

Aldershot Focus Exploration Committee Record of Action - Meeting #2

Date: December 7, 2017

Location: Aldershot High School

Present: Committee Members: Maria McLellan - Principal, Aldershot High School; Luisa Botelho - Vice Principal, Aldershot High School; Steve Cussons and Kathy Berglund - parent reps Aldershot High School; Kerry Sagar and Wade Richardson - staff reps Aldershot High School; Leah Reynolds - Trustee Aldershot High School; Gord Truffen - Superintendent Aldershot High School; Julie Hunt-Gibbons - Superintendent, Secondary Program; Jacqueline Newton - Superintendent, Innovation; John Pennyfather - Superintendent, Partnerships; Terri Blackwell - PAR Coordinating Superintendent

Regrets: Kaitlyn Hale and Abby Stevens - student reps Aldershot High School

Guests: Joanne Pattison-Meek - Instructional Program Leader, HDSB Research Department

Note: This document is not a verbatim transcript. Questions and answers have been paraphrased for the sake of clarity and brevity.

Item	Discussion	Action/Responsibility
Welcome Back	Terri welcomed everyone back and introduced Joanne Pattison-Meek - Instructional Program Leader with the HDSB Research Department.	
Revisit: Board Approved Recommendation/Committee Mandate	Terri reviewed the motion approved by the Board of Trustees on June 7, 2017, the mandate of the Exploration Committee and the decision-making process in developing a recommendation to the Board. A final decision is that of the Board of Trustees.	Report to the Board for February, 2018, with a final recommendation.
Open House Event Committee Reflection	Committee members were asked their thoughts on the open house that was held at Aldershot High School. Committee members were asked to reflect on the following stems: One thing I heard ..., I wonder about ..., I really liked ..., Someone asked me ..., I'd like to know more about...	Add to the FAQ section - www.hdsb.ca (search: Aldershot), in response to concerns shared at the open house.

	<p>Group spent time working individually and in small groups responding to the above and discussing further. Large group sharing included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Concerns brought to committee members re: students currently attending would not have the opportunity to continue in regular English track or French Immersion track; grade 7 and 8 students would be moving - the committee confirmed that this was not the intent or the motion ● Night was very positive and well received ● High level of discussion on the possible themes; discussions continued beyond the event ● Opportunities to explore other themes ● Parent committee members heard that attendees appreciated the number of board staff present to facilitate the Open House <p>An update was shared with the committee regarding what has occurred since the Open House:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Aldershot staff meeting discussion; visit to the school today by Terri and Gord; continued dialogue with staff ● Continued conversations with McMaster, Mohawk, University of Guelph, parents (Aldershot and other Halton parents), and community members ● Student Focus Groups 	
<p>Student Focus Groups Report - Joanne Pattison-Meek</p>	<p>A video was shared with the committee that was shared with students prior to the focus group activities.</p> <p>The student focus group report was presented to the committee, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Methodology (participation, details of focus group activities and facilitation processes, and analysis) ● A summary of results was shared in response to the questions posed to students: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What would you learn about in your ideal high school? 2. How would you want to learn in your ideal high school? 3. Describe the skills you want to develop in your ideal high school. 4. What does your ideal school day look, sound, and feel like? 	<p>Post the student focus groups report at www.hdsb.ca (search: Aldershot) under the "Updates" section.</p>

	<p>Themes were shared with the committee. Discussion ensued regarding the themes articulated by students.</p>	
<p>Open House Input and Survey</p>	<p>Terri reviewed the input from the Open House and the online survey, with respect to the “spark” and the “pedagogy”.</p> <p>What themes have promise? What can we eliminate? There was discussion regarding the themes generated and classification of these themes as “What” vs. “How”.</p> <p>The following themes were determined to be “how” and would be considered in the development of a concept:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Project Based/Problem Based Learning ● Students who learn differently ● Alternative Calendar School ● Post-secondary partnership opportunities <p>The following themes were determined to be possibly considered as “what” and/or “how” in the development of a concept:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Innovation/Technology Hub ● Health and Wellness <p>The committee determined that the “living at school” theme would be eliminated through a consensus process. Financial literacy was also highlighted as a topic that has recently been mandated for all students via curricular direction from the Ministry of Education.</p> <p>Discussion regarding SHSM opportunities was addressed by Julie:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Current state ● Ministry focus - SHSM program numbers are high in HDSB as compared to the rest of the province ● In HDSB, many students attend SHSM as their own school - the development of an additional SHSM (e.g., business) may or may not bring more students to Aldershot <p>Committee members were asked if they are hearing questions/further ideas from their respective groups (e.g., staff, parents).</p>	<p>Superintendents and Aldershot administration will be participating in a Design Workshop to further define a potential concept, where themes may have common outcomes with respect to the Ministry of Education’s global competencies.</p> <p>The Superintendents will also be visiting DSBN’s iHub in December and will share this learning back with the committee.</p> <p>The FAQ section will be added to at the Board’s website to include the following:</p> <p>My child attends/will attend Aldershot H.S. If there is a new theme for the school, will they still be able to take the regular track English or French Immersion program?</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>I have heard that the students in grade 7 and 8 may be relocated as a result of any potential approved recommendation. Is this true?</p> <p>No. The school will still have grade 7 and 8.</p>

Criteria for recommendation(s)	Additional criteria was added in response to the committee's request from meeting #1. Specifically: Program contributions to outcomes for students (e.g., Ministry of Education's Global Competencies)	
Next Meeting/Next Steps/Questions	It was determined that a meeting would be set in January to share the refinement of themes.	Potential meeting dates will be shared with the committee.
Adjournment		