

Boundary Review Committee 114 & 115

Minutes

Thursday, February 2, 2012

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Abbey Park High School

Present: Sharon McDowell, Dalia El-Farra, John Hardcastle, Meike Payne, Sharon Cotwal, Darlene Darragh, Christina Talford, Jennifer Poirier, Sarah Ecclestone, Sandev Purewal, Michael Fiorelli, Lindsay Patrick, Merryl Nash, Jill McFarland, Joanne Rasmussen, Jean Brewer, Stuart Miller, Odette Bartnicki, Kelly Amos, Jeff Blackwell, Laureen Choi, Kathryn Bateman-Olmstead, Dom Renzella, David Euale, Don Vrooman

Joined in Progress: Yaw Obeng

O. Bartnicki welcomed everyone.

- Discussed minutes for meetings and timelines
- Revisited norms by PIC
- Using consensus model. Not by vote but try collectively to reach a recommendation to go forward
- Reviewed criteria understanding gr viability of program and fiscal responsibility are understood
- Definitions of the criteria clarified
- Any other criteria you'd like to add – social, psychological, emotional well-being of community (accessibility of school, balance with-in schools, stability)
- Method of delivery and process has pitted eng and fi. Level of trust – community harmony would like this to be a given

Scenario discussion:

- The BRSC suggested eliminating scenarios 1,2,4,8
- 8 taken off because of bus English students to 3 schools/affects Abbey Lane
- Revisited what issues are – over utilization FT and Palermo

Q. Why is Pilgrim Wood not generated as dual track

A. 2 more scenarios tonight

Q. When will this ward get a new school

A. Ministry has turned it down. No new schools planned in this area. Applied for addition for Forest Trail and were turned down

- When new catholic school is will there be a mass exodus. At this point we don't know what the effect will be
- Pilgrim Wood – special programs. Should these special programs be left at Pilgrim Wood? Spec Ed department is looking into this. Suggestion made taking special classes out of Pilgrim Wood and send either to Abbey Lane or Heritage Glen
- When French Immersion classes developed – resources are supplied
- Review and discussion of scenarios 1, 2, 4, 8. Consensus to not pursue as unfeasible.

Scenario 3

Positives

- Relieves pressure at Palermo
- neighbourhood schools
- numbers good Forest Trail and Abbey Lane
- balanced for Forest Trail and Palermo
- dual track south of Upper Middle Rd split between 2 schools
- reduced busing

Challenges

- Forest Trail single track
- Forest Trail English track is not in community school
- Palermo over crowded
- Abbey Lane viable French program?
- 2019 Abbey Lane over capacity
- Pilgrim Wood and Heritage Glen are underutilized
- Palermo long term grandfathering problem
- no immediate relief to Palermo & Forest Trail
- is it possible to start FI growing Gr. 1-3?

Scenario 5

Positives

- less transportation
- relief at West Oak, Emily Carr and CRW
- walk to, Emily Carr and CRW's FI
- Pilgrim Wood & Heritage Glen 100 percent

Challenges

- Emily Carr over utilized
- Emily Carr & CRW FI viability?
- Emily Carr & CRW portable issue

Decision made not to pursue this scenario

Scenario 6

Positives

- less busing
- everyone in neighbourhood schools
- natural boundaries
- FI schools balanced
- dual track schools no matter program
- displacement to neighbourhood schools

Challenges

- No relief at Palermo
- Forest Trail English viability
- CRW FI not viable
- CRW over utilized
- Abbey Lane under utilized
- Lack of balance north and south of Upper

- balances pain of accommodation Middle Rd.
- Consensus grow 1-3 instead of grow from 1? • Palermo has 7 years of grandfathering

Q. Is there data that says it is better on kids with a growing programs or rip and tear.

A. Kids want to be with friends versus parents want siblings together.

Scenario 7

Positives

- less student movement
- less grandfathering
- more relief for Forest Trail

Negatives

- Same as 6

Scenario 9

Positives

- Why is Abbey Lane allocated 6 portables now when in 2009 it was 3. Difficult to go above 6 because of electrical and washrooms
- Same as 3
- Abbey Lane program viability
- Abbey Lane balance between 2 tracks

Negatives

- Same as 3
- Too aggressive by growing Gr 1-3
- Abbey Lane over capacity in 2019
- kids living near Forest Trail are still being bused out.

Scenario 10

Positives

- relief for Palermo and Forest Trail
- overall balance of portables except Heritage Glen
- program viability more balance

Negatives

- chops up CRW & Heritage Glen areas
- Pilgrim Wood, Palermo makes more busing,
- not respectful of natural boundaries
- Palermo kids bused to CRW (new area just being built)
- community being sent to 3 schools
- problem utilization of Abbey Lane, consider switching with Pilgrim Wood
- doesn't reduced busing
- kids being bused out of community

Scenario 11

Positive

- same as 10
- number of grades in FI program

Negatives

- same as 10
- decreases Heritage Glen's FI numbers

- 2 handouts – scenarios 12 & 13
- Did anyone have a scenario that was most viable – no
- Submit all new ones to Planning by Friday morning
- Homework – rank the scenarios

Communication

- discussion about transparency and organization of scenarios.
- eliminated some scenarios and some still being considered
- further scenarios coming forward.

Next meeting: Monday, February 6, 2012
Abbey Park H.S. Library
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.