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Action Items

Dear Mr. Adam,

In the spirit of the ARC committee's policy that the "value to the student" takes priority in this process AND the boards policy to "support student achievement through providing quality education for all students" can you please directly answer the following questions;

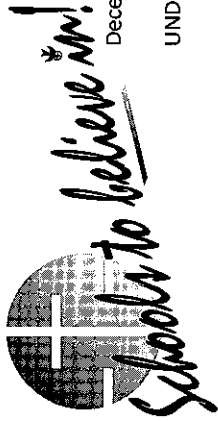
1. How can you prove that the quality of my children's academic education will be improved or maintained if they go from a small, multiple grade classroom to a much larger single/double grade classroom?
2. How can you prove what benefits a student more socially, in terms of spiritual guidance and growth, problem solving with their peers, developing leadership skills, and community involvement-a smaller multiple grade classroom within their home community or a much larger single/double grade classroom in a different community?

The board policy also goes on to state that they endeavour to optimize the use of facilities and resources to provide this quality education. I think we can all agree that the staff at each school uses their building and resources to the best of their ability to educate the students that attend them. That being said,

3. How does closing a school optimize the use of the facilities and resources that they can provide?

Thank you,

George Vanier Catholic School



December 12, 2013

#10

**Renfrew County
Catholic District
School Board**

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UNDISCLOSED ADDRESSEE

Re: Community Feedback to ARC

Dear UNDISCLOSED ADDRESSEE:

Thank you for your e-mail to the ARC members dated December 4, 2013.

You have asked the ARC to respond to three very direct questions. Your first question asks us to “prove” that the quality of education will be improved or maintained if your children go from a small, multiple grade classroom to a much larger single/double grade classroom. This question is impossible to “prove” one way or another. There are far too many variables or unknown factors that could influence a child’s education. All we can demonstrate at this point is that there will be more opportunity for your children to be in a single or double grade classroom and less opportunity for multiple grade classrooms. We agree that it is the RCCDSB’s ARC policy “to support student achievement through providing quality education for all students”. If you would like more information on how the RCCDSB accomplishes this goal please go to the Board’s website and see the EQAO data in comparison to the rest of the province. This is but one example of an empirical measure of student achievement for all students in the RCCDSB.

Your second question also asks the ARC to “prove” that a student would benefit more socially, spiritually, in developing leadership skills and in community involvement. Again, this is impossible to “prove” one way or the other. We know that we have been truly blessed to have the highest quality of student leadership and community involvement from our students in these Catholic school communities. We would hope that that level of commitment would continue in the nearby Catholic School community.

The third question asks about the optimal use of school facilities and resources. The focus of this year’s Board improvement plan speaks to the Board’s vision of stewardship and sustainability. When school communities are consolidated the economies of scale realized in both human resources and building maintenance resources provide the Board with savings that can be used to benefit all school communities.

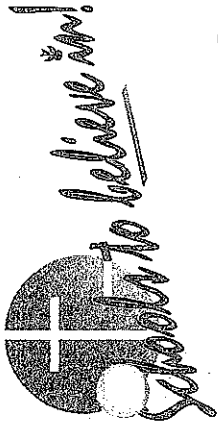
The ARC needs to consider input from all school communities in developing its recommendations. The Renfrew County Catholic School Board of Trustees will then decide what recommendations to approve.

Thank you for your interest in this process. The ARC will consider your input!

Sincerely,

Peter Adam
Chair, Accommodation Review Committee
Superintendent of Education
Renfrew County Catholic District School Board

*...as an inclusive Catholic
educational community, we
are called to express our
mission as church, to pass
on the Good News of Jesus
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the world today, and to be
the hope for the future.*



Comment #2

December 12, 2013

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Re: Community Feedback to ARC

Dear

Thank you for submitting a comment sheet to the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board Accommodation Review Committee (ARC).

The ARC Members are also very pleased that all those members of the public showed their support for George Vanier Catholic School at the public meeting on November 27, 2013. Members of the ARC were impressed with the tour they received at George Vanier. All students who helped with the tour should be proud of their efforts.

The ARC will continue to consider input from all school communities in developing its recommendations. The Catholic School Board of Trustees will then decide what recommendations to approve.

Thanks again for your input. Best wishes for continued success at GVCS!

Sincerely,

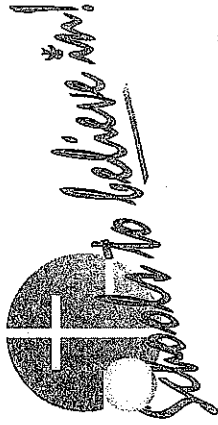
Peter Adam

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December 12, 2013

Re: Community Feedback to ARC

Dear -

Thank you for submitting a comment sheet to the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board Accommodation Review Committee (ARC).

The ARC Members agree that George Vanier Catholic School is one of the most happy and safe places to attend school. We also agree that there have been a lot of great teachers over the years who have positively affected the academic, athletic and self-esteem of their students. We know that the current teaching staff continues with that tradition.

Congratulations on your exemplary academic achievements at GVCS since Kindergarten. We are confident that you will continue to excel at George Vanier and beyond.

The ARC will continue to consider input from all school communities in developing its recommendations. The Catholic School Board of Trustees will then decide what recommendations to approve.

Thanks again for your input. Best wishes for continued success at GVCS!

Sincerely,

Peter Adam

Chair, Accommodation Review Committee
Superintendent of Education

Renfrew County Catholic District School Board

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