

**West Galt**

**Elementary Schools Pupil  
Accommodation Review**

**Accommodation Review  
Committee (ARC)**

**Meeting #12**

May 22, 2012

St. Andrew's P.S. Library

7:00 – 8:30 pm



Waterloo Region  
District School Board

# Agenda

1. Welcome
2. ARC Meeting #11 – Draft Minutes Approval
3. Draft Report and Recommendations
4. Future Meeting Dates
  - Public Meeting #4: to be determined
  - Working Group Meeting #12: to be determined
5. Roundtable/Wrap-up



# Draft Accommodation Report

## Some Notes:

- School capacities updated to reflect the room types/usages in the 2012/13 Ministry of Education School Facilities Inventory System (SFIS)
- Projections do not include grandparenting options (those who choose to stay)

# 2012/13 Ministry Assigned Capacities

## Blair Road P.S.

Space Type	Loading	# Rooms	Capacity
Classroom	23	9	207
Kindergarten	20	3	60
Special Ed.	9	1	9
Resource	12	0	0
<b>Total</b>			<b>276</b>

## Dickson P.S.

Space Type	Loading	# Rooms	Capacity
Classroom	23	7	161
Kindergarten	20	0	0
Special Ed.	9	0	0
Resource	12	0	0
<b>Total</b>			<b>161</b>

## Tait Street P.S.

Space Type	Loading	# Rooms	Capacity
Classroom	23	13	299
Kindergarten	20	2	40
Special Ed.	9	1	9
Resource	12	0	0
<b>Total</b>			<b>348</b>

## Highland P.S.

Space Type	Loading	# Rooms	Capacity
Classroom	23	14	322
Kindergarten	20	5	100
Special Ed.	9	1	9
Resource	12	0	0
<b>Total</b>			<b>431</b>

Originally FDK rooms were given a loading of 26, since MOE has not revised their system (SFIS) yet, this has been reduced to 20

## St. Andrew's P.S.

Space Type	Loading	# Rooms	Capacity
Classroom	23	16	368
Kindergarten	20	0	0
Special Ed.	9	1	9
Resource	12	2	24
<b>Total</b>			<b>401</b>

One classroom's space type changed from vocal to instrumental music room – no loading given to instrumental music rooms



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From the *Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline* and *Board Policy 4000* (sections 2.9 & 2.10):

“The ARC will produce an Accommodation Report that will make accommodation recommendation(s) consistent with the objectives and Reference Criteria outlined in the Terms of Reference.

It will deliver its Accommodation Report to the board’s Director of Education, who will have the Accommodation Report posted on the board’s website. The ARC will present its Accommodation report to the Board of Trustees. Board administration will examine the ARC Accommodation Report and present the administration analysis and recommendations to the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees will make the final decision regarding the future of the school(s). If the Board of Trustees votes to close a school, the board must outline clear timelines around when the school(s) will close.”

From *Board Policy 4000* (section 3.2.3):

“The [accommodation] option(s) will address where students would be accommodated; what changes to existing facilities may be required; what programs would be available to students; and transportation.”



