



## GRAND ERIE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

TO: Trustees of the Grand Erie District School Board

FROM: Brenda Blancher, Director of Education & Secretary

RE: **Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review - Committee Report**  
**Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review - Senior Administration Report**

DATE: April 11, 2016

**Recommended Action:** It was moved by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ THAT the Grand Erie District School Board approve Senior Administration Recommendations for each school in the Accommodation Review:

**Rainham Central** – no changes

**J.L. Mitchener** – no changes

**Grandview Central** – Close the school and reassign all students to a new school to be constructed at Fairview Avenue Public School

**Anna Melick** – Close the school and reassign all students to Thompson Creek Elementary School

**Fairview Avenue Public School** – Apply to the Ministry of Education for Capital Funding Approval to demolish the current school and build a replacement school on the Fairview site to accommodate current Fairview and Grandview Central students

**Thompson Creek** - Apply to the Ministry of Education for Capital Funding Approval to construct a four classroom addition onto Thompson Creek to provide sufficient total capacity to accommodate current Thompson Creek and Anna Melick students.

### Rationale/Background:

At the Committee of the Whole No. 2 Meeting on January 18, 2016, the Board of Trustees approved the following recommended action:

**THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review – Committee Report and Senior Administration Report for consideration at the Committee of the Whole #2 meeting on April 11, 2016**

The Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review - Committee Report and the Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review – Senior Administration Senior Administration Report were prepared in accordance with Policy FT5 Pupil Accommodation Reviews

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Blancher  
Director of Education and Secretary



## GRAND ERIE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

TO: Brenda Blancher, Director and Secretary to the Board

FROM: Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review Committee

RE: **Report of the Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review Committee**

DATE: January 18, 2016

**Recommended Action:** Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_  
 THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the report of the Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review Committee as information.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review Committee was established to ensure viable school organizations are consistent with available funding, efficient use of school buildings and appropriate accommodation for elementary students in the Haldimand East area.

A review of all buildings, utilization and capital investments was completed by the Board's Quality Accommodations Committee. The Quality Accommodations Committee determined the long term enrolment projections for the six elementary schools (Anna Melick, Fairview Avenue, Grandview Central, J.L. Mitchener, Rainham Central and Thompson Creek) in Haldimand East which will realize approximately **553 surplus pupil spaces within 10 years**. Also reviewed was future utilization, renewal and capital costs.

#### **Demographic profiles were completed for each of the six schools that included:**

- five year projected enrolment numbers
- percentage based
- number of portables
- gymnasiums, library, accessibility (stages)
- number of students attending that are not in the school's catchment area (ie., special education),
- grade configurations
- on the ground capital
- facility program over the next five years
- well or septic systems

#### **School profiles were completed for each of the six schools that included:**

- Value to the Students
- Value to the Community
- Value to the School System
- Value to the Economy

#### **Phases of the review included:**

- public review
- public consultation period (90 days)
- Board review

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:**

Brian Doyle (Chairperson) - Trustee, James Richardson - Trustee, Brenda Blancher - Superintendent of Education (from March to June 2015), Linda De Vos - Superintendent of Education (from September 2015), Dave Peters - Grand Erie Elementary Teacher's Federation, Nancy Hondula - CUPE, Deb Warner - Principal, Anna Melick, Marion Kline - Principal, Fairview Avenue, David Gervais - Principal, Grandview Central, Julie White – Principal, J.L. Mitchener, Alison Cooke – Principal, Rainham Central, Charlotte Morphet – Principal, Thompson Creek, Madeleine Jobb—Parent, Anna Melick Memorial School (March to October 2015), Anthony Van Hell, Parent, Anna Melick Memorial School (from November 2015) Danielle Lipson—Parent, Fairview Avenue Public School, Mike Black—Parent, Grandview Central Public School, Mandie Cowan—Parent, J.L. Mitchener Public School, Melony Cooper—Parent, Rainham Central School, Todd Smith—Parent, Thompson Creek Elementary School, Bernie Corbett, Municipal Councillor, Haldimand County, Mark Gibson, Cayuga and District Chamber of Commerce.

There were two parent representative alternates who participated in ARC meetings – Karen Allen, Thompson Creek (November 17, 2015 meeting) and Tina McIntee, Grandview Central (December 8, 2015 meeting).

