

NIAGARA CATHOLIC RECEIVES \$5 MILLION TO CONSOLIDATE MONSIGNOR CLANCY, ST. CHARLES CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Niagara Catholic is pleased to announce the Ministry of Education has provided more than \$5 million in funding to consolidate St. Charles and Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary Schools in Thorold.

Currently, Catholic elementary school students in Thorold attend St. Charles Catholic Elementary School from Kindergarten through Grade 4, and move over to Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School for Grades 5-8.

“Following a transparent and engaging Pupil Accommodation Review with families and staff at St. Charles and Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary Schools, a decision was made by the Board last June to consolidate the two schools at the Monsignor Clancy site, pending Niagara Catholic securing funding from the Province for the consolidation,” said Director of Education John Crocco. “This funding announcement of just over \$5 million, which includes nearly \$3.5 million for an additional 104 pupil spaces at Monsignor Clancy and a little more than \$1.5 million for three new child care rooms, allows us to bring both Catholic elementary schools in Thorold together under one roof. We are very grateful to the Province for the funding, and we look forward to the design and construction phase, towards a fall of 2020 opening.”

The Ministry of Education received more than 250 requests for capital school funding.

Board Chair Father Paul MacNeil congratulated the families and staff who worked diligently to build a strong case for a unified school in Thorold.

“There have been two Catholic schools in Thorold for more than 50 years, and generations have grown up moving from St. Charles Catholic over to Monsignor Clancy Catholic, so we anticipated questions about changing the educational landscape in the community,” said Chair MacNeil. “Our staff worked tirelessly to ensure that families had the opportunity to ask questions and provide input throughout the Pupil Accommodation Review Process. On behalf of the Board, I congratulate families and staff for their collaborative work in making this consolidation a reality. I also thank the Province for providing this funding to Niagara Catholic.”

With the funding secured, Niagara Catholic's Facilities Services Department will begin the process to select an architect for the project. A ground breaking celebration will take place after the construction tender is award. It is expected that the expanded school will open in autumn, 2020.

Niagara Catholic provides excellence in Catholic education to approximately 23,000 students throughout Niagara; from Early Learning Kindergarten through graduation.

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