



Boundary Review Committee (BRC) Meeting #5

A meeting of the Boundary Review Committee was held on the 21st day of September 2022 at 6:00pm at the Catholic Education Centre and via Microsoft Teams

Committee

Members Present:

Members:

Gerald Foran (Chair), Shesh Maharaj, Wendy Price, Deanna Wehrle, Vella Giglio, Jo Goossens, Paul Gladding, Purnata Talukder, Amy Fee, Lauren Fulop, Dawn Shuh, Vanessa Marshal, John Klein, Tracey Weiler, Susanne Ventura,

Regrets:

Sean Spitzig, Deanna Anene, Shawn Bradshaw, Gregory Sych

Support Staff:

Jennifer Passy, Virina Elgawly, Jordan Neale, Darcy Davis, and Sarah Charlton

Next Meeting:

BRC Meeting #6: September 29, 2022, 6:00pm to 8:00pm
Location: Catholic Education Centre and via Microsoft Teams

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer:

Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Gerald Foran
Opening prayer and land acknowledgement was led by Deanna Wehrle
There were 9 viewers on YouTube

2. Meeting Norms:

- BRC Meeting Norms was discussed (referenced digital binder)
 - The committee is to act as a consultation body and official conduit of information shared between the school board and the school communities
 - Members are expected to participate, be respectful and attend all meetings
 - BRC meetings are open to members of the public as observers
- Public meetings are open to members of the public to have a voice

Gerald Foran

3. Approval of Minutes:

- BRC Meeting #4 minutes were approved

**All BRC
Members**

4. Review Public Comments:

- Public comments from September 7th to September 21st were reviewed
 - Comments received that communication was not clear regarding the review process affecting all grades
 - Information was provided through School Messenger, Newswire, Board website and school websites
 - Since receiving these comments, staff have provided additional messaging which more clearly states that all grades in all the schools may be affected.
 - A banner was also added to the boundary review webpage providing additional clarification.

**All BRC
Members**

- The ThoughtExchange has been extended until September 26th to provide additional opportunity for input on Option 6.
 - Questions have arisen around if construction is delayed and where students will go?
 - Board staff will have better knowledge in November/December 2022 if there is likely to be a delay
 - Draft recommendations are structured to provide for implementation in September 2024 or when the new schools open to provide flexibility if needed
 - The East Kitchener 7-12 school is proposed to open with grades 7-10 whether it opens in time or delayed. If delayed, then the school opening would affect a different cohort of students, but the opening grade configuration would remain the same.
 - An Additional recommendation was added in the event the two new schools do not open at the same time
 - Comments were received regarding support for Option 6 but suggesting that students currently in Zones C, K and Y should have legacy exceptions
 - Staff shared that creating legacy exceptions for all existing students and their siblings creates division within a community,
 - Students will be delayed in becoming part of a new school community,
 - From a transportation perspective, there will be more vehicles and traffic at the schools, as bussing wouldn't typically be provided.
 - It was noted that the more legacy exceptions provided, the less enrolment pressures are being resolved (which should be our priority)
 - Concerns were shared about constructing a new elementary school on the St. Patrick site due to crime in the area. Parents may move their children to the public school board.
 - Many BRC members are not comfortable with these comments and labelling the community
 - Schools need a diverse community and enrolment
 - Staff work hard to keep our schools safe
 - A BRC member voiced that they believe there are a lot of good community and families in the area
 - Raises concern around decisions to enrol in the Catholic education and be so willing to remove them

5. Public Consultation #2 Discussion:

- ThoughtExchange – to Monday, September 19, 2022
 - 81 participants, 61 thoughts, 1,276 Ratings
 - 87% Parents/Guardians
 - 3% Students
 - 2% Staff Members
 - 4% Community Members
 - 4% Others
 - Participants by School
 - 9% - Canadian Martyrs
 - 53% - Saint John Paul
 - 14% - St. Anne Kitchener
 - 8% - St. Daniel
 - 5% - St. Mary's
 - 11% - N/A
 - Theme Methodology – total number of thoughts from highest to lowest
 - Proximity to School
 - Grade Configuration
 - School Site Selection

**All BRC
Members**

- Legacy Exceptions
- Transition
- Supportive Comments
- Miscellaneous
- Question
- Capacity vs. Enrolment
- French Immersion
- Theme Methodology – by participant star rating from highest to lowest
 - School Site Selection
 - Capacity vs. Enrolment
 - Legacy Exceptions
 - Transition
 - Grade Configuration
 - Proximity to School
 - French Immersion
 - Question
 - Miscellaneous
 - Supportive Comments
- ThoughtExchange originally closed September 19th. Staff decided to extend the ThoughtExchange to September 26 at noon to ensure those receiving additional clarification regarding purpose of the review would have an opportunity to provide input.
- Frequently asked questions were reviewed
 - No comments were received from the BRC

6. Updated Implementation Recommendations:

- For additional clarification, it was added that St. Anne (K) CES would be JK-8 English and Grade 1-8 French Immersion. This was assumed throughout the discussions, but staff wanted to provide more clarity.
- The following recommendations were also added for sub-area C students to be consistent with legacy exceptions in other sub-areas:
 - That Grade 5 students residing within the sub-area being directed to St. Daniel CES who are enrolled at St. Anne (K) CES in the 2023/2024 school year, or the school year prior to the new East Kitchener 7-12 Catholic School opening, be provided legacy exceptions to finish Grade 8 at their current school.
 - That Grade 5 students who are granted legacy exceptions to remain at their current school as of the year prior to the boundary change, be provided with transportation, if they qualify in accordance with board procedure APO012 – Transportation.
- The recommendation below was also added in case St. Patrick CES and the East Kitchener 7-12 Catholic School do not open in the same year:
 - That, if the opening of the new St. Patrick CES precedes the opening of the East Kitchener 7-12 Catholic School opening, that the boundaries of Canadian Martyrs CES, Saint John Paul CES, St. Anne (K) CES, St. Daniel CES, and St. Patrick CES be established in accordance with the preferred option, Option 6, but with a grade JK-8 configuration for all existing schools, until such time that the East Kitchener 7-12 Catholic School opens. St. Patrick CES would open with Grades JK-7 and Grade 8 students residing within the new St. Patrick CES boundary in the year that it opens, be granted legacy exceptions to remain at their current school for Grade 8.

Jennifer Passy

7. Next Steps:

- BRC meeting #6 was previously scheduled as tentative. It will now be required as the ThoughtExchange has been reopened to the public until September 26th.

Gerald Foran

- BRC meeting #6 to be held at the Catholic Education Centre and via Microsoft Teams September 29th 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

8. Closing Prayer and Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm by Gerald Foran.
Closing prayer was led by Deanna Wehrle.