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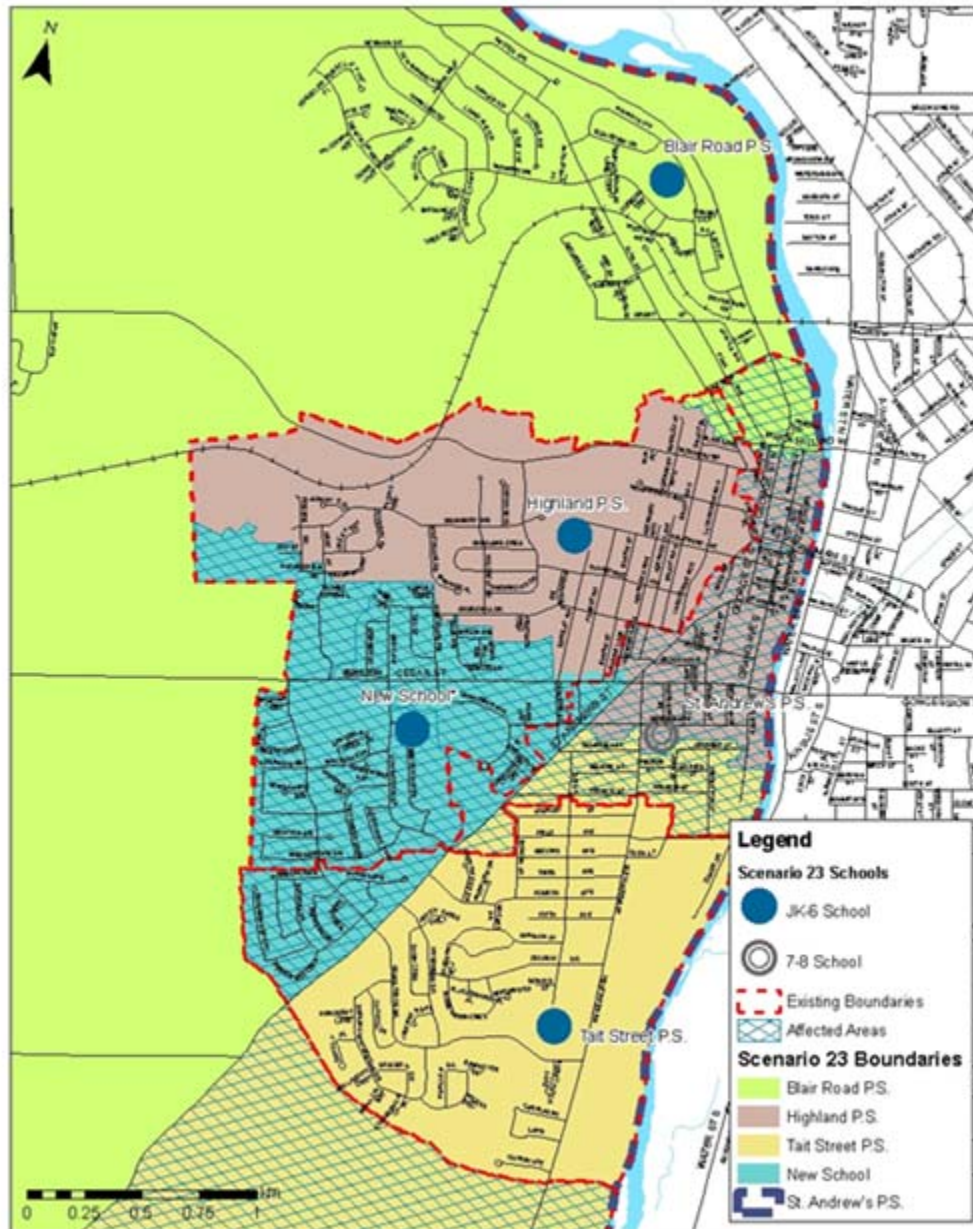
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# Draft Accommodation Report

## Scenario 23

Figure 3: Scenario 23 proposed boundaries



### Description

- Dickson P.S. closes
- A new JK-6 school is built on Beechwood Rd
- Highland P.S. adds Gr. 6 to become a JK-6 school
- Boundary changes



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## Scenario 23

**Table 8: Scenario 23 enrolment projections**

School	Capacity*	Projected Total Enrolment by Year						
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Blair Road P.S.	276	239	242	243	242	241	239	238
Highland P.S.	431	448	452	449	431	420	420	421
St. Andrew's P.S.	401	307	310	318	343	351	335	318
Tait Street P.S.	348	286	293	293	290	298	307	320
New School	350	311	321	318	327	320	318	311
<b>Total</b>	<b>1806</b>	<b>1591</b>	<b>1618</b>	<b>1621</b>	<b>1633</b>	<b>1630</b>	<b>1619</b>	<b>1608</b>

\* 2012/13 Ministry of Education School Facilities Inventory System on-the-ground capacities

School	Classrooms*	Projected Number of Classrooms Required			
		2015	2016	2017	2018
Blair Road P.S.	11	11	11	11	11
Highland P.S.	19	21	22	21	20
St. Andrew's P.S.	15	12	12	12	14
Tait Street P.S.	13	14	14	15	15
New School	15	16	15	15	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>76</b>

\* Does not include rooms used for Special Education or Computer Labs. Calculated based on average loading of classes per grade (FDK = 26, 1-3 = 20 and 4-8 = 23)





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## **Recommendation #1: Close Dickson Public School**

The West Galt ARC recommends to the WRDSB that:

