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February 4, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian

As you are aware, during the past six months an Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) has been studying the accommodation options respecting St. Joseph and Sacred Heart Schools. On December 10, 2008 the ARC fulfilled its mandate with the submission of its Final Report and Recommendations to the Director of Education. The report contains the School Valuation Report and documentation related to the review process. The recommendations of the ARC are as follows:

Consolidate St. Joseph and Sacred Heart Schools and build a new school on a new site.

OR

2. Consolidate St. Joseph and Sacred Heart Schools and build a new school on one of the existing school sites.

At its regular Board meeting of January 27, 2009, the Board of Trustees received the Director's Report and recommendations and we are pleased to inform you that they are consistent with and in support of those made by the Accommodation Review Committee.

As a next step in the accommodation review process the Board will hold a Special Board Meeting on **Tuesday**, **February 17**, **2009 at St. Joseph-Scollard Hall**, **6:30 - 8:30 p.m**. This meeting will provide an opportunity for the Board to receive public input in the form of written submissions or delegations on the Accommodation Review Committee's Final Report and the Director's Report and recommendations. Both of these documents are available on the Board's website at www.npsc.edu.on.ca under the *Accommodations* link.

This meeting for public input will be structured to encourage input and feedback. Guidelines for making a presentation at this Special Board Meeting will be made available to both St. Joseph and Sacred Heart Schools. Members of the public wishing to present may also request these guidelines from the Director's office at 472-1201, ext. 243. It is important to note that written application requesting the opportunity to make a presentation as a delegation must be submitted to the Director of Education no later than **Thursday**, **February 12**, 2009.

The Board of Trustees has also scheduled the Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, March 31, 2009 as the date on which it will make its decision regarding the accommodation for St. Joseph and Sacred Heart Schools. To summarize, the time and locations of the above mentioned meetings are as follows:

Special Board Meeting for Public Input

February 17, 2009, 6:30 p.m. St. Joseph-Scollard Hall CSS, Cafeteria

Board Meeting for Decision on Accommodation

March 31, 2009, 7:00 p.m. Board Office, 1140 Front Street

Both the February 17, 2009 and March 31, 2009 meetings will be open to the public and will be publicized on the Board's website, via school letters, newsletters, newspaper and parish bulletins. For further information please contact our Board's Accommodation Review phone line at 472-1560, ext. 206.

Finally, I extend my sincerest appreciation and thanks to the members of the Accommodation Review Committee for their commitment, genuine care and dedicated work on behalf of their respective schools and on behalf of all Catholic schools in the districts of Nipissing and Parry Sound.

Sincerely,

Anna Marie Bitonti Director of Education