



**Grand River South/Sunnyside Elementary Schools Pupil
Accommodation Review
Minutes of Accommodation Review Committee Meeting # 12
November 2, 2010 - 4:30 pm**

The twelfth meeting of the Grand River South/Sunnyside Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) was held at Sunnyside P.S., on November 2nd, 2010.

Committee Members Present:

Al Watt, Vice Principal of Wilson Avenue P.S., Trish Starodub, Principal of Sheppard P.S., Maria Lotimer, Principal of Howard Robertson P.S., Darren Batt, Vice Principal of Franklin P.S., Heather Preddie, Principal of Rockway P.S., Jeff Lovell, Principal of Sunnyside P.S., Rebecca McCrae, Vice Principal of Sunnyside P.S., Stuart Gallacher, parent – Lackner Woods P.S., Robert Dean, parent – Wilson Avenue P.S., Christine Lassel, parent – Rockway P.S., Jennifer Childs, parent – Sheppard P.S., Richard Briston, parent – Franklin P.S., Naz Ritchie, parent – Lackner Woods P.S., Diane Kewley, parent – Sheppard P.S., Deb Dubrick, parent – Sunnyside P.S., Mary Hingley, recording secretary, Nathan Hercanuck, Senior Planner, Lauren Manske, Senior Planner and Chris Smith, Manager of Planning, for the Waterloo Region District School Board.

Regrets:

Gregg Bereznick, Area Superintendent, Dayle Buller-Power, Principal of Lackner Woods P.S., Ron Dallan, Manager of Capital Projects – Facility Services, Andrea Michelutti, Vice Principal of Howard Robertson P.S., Julie Lobsinger, Principal of Wilson Avenue P.S., Kelly Kempel, parent – Sunnyside P.S., Charlene Rushmere, parent – Howard Robertson P.S., Katie Anderl, Municipal Rep – City of Kitchener, Jonathan Blake, parent – Rockway P.S.

1. Welcome/Introductions

Chris Smith, Manager of Planning welcomed members of the ARC and opened the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

2. ARC Meeting # 10 – Draft Minutes Approval

- Mr. Smith asked the group if there were any corrections/concerns with the minutes from the September 28th ARC meeting.
 - No concerns or corrections were raised.
 - Minutes from the September 28th meeting were approved.
 - Mover: Stuart Gallacher
 - Seconded: Jennifer Childs
- Mr. Smith advised that minutes from the Joint ARC Meeting held on October 12, 2010 will be emailed to both groups for approval, and then posted to the Board's website under each Accommodation Review:

For Grand River South/Sunnyside:

<http://www.wrdsb.ca/about-us/planning/accommodation-reviews/grand-river-south/sunnyside-elementary-schools-accommodation>

Tonight's ARC presentation can be viewed on the link above as well.

For Breslau/Stanley Park:

<http://www.wrdsb.ca/planning/accommodation-reviews/breslau-stanley-park-elementary-schools-accommodation-review>

- He also noted that what staff heard from the joint meeting, is that both ARC's would prefer to go forward with their own independent scenarios instead of a proposing a joint solution.

3. Scenario Discussion and evaluation with respect to the Review Objectives

Mr. Hercanuck advised that tonight's meeting will focus on looking at the ARC's preferred scenarios to this point, and gauging their success when put up against each of the Review Objectives.

- A copy of the final, updated Review Objectives (September 28, 2010) was handed out to the ARC for reference.

Scenario 4

- Additional JK-8 accommodation constructed in the Lackner Blvd/Fairway Road area. The new school receives Areas Y and Z2 from Sheppard P.S. and Areas Q2, X2, and X4 from Lackner Woods P.S.
- Lackner Woods P.S. receives Areas Z3 and Z4 from Sheppard P.S.
- Howard Robertson receives Area X3 from Lackner Woods P.S.
- The new JK-8 facility provides the senior 7/8 program for its own catchment as well as Lackner Woods P.S.
- Sunnyside P.S. remains open but gives up Areas T, Q1, Q2, X2, X4, Y, Z2, Z3 and Z4 to the new school for its 7/8 program. Does get Area P from Stanley Park P.S.

Discussion:

Q – The new school numbers are high, and we have seen subdivisions explode and quickly overwhelm new schools, i.e. Baden, W.T. Townshend. Past experience shows us they get bigger faster, is this a concern for us?

R – We use the best information available to us for the enrolment projections. Unlike the west side of Kitchener, we are at the edge of development in this review area and we know the number of remaining units to be built, so that situation is unlikely to happen here. We have to build up the threshold for a new school; at the same time we don't build schools for the enrolment peaks, otherwise when enrolment steadies out, we have too much capacity.

C – 5% error plus or minus with an enrolment of 700 is 35 students. We could look at it both ways – up or down.

R – We could adjust the numbers more often to reduce that 5%, but people don't want boundary changes every year.

C – Abraham Erb P.S. was underutilized initially; it didn't quite fill up when first built. So, not all of our schools have opened over capacity, but most new ones do.

Q – Board-wide our enrolment projections are very good. When broken down school by school and grade by grade, it gets more difficult. We use past information to predict the future, and is our best educated guess.

Ms. Manske noted that we are looking at Board Policy 3002 in this first bullet.

Q – Was that in our original objectives?

R – Yes, having regard for school size and configuration has been an objective from the beginning of the process.

It was also noted that the English as a Second Language Program (ESL) in each of the schools is student driven and determines teacher needs.

Mr. Hercanuck displayed the walk webs for Scenario 4.

- Area AB would still be bussed to Franklin P.S.
- Areas Q2, X2, X4, Y and Z2 would be within walking distance. Transportation costs would be reduced however can't put an exact number on it.

