



Boundary Review Special Ad Hoc Public Meeting #2 - Waterford

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

6 pm

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Grand Erie Staff:

Chair, W. Baker, Superintendent of Education
R. Wyszynski, Superintendent of Business
K. Graham, Superintendent of Education
J. Pathak, Planning Officer
A. Cunningham, Principal Waterford Public School
L. Butler, Principal Teeterville Public School
J. Della Fortuna, Principal Waterford District High School
C. McGrath, Vice-Principal Waterford Public School and Delhi Public School
S. Nicholson, Principal Bloomsburg Public School
T. Rodrigues, Principal Boston Public School
A. Schuyler, Principal Burford District Elementary School
I. Summers, Principal Delhi Public School

Community:

J. Ammendolia, Watson
C. McCready, Waterford Public School Parent Council
S. Crotta, Bloomsburg Public School Parent Council
C. Mallett, Waterford Public School Parent Council
L. Helder, Waterford District High School Parent Council
M. Lambert, Teeterville Public School
C. Locke, Waterford District High School Parent Council
C. Mallett, Waterford Public School Parent Council
L. Miller/Cooper, Delhi Public School Parent Council
L. Rockefeller, Boston Public School Parent Council

Trustees:

Absent with Regrets:

N. Hercanuck, Planning Supervisor
E. Thomas, Trustee

Other:

Recorder:

M. Le Dressay
W. Kipp, Executive Assistant

A - 1

Opening

Superintendent Wyszynski read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1

Information J. Ammendolia, Watson & Associates shared data and background information on the boundary review presenting two options to the public for discussion and feedback.

C - 1

Public Discussion

All comments and questions received from the public verbally, through the meeting chat box or via planning@granderie.ca have been collected. Grouping of these questions do not reflect the order they were asked.

1. **High school is under capacity, what is the risk of it closing if we do not fill it up?**



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There is a moratorium on school closures so at this point the high school is not able to be closed. We do not foresee Waterford closing based on the need.

2. At times there is one supervisor in the hall and students are not always supervised and sometimes it is a parent supervisor.

Principal ensures students are supervised at all times. Maximum supervision will be provided while students are at the high school. Volunteer parents do not supervise students at school unless as a volunteer in classrooms or field trips.

What will LRT support look like for elementary students at the high school?

That would have to be determined and would be at the same rate it is offered now at the elementary school. It could be a shared position between the elementary school and the elementary students at the high school.

3. How will the amount per child that is allocated ensure the resources are available to students.

Budget allocations follow students for resources. If students shift to another school the amount that is allocated is shifted with the student. Teachers, supports, and resources follow the students. One expense that would not be covered would be recreational activities, but there will be a transition plan.

Where will the money come from to hire other resources such as another LST, supervisors etc. when Elementary are in two separate buildings?

Teachers follow students and if hiring is required HR would look after this aspect.

4. Why are there multiple options?

We offer multiple options so we can have the boundary review discussions. All comments made tonight go to the committee who puts a report together for the Board of Trustees to decide.

5. What are the walking boundary determinations?

Transportation eligibility is 1.6 kms for elementary 3.2 kms for secondary and it is calculated by using the actual road network. Within these boundaries students are walkers and if a student falls outside these distances, then they are bussed.

6. How was the physical distance of the school factored in?

We use the road network to factor in the distances.

7. Are we going to have this same issue again once all the new homes are built?

We have accounted for the growth of Waterford. We can not say no but when we make these recommendations, we do not only use 2022 numbers.

8. Where in the high school will the grade 6, 7 and 8's be housed?

The elementary students will have their own wing. There would be very little overlap in the hallways of secondary and elementary students.



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What happens to the grade 7 and 8's whose boundaries may change and send them to a new school?

Grade 7 and 8's if their boundaries were to change and route them to another school, the committee could recommend they be legaced in to attend the high school with their peers.

What does it mean for the grade 7 and 8's who are rural, will they go to BLO or to the high school with WPS grade 7 and 8's?

This will be part of the committee mandate and look at recommendation of legacy students.

9. What will happen to students who may have to change school twice since some changes will happen in 2023 and others in 2024?

The committee and Board of Trustees will take the movements into consideration for students and many times Board of Trustees will take siblings into account to try and not have students from one family at too many different schools.

What will the grade 6 to 8 migration to the high school look like? What sort of separation etc. would be made in the school to protect the younger students?

There would be a separation from the secondary students. The same safety and supervision would happen whether they were to be in the elementary school or if they are in a high school. Many boards have this model and run the program well and have addressed these types of concerns. Should the Board of Trustees decide 6 to 12 would be the preferred model then the board would have meetings with families to address their concerns and ensure supports are in place.

10. How would sports for grade 6 students at the high school look like?

They would participate in intermediate events.

11. Will there be a chance for community members to vote for the committee to have feedback?

We are not conducting a vote; the public meetings are for the community to voice their opinions and concerns.

Would there be an opportunity for the community and businesses to raise money for some of the considerations for the hybrid option (option 2 and 5)?

Community can raise funds to enhance the school if the boards guidelines are followed.

12. Will before and after care be available for grade 6's at the high school?

We can reach out to the current provider to see if they are able to take students from the high school.

13. Does the school board own the property on Thompson Road?

The board does not own this property.

14. Would there be an opportunity to have a meeting with the Board of Trustees that represent a specific area?

Regardless of what recommendation the committee presents to the Board of Trustees, parents have a right to form a delegation and present



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their views to the Board of Trustees. and they can also talk with a Trustee with questions, concerns, or comments.

15. When will a decision be made?

The committee works on a consensus basis and makes a recommendation to the Trustees and the Trustees will make the decision as they see fit and the Board meeting for Trustees to make their decision is February 27, 2023.

When would the changes happen?

Movement into another school requiring renovations would happen for September 2024. Boundary changes could happen for September 2023.

What guarantee is there that the school will be ready on time?

Having this amount of time in advance will accommodate us to get things accomplished in time.

D - 1

Statements from Public Input

- (a) Tally from meeting regarding Grade 6, 7 and 8 moved to WHS, 9 attendees commented that they support the grade 6's attending WHS and 8 attendees do not support the grade 6's moving to WHS.
- (b) Many families wish for students to be grandfathered if they would be affected by the boundary changes.
- (c) Totally against the boundary review.
- (d) Do not want our kids to go through having to move schools. Moving the grades 6-8 because this will keep the kids together. If you do decide to move grades 7-8, then the kids currently going to WPS should be grandfathered in and new enrollment sent to Boston or Bloomsberg.
- (e) Option 2, no boundary review and 6, 7 and 8's to the high school makes sense and is preferred.
- (f) Keep the kids of Waterford together.
- (g) If students are not moved to the high school, it may be faced to close one day.
- (h) Options 2 and 6 combined will help us to not have to go through this process in the next few years again due to growth.
- (i) Surplus space needs to be filled up before a business case for an addition or new school will be considered.

E - 1

Next Steps

- Next Committee Ad Hoc meeting will address budget concerns.
- Committee will put together recommendation to submit to the Board of Trustees.
- Committee to address legacy and issues with some changes happening in fall of 2023 and some in fall of 2024.
- Share email from planning department with families to give voice: planning@granderie.ca



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- F - 1 **Next Meeting**
Waterford Ad Hoc Committee Meeting #4, Wednesday, February 1, 2023, 6 pm
- G - 1 **Adjournment**
7:53 pm