

Woolwich/Wellesley Townships

Elementary Schools Pupil Accommodation Review **Accommodation Review Committee Meeting #6**

December 7, 2011

Three Bridges P.S. Library 6:30 – 8:00 pm



Waterloo Region
District School Board

- 1. Welcome/Introductions**
- 2. ARC Meeting # 5 – Draft Minutes Approval**
- 3. Draft Issues/Objectives**
 1. Previous Acc. Review Objectives
- 4. School Information Profiles**
- 5. Future Meeting Dates/Times**

3. Draft Issues/Objectives

Draft Issue	Comments	Nov. 23 worksheet comments
Current school boundaries divide communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance boundaries around some settlement areas have not kept up with growth of the settlement area leading in some cases to some students attending a different school than their neighbours. Three Bridges P.S. does not have a defined attendance area boundary making enrolment projections/planning for future difficult. Transportation boundary implemented 2010/2011. Does not having a boundary create inequitable access? How is it determined who will attend? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defined attendance boundaries for all schools How do we address boundaries to make all school communities more diverse (i.e. not all David Martin Mennonites at one school) When addressing ensure boundaries have equitable representation from our community. Does Three Bridges P.S. not having a boundary divide the community?

Draft Objective:

Ensure equitable student access to a community school by having defined attendance area boundaries that promote a diverse population with boundaries that relate geographically to the community it is located in.



3. Draft Issues/Objectives

Draft Issue	Comments	Nov. 23 worksheet comments
Bus ride length	<ul style="list-style-type: none">For students at some schools the length of time on a bus is significantly higher than other schools. Largely due to size of boundary, those at the fringes have a longer bus ride. As well transportation boundaries for Three Bridges and St. Jacobs are the same, in the morning some Three Bridges PS students transfer at St. Jacobs, lengthening their bus ride.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Where possible busses should be dedicated to a particular school.Maximize number of students in 15-30 min. bus ride time.

Draft Objective:

Where possible organize school attendance boundaries to minimize distance to school (time on bus).



3. Draft Issues/Objectives

Draft Issue	Comments	Nov. 23 worksheet comments
Student transitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Any proposed changes (boundaries) in the review area could create transitions (to another school) for some students. Look at methods of minimizing impact of the transitions for students/families	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintain current school if close to graduationWhat could the Board do to accommodate families in unique communities if there was a consolidation of schools (could survey the community with this question)

Draft Objective:

Address student transitions where changes proposed.



3. Draft Issues/Objectives

Draft Issue	Comments	Nov. 23 worksheet comments
Small school organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficiently sized school organizations offer increased learning opportunities for students (team teaching, professional learning communities). See Board policy 3002 – Elementary School Size and Configuration • Challenge to meet guidelines in rural areas where student density is lower. • Many smaller school organizations result in higher staffing/operations/maintenance costs than fewer larger organizations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •We support sufficiently sized school organizations with 2 classes per grade when possible. •Different guidelines needed for rural schools •Some communities may prefer small school organizations •Rural communities attract people who prefer small school organizations.

Draft Objective:

- Have regard for Board policy 3002; Elementary School Size and Configuration.



3. Draft Issues/Objectives

Draft Issue	Comments	Nov. 23 worksheet comments
Facility condition/equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities in the Review area constructed at differing time periods, reflecting sometimes different educational philosophies of the day. Not all students have equitable access to resources/facility amenities. • Due to differing age/construction some facilities may have higher maintenance/renewal costs. Should be considered when developing accommodation options. • Some Facilities may need significant upgrades/renovations to meet AODA requirements • Safe and Secure Schools – sight lines/entrance. Refer to Board Policy 6000. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Schools need to be fully accessible and support a full program (i.e. gym, library) •Schools need to include space for full day kindergarten •Equitable access to resources •When changes are proposed to school buildings keep in mind the needs of greater community. Hard to assess the value to community. Loss of Revenue to Board if schools close. •Keep schools in communities! •Evaluate and propose scenarios that promote the Boards ability to bring schools up to specs. Value short and long term of making facility changes.

Draft Objective:

Support the efficient use of capital and operating resources through the consideration of facility condition and equitable access to educational amenities.



3. Draft Issues/Objectives

Draft Issue	Comments	Nov. 23 worksheet comments
Students in temporary accommodation (portables)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accommodation Review Reference criteria - where possible accommodation options should maximize the number of students in permanent capacity	

Draft Objective:

Maximize the number of students accommodated in permanent capacity



3. Draft Issues/Objectives

Draft Issue	Comments	Nov. 23 worksheet comments
Surplus space	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accommodation Review Reference criteria – maximize the use of existing capacity	

Draft Objective:

Maximize the use of existing capacity within facilities



3. Draft Issues/Objectives

Draft Issue	Comments	Nov. 23 worksheet comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Three Bridges serves a unique community that may chose to go to Parochial schools if three bridges does not continue.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Recognize the unique needs of communities served by different schools•To retain/increase as many of the current WRDSB students as possible in the Public Board•To consider the reasonable accommodation of cultural differences.

Draft Objective:

Recognize the unique needs of communities served by different schools through the reasonable accommodation of cultural differences.



3. Draft Objectives

- Ensure equitable student access to a community school by having defined attendance area boundaries that promote a diverse population with boundaries that relate geographically to the community it is located in.
- Where possible organize school attendance boundaries to minimize distance to school (time on bus).
- Address student transitions where changes proposed
- Have regard for Board policy 3002; Elementary School Size and Configuration
- Support the efficient use of capital and operating resources through the consideration of facility condition and equitable access to educational amenities.
- Maximize the number of students accommodated in permanent capacity
- Maximize the use of existing capacity within facilities
- Recognize the unique needs of communities served by different schools through the reasonable accommodation of cultural differences.



3.1 Previous Acc. Review Objectives

- Establish mid to long-term boundaries and viability of all the schools involved in the study area
- Maintain/develop equitable facilities – school, site and condition – that are financially feasible
- Support optimal use of facilities, capital and operating resources
- Support equitable program opportunities
- Address facility issues at existing schools
- Address community schools / transportation that is within reasonable travel time, distance and cost
- That facilities support programs by providing safe and secure environments for students and staff
- To have regard for the Good Schools Standing Committee guidelines on school size and ensure well-balanced student populations
- Address student transitions where changes are proposed



4. School Information Profiles

- Draft Profiles have been posted on the website
- Outstanding information:
 - Section 1.5 - EQAO data disclaimer
 - Section 2.1 – School condition
 - Section 2.3 – Costs to operate school
 - Facility and grounds maintenance costs

- Woolwich Wellesley Townships
Accommodation Review
 - ARC # 7
 - Wednesday January 18, 2012. 6:30 - 8:00 p.m
Linwood P.S. library

Contact Information

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