



Haldimand East Elementary Schools Accommodation Review Committee

October 29, 2015 – 7:00 PM
Dunnville Secondary School - Cafeteria

MEETING NOTES

In Attendance:

Brian Doyle (Chair)—Trustee, **James Richardson**—Trustee, **Linda De Vos**—Superintendent of Education, **Nancy Hondula**—CUPE, **Deborah Warner**—Principal, Anna Melick Memorial School, **Marion Kline**—Principal, Fairview Avenue Public School, **David Gervais**—Principal, Grandview Central Public School, **Julie White**—Principal, J.L. Mitchener Public School, **Alison Cooke**—Principal, Rainham Central School, **Charlotte Morphet**—Principal, Thompson Creek Elementary School, **Madeleine Jobb**—Parent Representative, Anna Melick Memorial School, **Danielle Lipson**—Parent Representative, Fairview Avenue Public School, **Mike Black**—Parent Representative, Grandview Central Public School, **Melony Cooper**—Parent Representative, Rainham Central School, **Jen Smith**—Parent Representative, J.L. Mitchener Public School, **Cara Dorland**—Parent Representative, Thompson Creek Elementary School, **Bernie Corbett**, Municipal Councillor, Haldimand County.

Absent/Regrets:

Dave Peters—ETFO, **Mark Gibson**—Cayuga and District Chamber of Commerce.

1. Welcome and Introductions

B. Doyle, Chair of the Committee, welcomed Committee members and those present in the audience to the fifth meeting of the Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review Committee.

Other Board members present were: Carol Ann Sloat—Chair of the Board and Rita Collver, Trustee.

Brenda Blancher, Director of Education, and Grand Erie District School Board Administrative staff: Jamie Gunn—Superintendent of Business, Shawn McKillop—Manager of Communications and Community Relations and Elaine Roberts—Recording Secretary were in attendance to provide resource to the Committee.

1.1 Delegation Meeting Process

ARC and audience members were advised of the following:

- the registered spokesperson for each delegation will speak
- if requested on registration, submissions will be read by the Chair of the ARC
- delegations will speak in order of receipt of submission
- the time allowed for each presentation will not exceed 10 minutes

- delegations are expected to conduct themselves with courtesy and respect for others, and to focus their comments only on the Haldimand East Elementary Accommodation Review
- ARC members will have an opportunity to ask questions of clarification relating to remarks made following each presentation
- delegations are invited to stay for the remainder of the evening

2. Delegations

The following delegations were heard:

1. Dale, Glen & Stephanie *
2. Austin, Susanne
3. Blake, Beth
4. Best Start Community Hub
 - Q - Can you explain the Community Hub's mandate and partnership with the school board (e.g. funding, contribution to maintenance, etc.)?
 - R - The aim of the Hub (*under the Ontario Early Years strategy*) and the 'schools first philosophy' is to provide seamless services, e.g., a seamless day where services are organized so that young children move easily from one service such as child care to another - kindergarten, seamlessly. The services are complementary and contribute to healthy child development/bonding with the school.
The Hub is funded by the Province and provides 'in kind' services to the school.
 - Q - Does the Hub need to be situated at its current location?
 - R - Space needs to be available in a school for the program room and an office. The partnership the program has currently with Fairview Avenue P.S. works very well. The program needs to be accessible to families who walk as transportation is a huge issue for many of the Hub's families.
5. Blake, Allison
6. Boyer, Tim
7. Davidson, Jessica
8. Hamilton, Renee
9. Lipson, Danielle
10. Skotniski, Angela
11. Roesch, Adam
12. Smith, Gary
13. Styles, Sheri
14. Williams, J. *
15. Park, Lianne

* Denotes submission read on behalf of the sender.

All written submissions will be posted on the Grand Erie website at www.granderie.ca.
Questions regarding the process may be submitted by email to: info@granderie.ca.

3. Questions/Comments from the Audience/Community

- Q - Regarding the option suggested in presentation 13 (S. Styles), merging the student populations of Fairview Avenue and Thompson Creek schools, would funding be available or do both schools need to close?
- R - Capital funding is determined on the basis of the business case proposed. It is possible this option could be funded.
- Q - Can you clarify the option of the Ministry funding a new school? Has the Ministry been approached re funding?
- R - The Ministry provides separate funding for capital projects. In considering funding, they look at future capital and ongoing operating costs vs the status quo of current capacity and operating costs of the schools. A recommendation would need to go forward to the Board and be approved by the Board for a business case to be prepared and the Ministry approached. The ARC may recommend a 'plan A and plan B' in the event the Ministry declines the business case.

4. Questions/Discussion by ARC Members:

The Committee was asked by Chair Doyle, if it wished to add any additional options.

- Q - Would the new option, combining the student populations of Fairview Avenue and Thompson Creek at Thompson Creek E.S., require a boundary change, and would this option address the capacity requirements as the rural schools would still be operating at low capacity?
- R - A full analysis of data for this option would need to be prepared.
- C - The proposed new option is very similar to Option 7 which the committee removed from consideration at a previous meeting.
- C - May new options still be brought forth? At what point is there a final cut-off for options?
- R - New options should be added by the next meeting. The focus of that meeting will be to review the options and work towards reducing/selecting options, and preparing a recommendation to go forward to the Board.

Request for Information:

The ARC agreed that it would like to receive a statistical analysis of the option raised in presentation 13 (Option 12) at the next meeting.

5. Next Meeting Date(s)

The next meeting will be held at Anna Melick Memorial School on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

The following meeting will be held at Rainham Central Public School on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.