

# New boards will govern quad system

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This week we begin a series of articles examining various elements of Catholic Community Schools: A System Framework Plan for Monroe County, the proposed plan for the reorganization of Monroe County's Catholic schools. This week's installment focuses on the establishment of quadrant governing boards.

**By Rob Cullivan**  
Staff writer

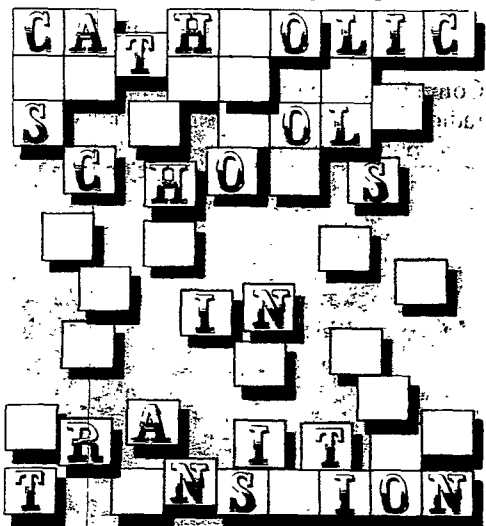
**ROCHESTER** — Shifting Monroe County's Catholic schools from a parish-based system to one based on geographic quadrants will entail empowering four quadrant governing boards with the authority to hire and fire principals and establish county- or quadrant-wide tuition rates.

Such are the changes envisioned in *Catholic Community Schools: System Framework Plan for Monroe County*, a document released two weeks ago by the nine-member Commission on Reorganization of Catholic Schools, headed by William Pickett, president of St. John Fisher College.

Last spring, Monroe County's Catholic schools were divided into four quadrants — the Northeast, Northwest, Southeast and Southwest. Each quadrant has a planning board working to develop a plan for reconfiguring and consolidating the schools in its region. So far, only the Northeast Quadrant Planning Board has released its consolidation plan, which calls for the closing of six schools, including Blessed Sacrament Junior High, and for establishing a junior high program on the premises of Bishop Kearney High School.

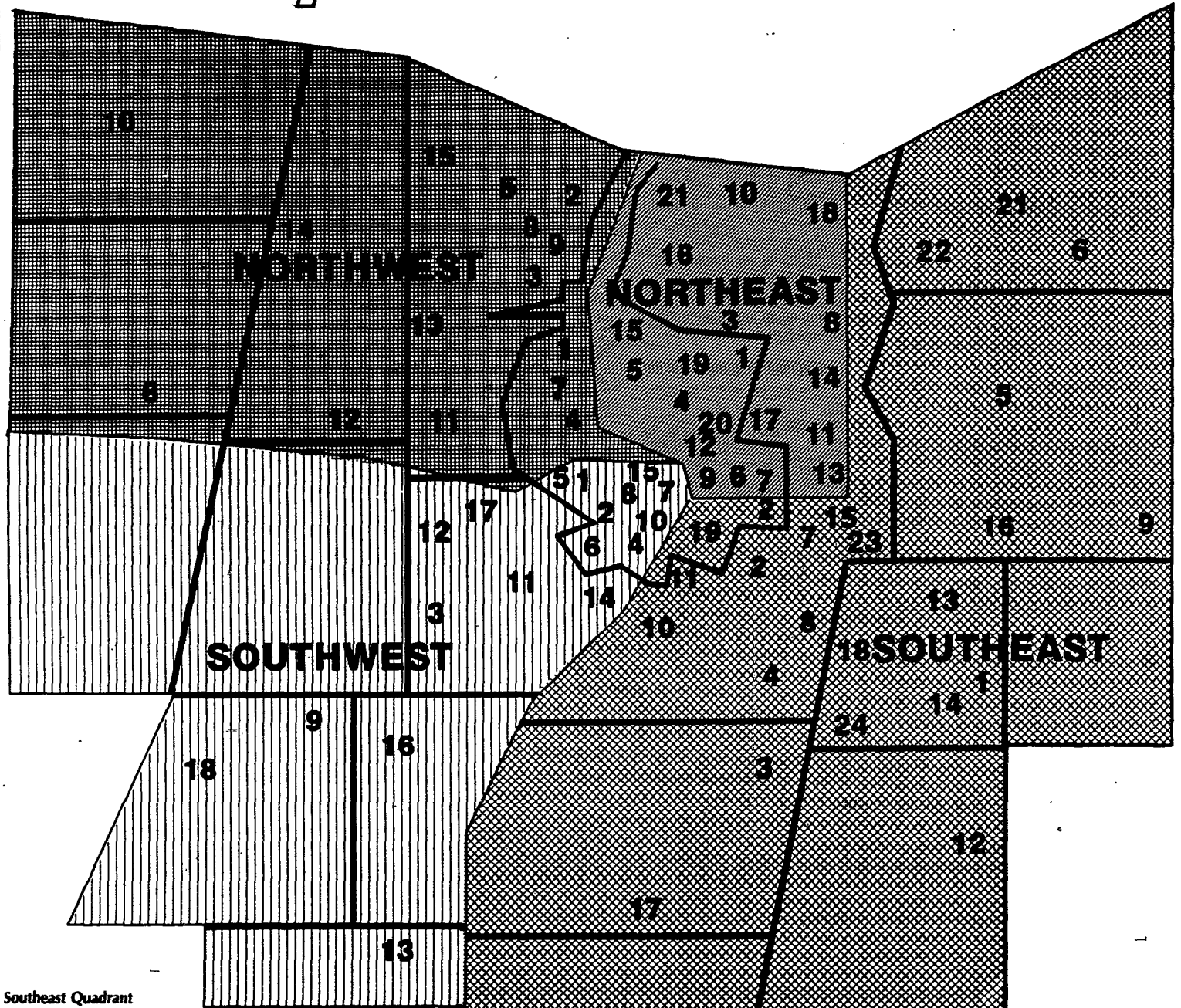
The Pickett commission's plan is designed to provide a framework for the ongoing transformation of the Monroe County Catholic school system. The system's mission, briefly stated, is to strengthen the "Catholicity and academic quality" of school programs; to provide educational programs that reflect "the Church's preferential options for the poor;" to prepare Catholic students "for the Church and the world of the 21st Century;" and to ensure that "faith development, educational needs and the allocation of resources are enhanced."