*Dickson Public School be closed and that the JK-5 program be consolidated into Blair Road, Highland, Tait Street and a new school; and that*

*Students enrolled at Dickson P.S. in Grades 3, 4 and 5 the school year prior to its closure be given the option to enrol at either Blair Road, Highland, or Tait Street Public Schools, or at the new school for Grades 4-6; and that*

*Transportation be extended to those Dickson P.S. students to the school of their choosing based on transportation eligibility; and that*

*New Kindergarten registrants the year prior to the closure of Dickson P.S. be given the option to enrol at either Dickson P.S. or the future receiving school.*

### **Within the text...**

The ARC suggests that in order to alleviate concerns about future uses and potential impact on property values, an adaptive reuse study be conducted by the Board in partnership with the City and community members. An adaptive reuse study is a community process to identify suitable options for adapting old structures to new purposes.



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## **Recommendation #2: Construct a new Junior Kindergarten to Grade Six Facility**

The West Galt ARC recommends to the WRDSB that:

*A new Junior Kindergarten to Grade Six (JK-6) facility of approximately 350 pupil places be constructed on Beechwood Road, Cambridge, to open as soon as possible; and that*

*The boundary for the new facility include portions of the Dickson, Highland and Tait Street Public School boundaries, as illustrated in Figure 5 ; and that*

*Students entering Grade 5 the year of the change in the affected area be given the option to enrol at either Highland or Tait Street Public Schools, or at the new school for Grades 5-6; and that Transportation be extended to those Grade 5 and 6 students based on transportation eligibility.*

### **Within the text...**

The Board will need to coordinate with municipal traffic staff to ensure safe routes and crossings to this site.

To alleviate potential concerns over the loss of the Southwood S.S. practice field (as it exists today), the ARC suggests that prior to approving the construction of this JK-6 facility, the WRDSB consult with Southwood S.S. to address any issues that may arise.



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## Recommendation #2

Figure 4: Beechwood Road site in context



Construction of a new school will be subject to a capital funding request from the Ministry of Education. Using the Ministry's revised capital funding benchmarks (outlined in Memo 2011:B6), **construction costs for the new school would be estimated at \$6.5M.**

### capital funding benchmark calculation

pupil places	x	area benchmark	x	construction cost
350 pupils	x	10.02 m <sup>2</sup>	x	1847.53/m <sup>2</sup>