Constructing a small addition and implementing a boundary change at Lackner Woods P.S. would eliminate the 8 portables currently on site. The school is almost 10 years old now and most of the enrolment peak in the existing catchment area is over. The proposed new school at Fairway Rd. and Lackner Blvd. will have a higher enrolment peak.

Q – What is meant by: Refer to accessibility committee for prioritization?

R – The Ministry has mandated that by 2025 all schools will need to be fully accessible.

However, no money has been earmarked for this by the Ministry yet. The Board does have an Accessibility Committee in place that is prioritizing the schools. The committee has determined to look at dispersing geographically and have started with secondary schools in each of the 4 quadrants.

Mr. Hercanuck then led the ARC through each Review Objective for Scenario 4, and completed a meets/doesn't meet chart on screen with comments.

Scenario 5

- Additional JK-8 accommodation constructed in the Morrison Road area. Receives Area Y and Area Z2 from Sheppard P.S., and Area AB from Franklin P.S.
- Lackner Woods P.S. receives Area Z1 from Sheppard P.S.
- Howard Robertson P.S. receives Area X1 from Lackner Woods P.S.
- The new JK-8 provides the senior 7/8 program for its own catchment as well as Howard Robertson P.S.
- Sunnyside P.S. continues to provide the senior 7/8 program for Wilson Avenue, Franklin, Lackner Woods and portions of Rockway and Sheppard public schools. Receives Areas P and T from Stanley Park P.S. eliminating the split feeds from Franklin and Lackner Woods public schools.

Mr. Hercanuck noted that a minor change was made to Scenario 5:

- The portion of Area X below Fairway Rd. was removed for Area X and included in Area Y and the new school boundary. It represents about 25 students that would go to the new school instead of Howard Robertson P.S.
- The finger-like portion of Area AB is now directed to Howard Robertson P.S. for consistency even though it represents a mainly commercial area with no students.

Discussion:

A larger addition for Lackner Woods P.S. is proposed in this scenario.

- Additions are not factored into the enrolment projection tables at this point; built capacities have not yet been adjusted.

C – Franklin P.S. is underutilized in this scenario with the location of the new school.

R – Area R could be moved to Franklin (from Crestview P.S.) to fill them back up, however that area can walk to Crestview P.S. now and like where they are.

Mr. Hercanuck then led the ARC through each Review Objective for Scenario 5, and completed a meets/doesn't meet chart on screen with comments.

Rockway/Sheppard option

- Rockway P.S. closes, students attend Sheppard P.S.
- No change from current JK-6 feed to 7/8 facility
- Addition/renovations at Sheppard P.S.

Mr. Hercanuck noted that a minor change was made to this scenario:

- A small portion of Area S was added to the Wilson Avenue P.S. boundary.

Discussion:

C – This scenario would address accessibility needs at Sheppard P.S. if it is upgraded.

Q – How many students would then need to be transported to Sheppard P.S.?

R – Approximately 200 students which would mean about 3 additional bus routes.

Mr. Hercanuck then led the ARC through each Review Objective for the Rockway/Sheppard option, and completed a meets/doesn't meet chart on screen with comments.

4. Date/location/time for Public Meeting # 3

Mr. Smith proposed Tuesday, November 23, 2010 for Public Meeting # 3, and asked the ARC for their input regarding school location and time.

- Sunnyside P.S. was put forth as the host school due to its central location, and 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. timeframe was agreed upon for the Open House format. Mr. Lovell confirmed that the school was available for the meeting.
- Mr. Smith reiterated that ARC members are not required to attend the meeting; however might be helpful to gauge public feedback.
- Display boards will be set up for the public to review each scenario (with costs) and ask Planning staff any questions.
- Comment sheets will be provided for feedback during the meeting, as well as copies of the Review Objectives.

- Website info, boundary feedback email address, and contact number for Planning will be provided as well.
- Attendance will be taken at the public meeting (a requirement of the accommodation review process).

5. School Information Profiles

Mr. Hercanuck advised the ARC that the School Information Profiles are complete and have been posted on the Board's website under the Grand River South/Sunnyside Accommodation Review using the following link:

<http://www.wrdsb.ca/about-us/planning/accommodation-reviews/grand-river-south/sunnyside-elementary-schools-accommodation>

6. Roundtable

Mr. Hercanuck noted that the meets/doesn't meets charts for each of the scenarios will be updated and ready for the next ARC meeting. Tonight we looked at the scenarios separately and rated them on their own merit for consistency and fairness. At the next meeting the ARC will have an opportunity to look at the charts side by side for comparison purposes. Cost estimates will be added to each scenario, i.e. addition costs, new construction, etc. Mr. Dallan, Manager of Capital Projects will be here to answer any questions around the cost estimates as well.

7. Future Meeting Dates:

- Mr. Hercanuck proposed Tuesday, November 16, 2010 at Sunnyside P.S. from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. for ARC # 13.
 - The ARC agreed to the meeting date/time and location.
 - Mr. Lovell agreed to host ARC # 13 at Sunnyside P.S.
- Mr. Hercanuck also mentioned that there will be no ARC meetings during the month of December, realizing that family commitments are a high priority during the month.
 - Feedback from the Public Meeting will be compiled and sent to the ARC soon after the meeting, however.
- Mr. Smith thanked all for coming and the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Future Meeting Dates:

Tuesday November 16, 2010 @ Sunnyside P.S. – 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

**Public Meeting # 3 – Open House – Tuesday, November 23, 2010 @ Sunnyside P.S.
from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**