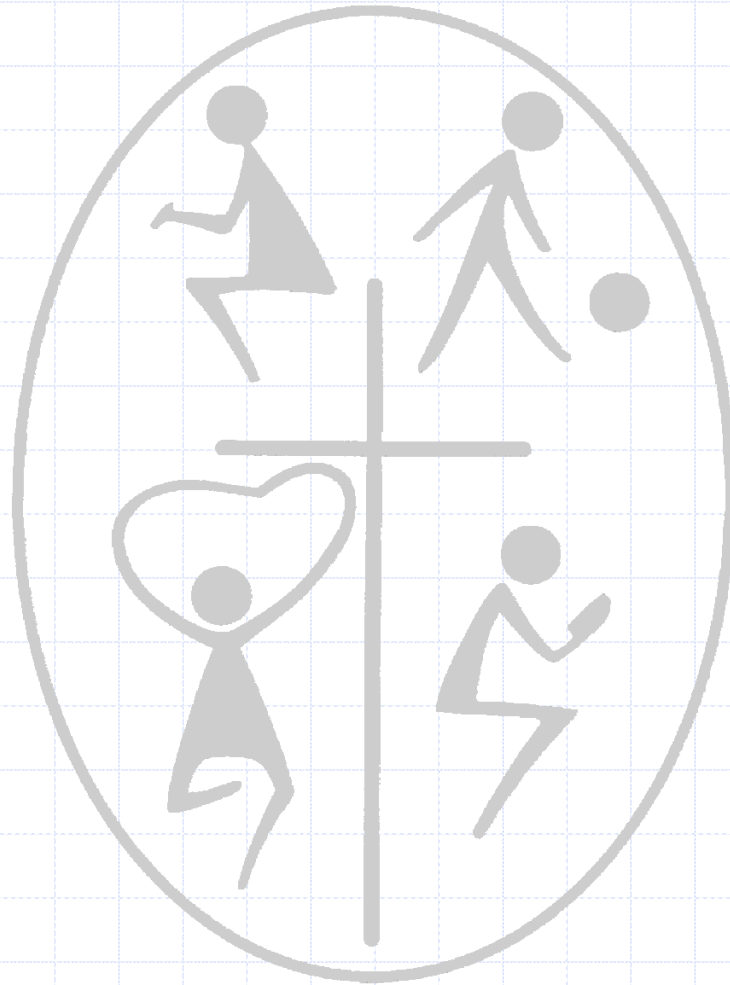


Thornhill Markham Accommodation Review Process



November 20, 2008

Purpose of an Accommodation Review Committee (ARC)

The purpose of an ARC is to ensure that in keeping with its obligation, Board staff and members of our Catholic Learning Community consistently be aware of best educational practices, assess the effectiveness of current situations and make appropriate decisions to ensure suitable and equitable learning environments for all students.

What is an Accommodation Review?

An Accommodation Review is a public process where a school or group of schools undergo an assessment to consider possible boundary changes, redirection of specialty programs, or school consolidation with the intent of ensuring an equitable learning environment for all students.

Why an Accommodation Review in Thornhill?

- Ministry of Education announced an opportunity for capital investment in school system, the “Prohibitive to Repair” program.
 - Evaluated the cost of bringing a school to its original condition vs. the cost of a new facility.
 - Known as “Facilities Condition Index” (FCI)
 - Specific Ministry of Education FCI “cut off” identified projects for potential funding.
 - Ministry calculation (FCI) identified St. Michael Academy and a portion of St. Anthony as potential candidates for funding.
 - Board recommended both facilities for the FCI candidate list & submitted the list to the Ministry.

Conceptual PTR Plan

- Ministry required a “Plan” to identify possible accommodation proposal and application of PTR funds.
- Plan - developed in consultation with Ministry of Education staff and entered in Ministry Capital Planning Web Site
 - Acknowledged the need for an Accommodation Review
 - Proposed consolidation of two (PTR) facilities and replacement with one facility
 - Size and school amenities to be determined
 - Opportunity for program specific spaces

Ministry “Planning Approval”

- April 9, 2008 letter -Funding Based on information provided and discussions with Ministry Staff.
 - Complete Pupil Accommodation Review and,
 - Work with the Ministry to finalize funding approval which reflects the outcome of the Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR) process.
- Qualifiers
 - Board responsible for ensuring costs are within benchmarks.
 - Board must receive approvals for key milestones before committing.
 - Project Scope
 - Tender
 - Costs over benchmark

Review of Events to October 7, 2008

- May 2007- The Board's Long Term Plan (LTP) identified possible Thornhill Accommodation Review
- February 2008- Board direction
 - to initiate Thornhill Accommodation Review upon approval of Board Policy
- April 2008- Ministry of Education "Planning Approval"
- June 2008- YCDSB Policy Approval
 - Policy 713 Pupil Accommodation Review
 - Generic School Valuation Framework (GSVF)
- October 2008- Preliminary Director's Report
 - Commence Thornhill Accommodation Review and formation of ARC
 - Appointment of the Chair of the ARC
 - Invitations to be sent immediately