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## Recommendation #2

Figure 5: New School (Beechwood Road) Boundary Recommendation

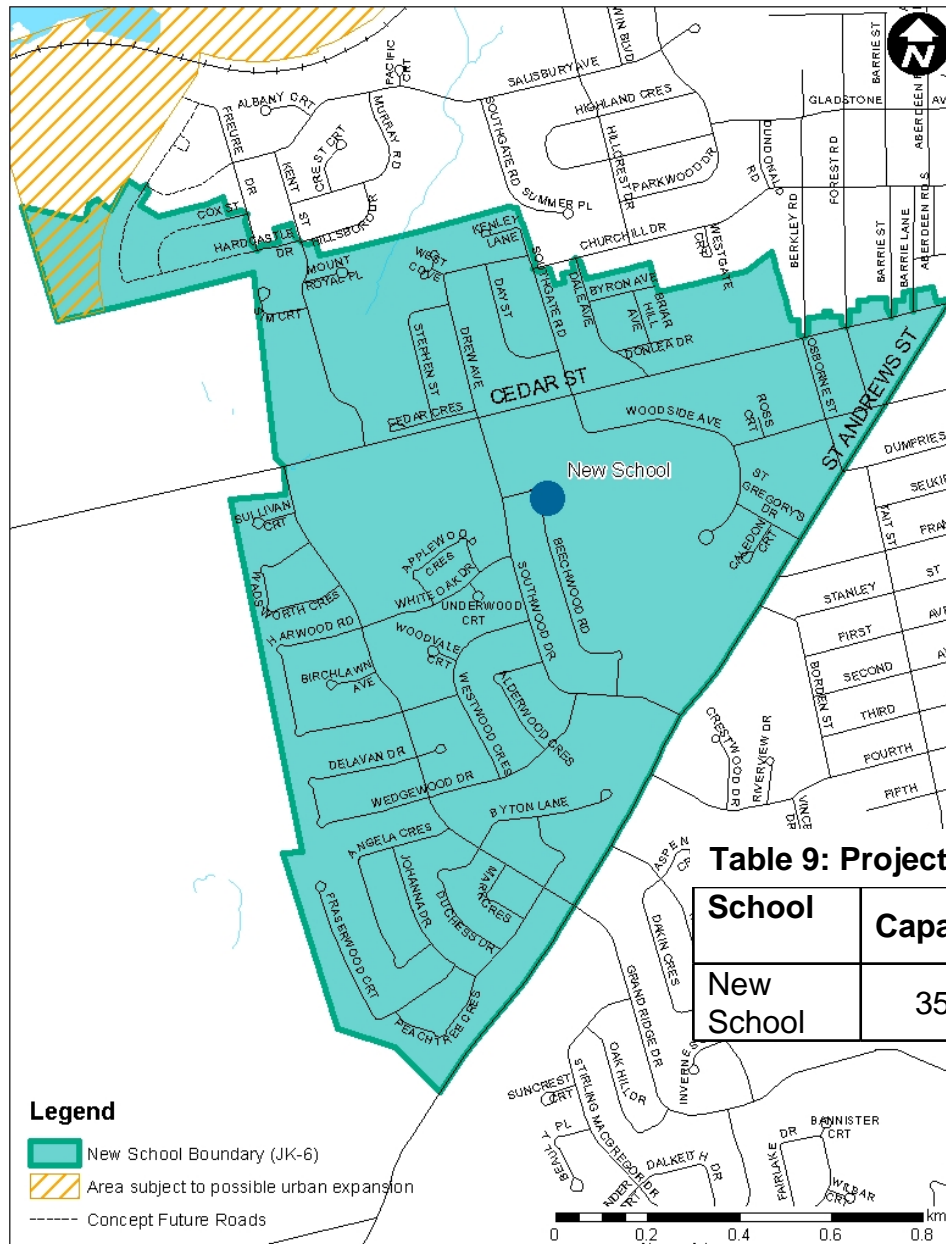


Table 9: Projected enrolment at the proposed new JK-6 facility

School	Capacity	Projected Total Enrolment by Year						
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
New School	350	311	321	318	327	320	318	311

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## **Recommendation #3: New boundary for Blair Road Public School**

The West Galt ARC recommends to the WRDSB that:

*The Blair Road Public School Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6 boundary be modified as illustrated in Figure 6; and that*

*New Kindergarten registrants in the affected area (as identified in Figure 6) the year prior to the change be given the option to enrol at either Blair Road P.S. or Dickson P.S. for that school year; and that*

*Transportation be extended to those new JK/SK registrants choosing to attend Blair Road P.S. based on transportation eligibility.*

### **Within the text...**

...Cambridge West Master Environmental Servicing Plan (MESP). Information provided to the ARC by the City representative indicates there is still uncertainty around when this development could take place and the number of units that may be generated. As a result, potential future enrolment from this area has not been incorporated into the ARC's recommendations. The ARC agreed that given its isolation to the remainder of the West Galt community, excluding Blair Road P.S., it would be recommended for the Board to consider future student accommodation for this area at a later date, once plans for development materialize.



