



**WINDSOR-ESSEX CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

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October 17, 2011

Dear Staff, Parents/Guardians, and School Council Members:

At its public meeting of October 11, 2011, the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board approved proceeding with accommodation review studies of the following school communities:

- Amherstburg area – To include St. Theresa, St. Bernard and Stella Maris Catholic Elementary Schools.
- Fontainebleau area – To include W.J. Langlois and St. Alexander Catholic Elementary Schools.
- Lakeshore area – To include Our Lady of Annunciation and St. John the Evangelist Catholic Elementary Schools.

As required in the pupil accommodation review process, an Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) is being established for each group of schools to study, report and make recommendations on the best accommodation options for maximizing educational opportunities for each group.

The need for the ARC study comes out of the Board's commitment to continue to monitor all factors, and plan for pupil accommodations that assist the Board in providing the highest quality educational programs and services. Various factors, including province wide declining enrolment, will be considered by the ARC when making recommendations for pupil accommodations that make the best use of all resources available to the Board.

The ARC will lead a public consultation process that will consist of four (4) public meetings and that will allow all of you full opportunity for input.

From its study, and input received from the public consultation process, the ARC will make recommendations that will assist the Board of Trustees in deciding on the best accommodation options for each group of schools. The ARC may consider many options in making their recommendations, including the reorganization of the schools, changes in boundaries, renovations to existing schools, or new school construction. Please be assured that a school's involvement in an ARC does not mean it is scheduled for closure, although school closure is an option that can be considered and recommended by the ARC.

Should you be interested in participating as a member of an ARC committee please contact your school Principal by October 25, 2011.

Membership of each committee will be as follows:

- Trustee representation
- School Superintendent
- From each School
 - Principal or designate
 - Teaching staff representative
 - Non-teaching staff representative
 - 3 parents (one being the school council chair)
 - A community representative
 - Pastor(s) of the parish(es) in which the schools are located
 - Municipal councillor
 - Member of the business community

You are invited to visit the Board's web site at www.wecdsb.on.ca for more information on ARCs and the pupil accommodation review process, as detailed within Board Policy A: 05 and Board Procedure Pr A: 05 Pupil Accommodation Review, and the Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines. You will receive further notification as the public consultation process proceeds.

Please feel free to contact Colleen Norris - Manager of Human Resources and Policy Development at (519) 253-2481, ext. 1122 or by e-mail at colleen_norris@wecdsb.on.ca should you have any questions

Sincerely,



Paul A. Picard
Director of Education