



REPORT TO

CORPORATE SERVICES, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

ST GREGORY BOUNDARY REVIEW: FOLLOW-UP TO DELEGATION TRUSTEE WARD 2

"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
August 21, 2017	September 14, 2017	Click here to enter a date.
J. Volek, Acting Comptroller, Planning & Development Services D. Yack, Superintendent Student Achievement and Well-Being, Area 2		
INFORMATION REPORT		

Vision:

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, in novation 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.



Rory McGuckin
Director of Education

D. Koenig
Associate Director
of Academic Affairs

A. Sangiorgio
Associate Director
of Planning and Facilities

T.B.D.
Executive Superintendent
of Business Services and
Chief Financial Officer

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the June 15, 2017 Regular meeting of the Board a delegation was received in response to the St. Gregory boundary review final Board decision. The boundary review process at St. Gregory unfolded over the course of the 2016-17 school year and also involved the Mother Cabrini, Nativity of Our Lord, Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Marcellus school communities. Staff have thoroughly reviewed the materials presented by the delegation and have provided responses to the questions posed.

The cumulative staff time dedicated to developing this report was 20 hours.

B. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to address a series of questions and concerns the Board received through a delegation at the June 15, 2017 regular meeting of the Board. The questions that were posed concerned student safety and due process with respect to the 2016-17 St. Gregory boundary review.

C. BACKGROUND

1. During the boundary review process a number of boundary scenarios were presented to the community for consideration.
2. As delineated in paragraph 12 of *TCDSB Policy S.A. 03 – Elementary School Attendance Boundary Review Policy, (Appendix ‘A’)* boundaries are to be guided to the fullest extent possible and practical, by logical and easily identifiable routes and/or physical landforms such as major arterial roads, rail corridors, creeks and ravines, watercourses, parkland and established political boundaries. These features are intended to be used as a guideline however in certain situations it is not always possible to use them as boundaries.
3. As in the case of the St. Gregory review, altering boundaries to cross major roads and through the backyards of properties was largely unavoidable due to geographical student population differences. In a case where boundaries cross through the rear lot line of a property, it is noted that efforts were made to preserve the school boundary along a local street. This is to ensure that students residing on the opposite sides of the same local street do not attend different schools.

4. If a student is required to cross a natural or man-made feature to attend school, the student would then qualify under hazard criteria to receive regular bussing to and from school to facilitate their safe arrival and departure.
5. The St. Gregory boundary review process concluded without consensus being achieved. In accordance with paragraph 14 of *TCDSB Policy S.A. 03 – Elementary School Attendance Boundary Review Policy (Appendix ‘A’)*, the Director of Education prepared a recommendation report which was tabled at the April 19, 2017 Corporate Services meeting of the Board. After careful consideration of the Director’s report and input received from the affected school communities, the Board of Trustees approved a modified boundary which has been attached to this report as *Appendix ‘B’*.
6. Students who reside within the modified boundary area qualify for regular bussing to and from Nativity of Our Lord as they are now required to cross Highway 427 – a man-made feature designated as a hazard as previously outlined above.

D. DELEGATION QUESTIONS AND STAFF RESPONSES

Delegation Question	Staff Response	Action Item
1. <i>Will there be crossing guards for the on and off ramps for the cross overs at Hwy 427 at The East Mall and Burnhamthorpe Road and The East Mall and Rathburn Road?</i>	The Toronto Police Service (TPS) is responsible for the distribution of crossing guards at select locations across the city. There is an application process which measures the volume of pedestrian crossings at the requested location to determine if a crossing guard is necessary. Successful crossing guard applications would require significant pedestrian traffic to be exhibited at the requested location on the day of TPS’s assessment.	TCDSB Planning staff have recently submitted crossing guard applications for these locations and will continue to lobby on behalf of student safety. The status of these applications are currently pending and staff will update once a response is received.
2. <i>Will there be stop signs or stoplights installed at</i>	Over the course of the 2016-17 school year, TCDSB Planning Staff opened a dialogue with the Toronto Transportation Services (TTS) to	TCDSB Planning staff have had initial conversations with TTS staff on the matter and

<i>the cross overs at Hwy 427 at The East Mall and Burnhamthorpe Road and The East Mall and Rathburn Road?</i>	investigate this as a possibility. It was revealed that traffic signals are only considered by the City after lesser forms of control, such as stop signs, yield signs or pedestrian crossovers have proven to be ineffective. As none of these controls exist at present the first step would be to get TTS to install one of these lesser controls.	will continue to dialogue with the TTS in order to implement these features to enhance student safety. Planning staff will follow-up with TTS in October of 2017.
<i>3. What safety measures will be implemented to ensure our children's safety where curb heights are only 3 inches on the on/off ramps at Rathburn and Burnhamthorpe exits that pose a risk for cars during wintery slippery conditions whereby children could be injured?</i>	The TCDSB is aware of the risks posed by compacted snow around curbs during the wintertime near all schools however, curb heights are prescribed by City of Toronto by-laws and are standardized across the City. Increased vigilance with respect to snow removal would help to ensure that the curb serves its intended purpose as a barrier between vehicular and pedestrian traffic.	TCDSB Planning staff have discussed this issue with TTS Staff and will follow-up again in October 2017, pushing for increased operator vigilance to ensure snow is removed and/or salted in a timely manner.
<i>4. Is the Board going to provide transportation to students involved in</i>	The TCDSB will provide student transportation to students who qualify for bus transportation for the regular school day under the Board's transportation policy. Extra-curricular activities generally occur outside of	This has been confirmed by the Toronto Student Transportation Group.

<i>extra-curricular activities?</i>	school/regular bussing hours, so transportation in these instances will remain the responsibility of parents and/or legal guardians.	
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E. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

This report is for the consideration of the Board.