Figure 6: Blair Road Public School Boundary Recommendation

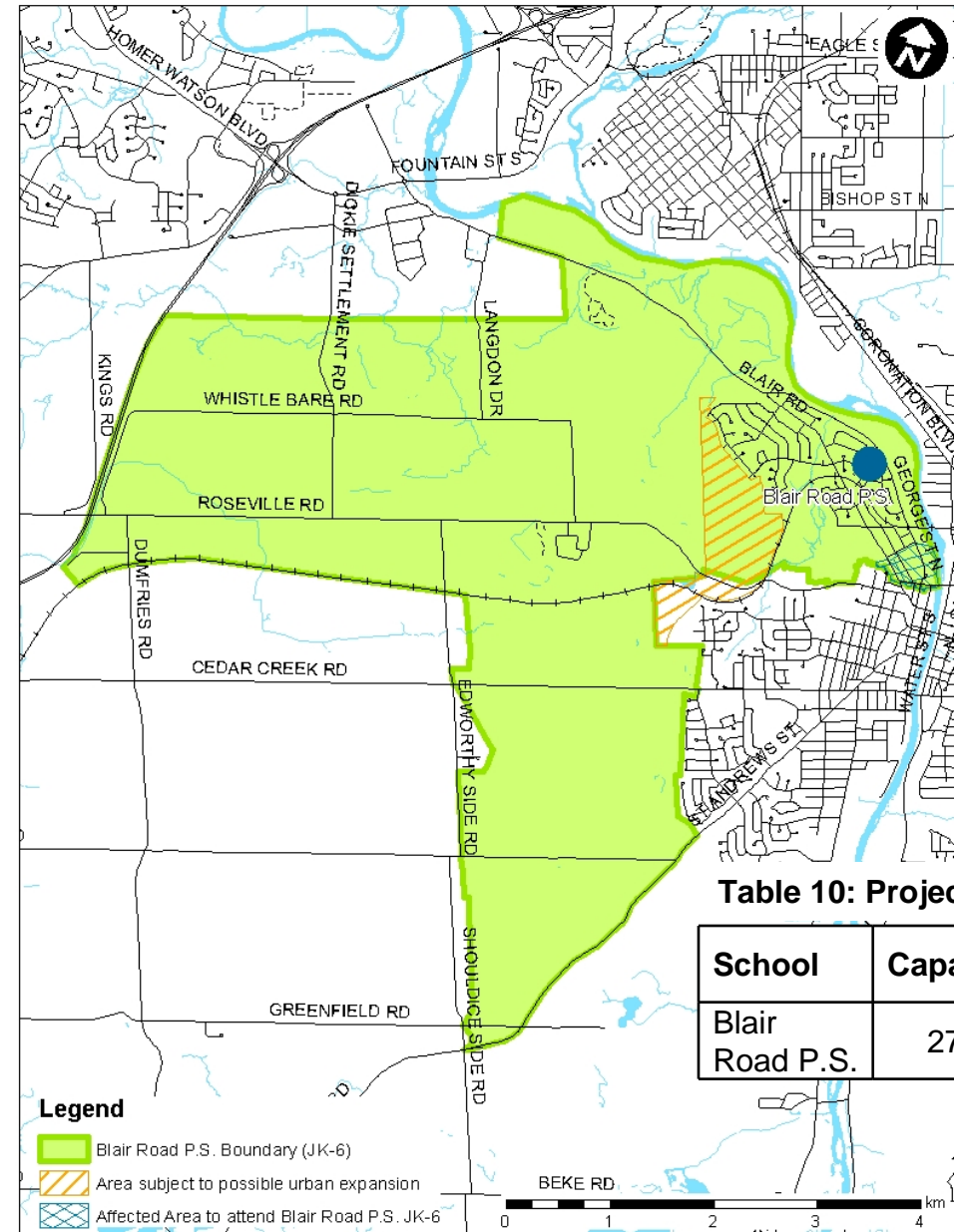


Table 10: Projected enrolment at Blair Road P.S. with boundary change

School	Capacity	Projected Enrolment by Year						
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Blair Road P.S.	276	239	242	243	242	241	239	238

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## **Recommendation #4: Grade 6 and new boundary for Highland Public School**

The West Galt ARC recommends to the WRDSB that:

*A Grade 6 program be added to Highland Public School; and that*

*The Highland Public School Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6 boundary be modified as illustrated in Figure 7; and that*

*New Kindergarten registrants in the affected area (as illustrated in Figure 7) be given the option to enrol at either Dickson P.S. or Highland P.S. the year prior to the boundary change taking place;*

*Transportation be extended to those new JK/SK registrants choosing to attend Highland P.S. based on transportation eligibility.*

### ***Within the text...***

The ARC also recommends that until the boundary changes take place, the Board cap the number of Grade 1 Partial French Immersion classes to 2, restricting the number out of boundary students from enrolling at Highland P.S. to reduce additional unnecessary pressure placed on the facility.

It is also recommended that the Board explore an additional location to offer Partial French Immersion in the south end of Cambridge to reduce the enrolment pressure generated by the program at a single site.