**OTHER PERSONNEL:**

**Carol Ann Sloat** - Board Chair, **David Dean** - Board Vice-Chair, **John Forbeck** – Director (March to June 2015), **Brenda Blancher** – Director (from September 2015), **Jamie Gunn** - Superintendent of Business, **Shawn McKillop** - Manager of Communications and Community Relations, **Michelle O'Reilly** - Planning Officer, **Elaine Roberts** - Recording Secretary

**DATES AND LOCATIONS OF MEETINGS:**

- March 11                    J.L. Mitchener
- April 29                    Thompson Creek
- June 4                        Grandview Central
- September 24            Fairview Avenue
- October 29                Dunnville Secondary
- November 17             Anna Melick
- December 8                Rainham Central

**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ADMINISTRATION:**

Initial Options for Consideration (Effective September 1, 2016):

- Option 1:** Close Anna Melick M.S. and assign students to Thompson Creek E.S.  
*Resulting surplus capacity - 389*
- Option 2:** Close Grandview Central P.S. and assign students to Fairview Avenue P.S.  
*Resulting surplus capacity - 400*
- Option 3:** Close Anna Melick M.S. and assign students to Thompson Creek E.S.  
**and** Close Grandview Central P.S. and assign students to Fairview Avenue P.S.  
*Resulting surplus capacity - 236*
- Option 4:** Close Anna Melick M.S. and assign students to Thompson Creek E.S.  
**and** Close Grandview Central P.S. and assign students to Fairview Avenue P.S. and Rainham Central P.S.  
*Resulting surplus capacity - 190*
- Option 5:** Close Anna Melick M.S. and assign students to Thompson Creek E.S.  
**and** Assign a portion of current Thompson Creek catchment to J.L. Mitchener P.S.  
**and** Close Grandview Central P.S. and assign students to Fairview Avenue and Rainham Central P.S.  
*Resulting surplus capacity– 144*

**DELEGATIONS:**

15 delegations from the six schools were heard and are attached.

**Presented by:**

Glen & Stephanie Dale  
Susanne Austin  
Beth Blake  
Best Start Community Hub  
Allison Blake  
Tim Boyer  
Jessica Davidson  
Renee Hamilton  
Danielle Lipson  
Angela Skotniski  
Adam Roesch  
Gary Smith  
Sheri Styles  
J. Williams  
Lianne Park

**RECOMMENDATION FROM THE COMMITTEE:**

The recommendations of the Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review Committee are:

- Option 1 - THAT the Grand Erie District School Board close Anna Melick Memorial School and close Grandview Central Public School. Assign all students to a new school to be built at the Fairview Avenue Public School site and THAT Thompson Creek, Rainham Central and J.L. Mitchener remain status quo.
- Option 2 - THAT the Grand Erie District School Board close Anna Melick and assign students to Thompson Creek Elementary School; reassign Yarmey to Sutor Rd to Grandview Central Public School. Remove Rainham Central and J.L. Mitchener from the review. Fairview Avenue remains status quo.

**APPENDICES:**

Appendix A - Meeting Notes - attached  
Appendix B - School Profiles - attached  
Appendix C - Written submissions from Delegations - attached

Data presented - located on Board's website

Respectfully submitted,

Haldimand East Accommodation Review Committee



## GRAND ERIE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

TO: Brenda Blancher, Director of Education & Secretary

FROM: Jamie Gunn, Superintendent of Business

RE: **Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review**

DATE: January 18, 2016

**Recommended Action:** It was moved by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review – Senior Administration Report as information.

**Recommended Action:** It was moved by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ THAT the Grand Erie District School Board receive the Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review – Committee Report and Senior Administration Report for consideration at the Committee of the Whole #2 meeting April 11, 2016.

### **Rationale/Background:**

Accommodation Review Committee for the Haldimand East Elementary review area has submitted their final report and recommendations to the Director of Education and the Board of Trustees. Senior Administration has reviewed the report and provide their recommendations for Board consideration in this report.

### **Additional Information:**

Administration provided a number of recommendations to the Accommodation Review Committee for consideration. These recommendations focused on reducing the surplus pupil places in the review area. During the process, two clear requests came from the school communities:

1. Consider permanent building additions rather than portable classroom structures where additional accommodation is needed for the recommended accommodation option.
2. Avoid splitting school populations when reassigning the students from a closed school.

