

**Boundary Review Committee Meeting: New Northeast Oakville High School**  
**West Oak Public School Library**  
**Thursday, February 10, 2011**

Regrets: Ken Kelertas, Susan Mahabir

Stuart Miller welcomed and thanked parents for coming and being a part of this exciting process. Participants received packages. This is an information meeting as to how we got here and what the next steps are.

Superintendent Stuart Miller /Trustee Kelly Amos introduced the Boundary Review Steering Committee Members – Associate Director Ruth Peden, Superintendent Stuart Miller, Superintendent Tricia Dyson, Superintendent Jeff Blackwell, Trustee Kelly Amos, Planning Manager: Dom Renzella, Planner: Laureen Choi, Trustee Kathryn Bateman-Olmstead, Trustee Don Vrooman (Board Chair), Director David Euale

**Why a New Secondary School**

- There is new growth and more students in the area.
- To accommodate the growth in north Oakville.
- West Oak Trails site was confirmed.
- March 2010 approval for new site was submitted to Ministry approved May 2010.
- Opening was deferred to September 2012.

**Community School** - as provided by committee input:

- School that students can walk to
- Everyone in the neighborhood will be together
- Regional programs
- Sense of ownership from the community
- Community outreach – use of building

**Have you looked at a model of a Community School?**

Halton schools are already community schools and accommodate the above points.

**Purpose of Committee**

- Process and procedure steps were reviewed. Refer to flow chart handed out a meeting.
- School Boundary Reviews Procedure
- Consensus Focus
- Board staff and trustees review enrolments, school capacities and programs. Initial scenarios are generated.
- Boundary Review Committee reviews initial scenarios using criteria. BRC recommends revisions. Reaches consensus on scenarios as recommendations BRSC.
- Boundary Review Steering Committee receives input from BRC & revises scenarios based on criteria. Shares recommended scenario(s) with community for consultation/information.
- Boundary review Steering committee review community feedback/makes revision
- Boundary Review steering committee makes recommendation to the Director. Director takes recommended options to trustees or may revise the recommended option prior to taking to trustees. Delegations to Board occur within the timelines for the boundary review process Board trustees make the final decision.

Presently at step two.

### **Purpose of this Meeting**

To share information with the committee. We will send out the different scenarios to the committee but have asked them not to share this information with the community at the present time. The purpose of providing the scenarios to the BRC prior to the meeting (on Feb 24) is for review before that meeting. At the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> Dom and the HDSB planning dept will go over the scenarios and give a full explanation as to how to interpret the numbers and scenarios. After Feb 24<sup>th</sup> and the BRC has had the opportunity to clarify the scenarios and fully understand them, it would be expected the members would then report back to their respective school councils for discussion at the council meetings.

### **Boundary Maps & Data**

Boundary maps and enrolment projections chart to the year 2020. (Enrolment is based on October Enrolment.)

Capacity of student body. Portable capacity.

Based on how many students are coming into grade 9 from feeder schools.

New residential accommodations.

Programs in the school.

Do an estimate for a percentage from private, catholic, home schooling.

The scenarios will be coming for the next meeting for discussion.

### **Will the number of portables that are on each site show on the data charts for next meeting?**

### **Role of Program**

Jeff Blackwell gave an overview about program in a new school. For example, when a school is over enrolled the question then arising e.g. computer time, musical instrument availability, space on sport teams. Jeff indicated his role is to give you current and accurate information on programs that can be run and possible regional programs that could be accommodated at a school.

It is important to ask the question: What makes a good decision - can a program be sustained long term.

If parents have questions about program can email Jeff and questions can be brought back to these meetings.

Specialist Majors / Coop Programs Jeff will give information as to how this can be developed in a school.

Jeff defined the difference between a course and program.

### **How much of the decision of the program will this committee be addressing?**

### **Committee Operating Norms**

Recognize individual views and beliefs

Engage in a collaborative process

Safe inclusive welcoming 'risk free' environment

Publicly support group decisions

Encourage and foster healthy relationships

Communicate ideas positively about issues not people

Trust the intentions and integrity of others

### **Communication Committee**

A discussion was held about the possibility of having a subcommittee to send out communications. A variety of suggestions for communication were made. These include:

Communications can be sent out via Email.

Send out through each school website.

A suggestion was made to have High Schools send out "aggressive" messages by synervoice or email to parents.

Committee can communicate information from these meetings unless it is indicated otherwise.

A Q & A already exists on the website.

Gather all questions, bring all questions and answers back to the committee which in turn can be shared with school councils.

Have a link to the board website to all schools that are involved.

## **How the Boundary Decision Will be Made: Criteria**

The trustees will make the final decision.

- Balance of overall enrolment in each school
- Continuity of placement/possible relocation of regional programs
- New Ministry of Board programs
- Viable program numbers 40 kids in essential program, price paid if there are small class – large classes in other programs
- Proximity to schools
- Permanent accommodation – instead of the use of portables
- Stable, long term boundaries – instead of boundary changes to accommodate enrolment of existing high schools
- Cost effectiveness – transportation – students can walk
- Fiscal responsibilities
- Grandparenting of graduating class – the group that is graduation may stay together
- Number of student moves – how many moves a student has had
- Committee recommended criteria – for trustees to look at

### **How do we know the population?**

**How do we know the programs?** Capture the picture of the other schools of what the programs are there

**Would there be numbers as to how many students in the IB program are in the W.O.S.S. boundary.**

**Will the scenarios be balanced and not weighted?** Have to take into consideration what is important to all schools.

### **Can we keep cohorts together?**

Need a community rep. for the boundary review. Members were asked to submit criteria for the community rep. Suggestions included:

- School community police officer
- Community nurse
- Community business rep. – from the shopping plaza need to new site
- Someone that does not have a student in one of the schools

## **Other questions**

**Is this the first time that there has been parent involvement at this stage and if so why now?**

**Will we be heard?**

**The trustees on this committee: will they be contributing?** Trustees will be listening but not making decisions.

**Will there have to be an appeal committee?** Delegations as per board process.

**Is Dom bringing the numbers forward so that we can inform the community?** The scenarios will each show what the impact is on all the schools over a 10-year period. Everything will be shared with the committee.

The committee is important as participants have another set of eyes.

Be honest and upfront with bringing forward what really has worked and what has not worked in the past. Representing families, community and students so this can work over a 10-year period.

## **Future Meetings**

February 24 - scenarios

March 3, 10, 24 & 31

April 7 – public meeting