To implement this mission, the commission has outlined a plan for the governance of the county's schools. According to that plan, each quadrant must establish a governing board by the fall of this year. Each of the four quadrant boards will consist of a lay representative from each parish in the quadrant; two pastors' representatives elected by their fellow pastors in the quadrant; and two principals' representatives, chosen by the principals.



Representatives may serve an unlimited number of two-year terms, according to Peter Spinelli, chairman of the Diocesan Board of Education and a commission member who has worked extensively on the governance issue.

An executive committee, consisting of four parish representatives, one pastor and one principal, will steer each board. The



**Southeast Quadrant**

1. Assumption
2. Corpus Christi Parish
3. Good Shepherd
4. Guardian Angels
5. Holy Spirit, Penfield
6. Holy Trinity
7. Our Lady of Lourdes
8. Our Lady Queen of Peace
9. Resurrection
10. St. Anne
11. St. Boniface
12. St. Catherine, Mendon
13. St. Jerome
14. St. John of Rochester
15. St. John, Humboldt
16. St. Joseph
17. St. Joseph, Rush
18. St. Louis
19. St. Mary (downtown)
20. St. Paul, Honeoye Falls
21. St. Paul, Webster
22. St. Rita
23. St. Thomas More
24. Transfiguration

**Northeast Quadrant**

1. ANNUNCIATION(1990)
2. Blessed Sacrament
3. Christ the King
4. Holy Redeemer St. Francis
5. OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP(1989)
6. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
7. Our Lady of Victory
8. St. Ambrose
9. St. Andrew
10. St. Bridget
11. St. Cecilia
12. St. George
13. ST. JAMES(1990)
14. St. Josephat
15. St. Margaret Mary
16. St. Michael
17. ST. PHILIP NERI(1989)
18. ST. SALOME(1989)
19. St. Stanislaus
20. St. Teresa
21. St. Thomas the Apostle

**Northwest Quadrant**

1. Sacred Heart
2. Holy Cross
3. Holy Name of Jesus
4. Holy Rosary
5. Mother of Sorrows
6. Nativity BVM
7. Nazareth Hall
8. Our Lady of Mercy
9. St. Charles
10. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
11. St. John, Greece
12. St. John, Spencerport
13. St. Lawrence
14. St. Leo
15. St. Mark

**Southwest Quadrant**

1. Holy Apostles
2. Holy Family, Rochester
3. Holy Ghost
4. Immaculate Conception
5. Most Precious Blood
6. Our Lady of Good Counsel
7. St. Anthony
8. St. Augustine
9. St. Christopher
10. St. Francis of Assisi
11. St. Helen
12. St. Jude
13. St. Mary, Scottsville
14. St. Monica
15. St. Peter and Paul
16. St. Pius X
17. St. Theodore
18. St. Vincent, Churchville

Parishes that are capitalized will be closing their schools in the future.  
Resource: The Center for Governmental Research, February, 1989

chairman of each quadrant's board will also serve as the chairman of the executive committee.