The preferred recommendation from the ARC was not one that was provided by administration but it has its merits. By closing two schools and building a new school on the Fairview site the Board would be reducing surplus pupil places and permanently removing operating costs and facility renewal liabilities for the closed facilities. While this option will require submission of a business case as a School Consolidation Capital Project to request financial support from the Ministry of Education, the ongoing savings make it a strong case for consideration.

**Recommendation of Administration:**

Administration recommends the following action for each school in the review area:

Rainham Central – no changes

JL Mitchener – no changes

Grandview Central – Close the school and reassign all students to a new school to be constructed at Fairview Avenue Public School.

Anna Melick – Close the school and reassign all students to Thompson Creek Elementary School

Fairview Avenue Public School – Demolish the current school and build a replacement school on the Fairview site to accommodate current Fairview and Grandview Central students.

Thompson Creek – construct a four classroom addition onto Thompson Creek to provide sufficient total capacity to accommodate current Thompson Creek and Anna Melick students.

The table below shows existing enrolment levels and capacities of the review area schools. With no consolidation, utilization rates will decline to well below 75%.

*Summary of Enrolment and Capacity*

School	Capacity	Portable Capacity	Total Capacity	Current Enrolment	5 Year Projection	10 Year Projection
Anna Melick	210		210	130	118	120
Fairview Avenue	372		372	279	272	270
Grandview Central	199	23	222	142	125	130
JL Mitchener	414		414	285	277	263
Rainham Central	274	46	320	244	217	212
Thompson Creek	444		444	353	368	365
<b>Total</b>	<b>1913</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>1982</b>	<b>1433</b>	<b>1377</b>	<b>1360</b>
<b>Surplus Pupil Spaces (excluding Portables)</b>				<b>480</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>553</b>
Utilization				72.3%	69.5%	68.6%

The school closure and consolidation recommended by administration would reduce the capacity of the review area schools by 225 pupil spaces and improve the total utilization to over 85% in the Dunnville schools. This recommendation proposes that Anna Melick students move to Thompson Creek rather than Fairview (as recommended by the ARC) to better utilize all surplus space at the

Dunnville schools. Rainham Central and JL Mitchener would be left as is as they are more than 20 km from two remaining schools. School populations would have to be split up to improve the overall utilization rates further for the review area. The replacement school on the Fairview site would have a capacity of 464. There is some indication that Ministry capital may be available to create space to host the Haldimand-Norfolk Reach program currently operating in Fairview School. The table below shows the enrolments and capacities that would result from the proposed consolidation.

<i>Summary of Enrolment and Capacity</i>								
<i>Recommendation from Senior Administration</i>								
School	Capacity	Added Capacity	Total Capacity	Enrolment Shift	5 Year Enrolment Projection	5 Year Utilization	10 Year Enrolment Projection	10 Year Utilization
Anna Melick	<del>210</del>		closed	-120	0		0	
Fairview Avenue	372	92	464	130	397	85.6%	400	86.2%
Grandview Central	<del>199</del>		closed	-130	0		0	
JL Mitchener	414		414		277	66.9%	263	63.5%
Rainham Central	274		274		217	79.2%	212	77.4%
Thompson Creek	444	92	536	120	486	90.7%	485	90.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1504</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>1688</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1377</b>		<b>1360</b>	
<b>Surplus Pupil Spaces</b>					<b>311</b>		<b>328</b>	
Utilization (including added capacity)					81.6%		80.6%	

### Timelines and Next Steps:

The Ministry of Education recently put out a call for School Consolidation Capital Project business cases where the Board could present the above proposal for consideration for capital funding approval. Pending Board approval of the recommended consolidation plan, a proposal would be submitted and could receive approval by the late spring of this year. This would make possible the timeline to have the new school open to students by September 2018 or sooner.

The former accommodation review policy under which this ARC was conducted requires that the Board receive this report and hold it for decision no earlier than 60 days from the date of the January 25, 2016 Board Meeting (excluding March Break and adjacent weekends). The earliest agenda that the Board could consider approval would be at the Committee of the Whole #2 meeting scheduled for April 11, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Gunn  
Superintendent of Business