



**ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
*Lighting the Way – Rejoicing in Our Journey*

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May 15, 2019

Dear Members of the North Chatham Catholic Elementary School Transition Committee,

I want to thank you for your participation last week, as we moved another step forward in the process to select a name for our new north Chatham Catholic elementary school. For those of you unable to attend the meeting, I want to give you a brief update.

The name that has been selected by our community through the *Thoughtexchange* online consultation is **St. Angela Merici**. We believe this to be the perfect identifier for our new school!

As you may know, Sister Angela was an Italian educator, who founded an organization which later became the Ursuline Order. The Ursulines spread throughout Europe and North America ... and it was the Ursuline Sisters who eventually brought Catholic education to Chatham, with the arrival of Mother Xavier from France in 1860. It is a fitting way to honour all that the Ursulines have done to proclaim and support Catholic education throughout the years, as was so eloquently pointed out by the many people who suggested the name during the *Thoughtexchange* online consultation.

But more importantly, we believe it to be the perfect name because it is the one that is most valued by our community. The 19 day *Thoughtexchange* consultation resulted in 346 participants suggesting 227 names and rating the suggestions of others nearly 18,000 times. The multiple suggestions of **St. Angela Merici** emerged as the clear choice; and so we are pleased to move forward with this name, confident that it has tremendous community support.

I have written to Bishop Fabbro, to inform him of the community's name selection for the new school and to seek his blessing. **St. Angela Merici Catholic School** will become the official name after it is affirmed by the Board of Trustees at the May meeting.

In the fall, the Transition Committee will begin to turn its attention towards other important matters that remain to be decided – team mascot, school colours and activities and events to begin bringing our three north Chatham Catholic school communities together.

These are exciting days ... thank you for agreeing to be part of this important committee!

Sincerely,

Laura Callaghan  
Superintendent of Education and  
Chair, North Chatham Catholic Elementary School Transition Committee

#### OUR MISSION

Walking together in Christ's light with parish and family, we are called to build a safe and inclusive Catholic learning community and to serve as partners in the formation of life-long learners by:

- Living our faith;
- Promoting educational achievement and innovation;
- Fostering stewardship, leadership and social justice.