



# Grand Erie District School Board

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January 19, 2016

Dear Families,

Grand Erie District School Board Trustees approved an Accommodation Review involving elementary schools in the South East Norfolk area at the Regular Board meeting in April 2015. Schools included in the review are Elgin Avenue Public School, Lakewood Elementary School, Lynndale Heights Public School, Walsh Public School and West Lynn Public School.

According to Grand Erie's *Policy FT5 – Pupil Accommodation Reviews*, which is based on the Ministry of Education's *Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines*, Senior Administration prepares an accommodation report to the Board of Trustees that outlines accommodation issues for each school under review and includes recommendations, among other important items.

The report currently shows a total of 504 empty pupil places in the five elementary schools and projects reduced enrolment growth within the next ten years. The empty pupil places, also referred to as surplus spaces, requires the Board to find viable solutions for pupil accommodation that supports student achievement and well-being.

Accommodation recommendations proposed include:

1. Reassign a portion of the Walsh boundary east of Turkey Point Road and north of Charlotteville Road 7 to attend Elgin Public School.
2. Reassign a portion of the Walsh boundary south of highway 24 (Normandale – Turkey Point) plus the Vittoria area to attend Lakewood Elementary School.
3. Apply to the Ministry of Education for School Consolidation Capital support to renovate and redevelop Elgin Avenue Public School including a new gymnasium, four additional classrooms and an elevator making the school fully accessible. The redeveloped Elgin Avenue PS would accommodate 530 students.
4. Close West Lynn Public School. Reassign students from the West Lynn boundary east of Norfolk Street to Lakewood Elementary and the remaining West Lynn students to the redeveloped Elgin Avenue campus.

An Accommodation Review Committee, with parent representation from each school, will be formed and the first meeting will be held in March, pending confirmation of the date and location at the Regular Board Meeting on January 25, 2016.

For information about the South East Norfolk Elementary Accommodation Review, visit the Accommodation Review Committee banner scrolling on the homepage at [www.granderie.ca](http://www.granderie.ca).

Your child's school principal is also available to answer any questions that you may have. Please note that according to the timelines of the Accommodation Review process, the final decision by the Board of Trustees will not impact the start of school in September, 2016.

Sincerely,

David Dean  
Chair of the Board

Jamie Gunn  
Superintendent of Business

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