require additional time to earn credits in order to graduate. They will be placed in geographically proximate schools prior to the end of this academic year.

E. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendations be approved:

1. That Don Bosco be closed effective September 2017.
2. That Grade 11 students attending Don Bosco be accommodated in neighbouring catholic secondary schools for February 2017.
3. That Grade 12 students who require additional time to earn credits, in 2017-18 in order to graduate, be counselled and assisted in placement in geographically proximate schools.