

St. Margaret Mary Deanery
Future of Catholic Elementary Schools
September, 2005 Update

Thank you all for your feedback on the presentation given June 15th. I wanted to update you on the progress and discussions that have taken place since this presentation on the future of Catholic elementary schools in our deanery.

Many of you indicated at that meeting and in subsequent feedback that you'd prefer a "regional" approach to consolidation ... a consolidation that would be phased in over time. This is indeed the recommendation that I took to the pastor's meeting on September 5th. At that meeting, all of us agreed in principle to pursuing a goal of REGIONAL Catholic elementary schools to preserve the quality of Catholic education in the deanery. The parishes we will be working with in our region are St. Margaret Mary, St. Clair, Little Flower, St. Ann's and Assumption. The details of how we accomplish this goal will obviously require much more effort.

To that end, I met with these pastors on September 29th, and we will meet again on October 6th to continue discussion around how we can best accomplish this goal as a phased approach over the coming years. Efforts will likely consist of a committee of several representatives from each parish.

More meetings and discussions will take place yet this year. As promised, I will keep you informed on all progress on this front.

Fr. Bill