Quadrant boards must elect the parish members of the executive committee and approve the following executive-committee proposals: an annual goals statement, budget plans and fundraising goals for the schools, and by-laws for the board itself.

The executive committee, meeting at least monthly, must create a mission statement, outlining goals and plans to implement the quadrant system. The executive committee is also charged with developing policies that give a general direction to the quadrant. Such policies must follow the diocesan model, although there is room for deviation, Spinelli said.

Issues of curriculum and transportation, for example, would be settled by each quadrant according to its own needs. On the other hand, regardless of opposition from individual quadrants, the diocese might require compliance with a system-wide policy allowing children with AIDS to attend classes, Spinelli remarked.

Working with representatives from each parish council, the executive committee would develop plans and means to implement diocesan financing policies, including tuition rates, subsidies, development and fundraising plans; allocate resources according to a budget; and monitor the plans as they are carried out.

Public relations is another important task

the executive committees would handle.

This spring, Elizabeth Brown, the diocesan director of communications, will conduct a market-research study, the results of which will be used by a professional marketing firm to develop by next fall a formal marketing plan for the Catholic school system.

Spinelli said such a plan should emphasize Catholic schools as a whole system, as opposed to recruiting students at a parish-based level. "It's not our intent to have the schools competing with each other," Spinelli remarked, although he noted that certain schools have reputations that would have to be considered in an overall marketing approach.

The executive committee would also be charged with hiring school principals from a pool of candidates recommended by the diocesan superintendent of schools. In the past, pastors have generally hired principals from among diocesan-recommended candidates. Under the plan, however, the executive committees, using input from school committees at each of the quadrant's schools, will choose from the superintendent's list the principals for all of the quadrant's schools.

Additional duties of the executive committee are: evaluating the quadrant board's effectiveness; determining whether goals and plans are being implemented; and preparing policy documents.

The quadrant boards are expected to meet with the quadrants' parish councils three times a year. These meetings will

settle questions of finance and policy. Quadrant plans for budgets and school facility use, currently being reviewed by Pickett's commission for 1989-90, will be reviewed in subsequent years by the Diocesan Board of Education, which will send its recommendations to Bishop Clark for final approval.

To study the various issues affecting a quadrant, its board will establish standing committees on finances, public relations, planning and programming.

The plan's final section deals with business management. For 1989-90, each quadrant must develop its own method of administering its budget and payroll for teachers and staff, and a means of financing school operating expenses. By September of 1990, the diocese will have hired a professional business manager for all four quadrants, who will manage the quadrants' business affairs.

Reaction to the governance plan from quadrant leaders is still forming, given that the plan was released just last week. Still, some quadrant representatives are noting mixed emotions.

Patricia Glogowski, chairwoman of the Northwest Quadrant Planning Board, supports the idea of individual quadrant governing boards, but she expressed concern that her quadrant would suffer under county-wide control.

Pointing to the plan's proposal for a uniform tuition rate for the diocesan school system, she said she feared her quadrant, which is currently experiencing healthy enrollment, might lose students if tuition rates were increased under a uniform rate. If each quadrant were allowed to determine its own tuition rates, however, schools in the northwest could continue to charge less than the other quadrants, Glogowski remarked.

Nonetheless, Pickett has assured her that the proposal is simply a draft, and she hopes that modifications can be made with quadrant input.

Continued on page 20

By Ro  
Staff w  
ROC  
them h  
but on  
bies,"  
tions a  
evitabl  
"Th  
bers at  
have v  
approv  
closing  
has br  
standi  
sought  
close t  
bers.  
Befo  
March  
oppose  
claimir  
Roche,  
ble anc  
he had  
proble  
tion."  
The  
attend  
evening  
discuss  
signed  
preside  
cil vic  
Thoma  
Hasset  
On I  
St. An  
The de  
on Fel  
6-3, w  
school  
Paris  
ed the  
year in  
reconfi  
one of  
Monro  
The Sc  
groups  
County  
its con  
But  
June, l  
debted  
cordin  
the co  
Monsi  
approv  
On l  
Divisi  
Bishop  
tor an  
includi  
time, t  
ate pre  
cil. A  
moder  
cese c  
over t  
sessme  
"Th  
made i  
the pla  
Mullig  
gained  
next y  
The  
while  
could  
Father  
dioces  
prior t  
Am  
were  
ment  
of a p  
the pa  
Cur  
being  
More  
nior F  
year.  
parish  
\$80,0  
Thur