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## Recommendation #4

Figure 7: Highland Public School Boundary Recommendation

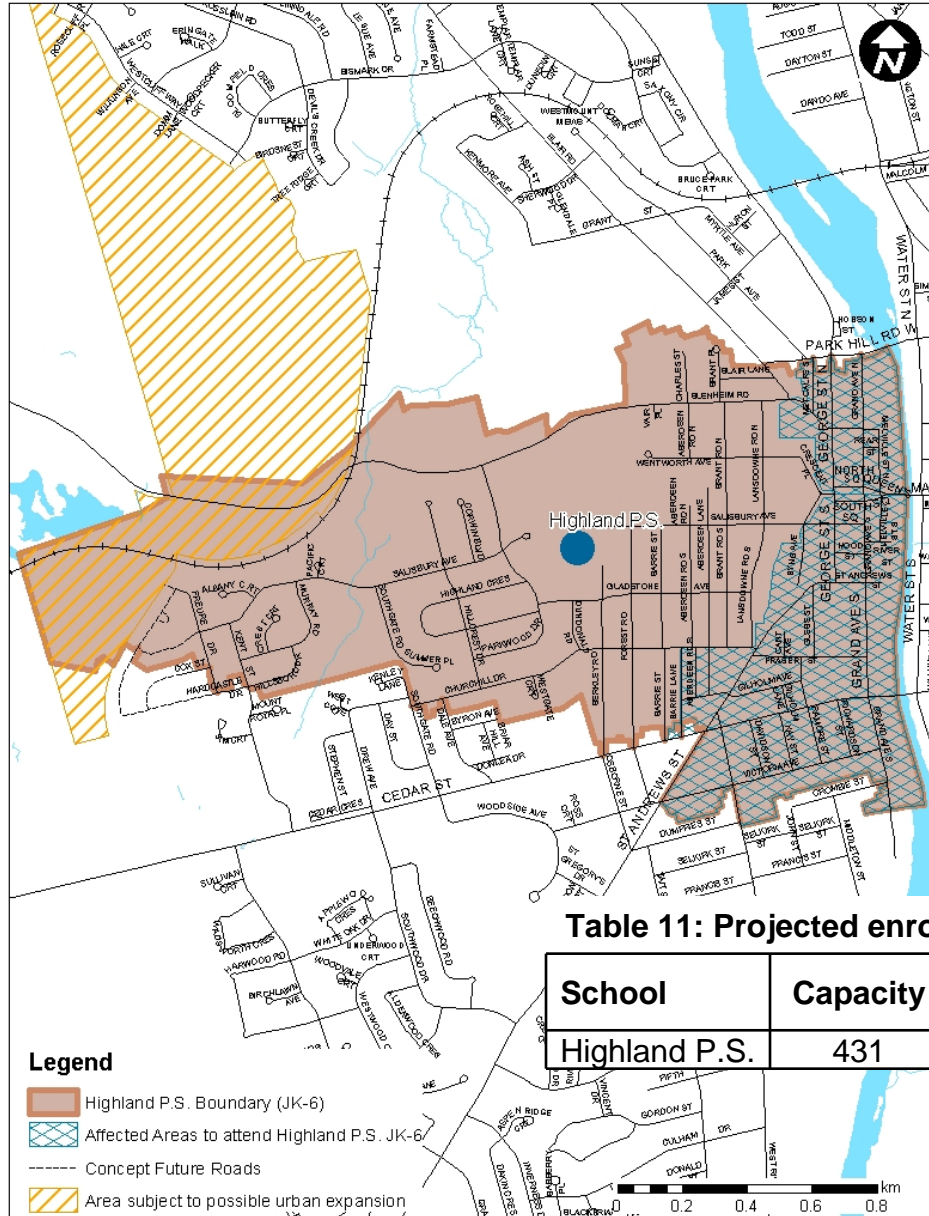


Table 11: Projected enrolment at Highland P.S. with boundary change

School	Capacity	Projected Total Enrolment by Year						
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Highland P.S.	431	448	452	449	431	420	420	421

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## **Recommendation #5: New boundary for Tait Street Public School**

The West Galt ARC recommends to the WRDSB that:

*The Tait Street Public School Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6 boundary be modified as illustrated in Figure 8; and that*

*Students enrolled at Blair Road P.S. entering Grade 6 the year of the change in the affected area (as identified in Figure 8) be given the option to enrol at either Blair Road P.S. or Tait Street P.S. for that school year; and that*

*Transportation be extended to those Grade 6 students choosing to attend Blair Road P.S. based on transportation eligibility; and that*

*New Kindergarten registrants in the affected area (as identified in Figure 8) the year prior to the change be given the option to enrol at either Blair Road P.S., Dickson P.S. or Tait Street P.S. for that school year; and that*

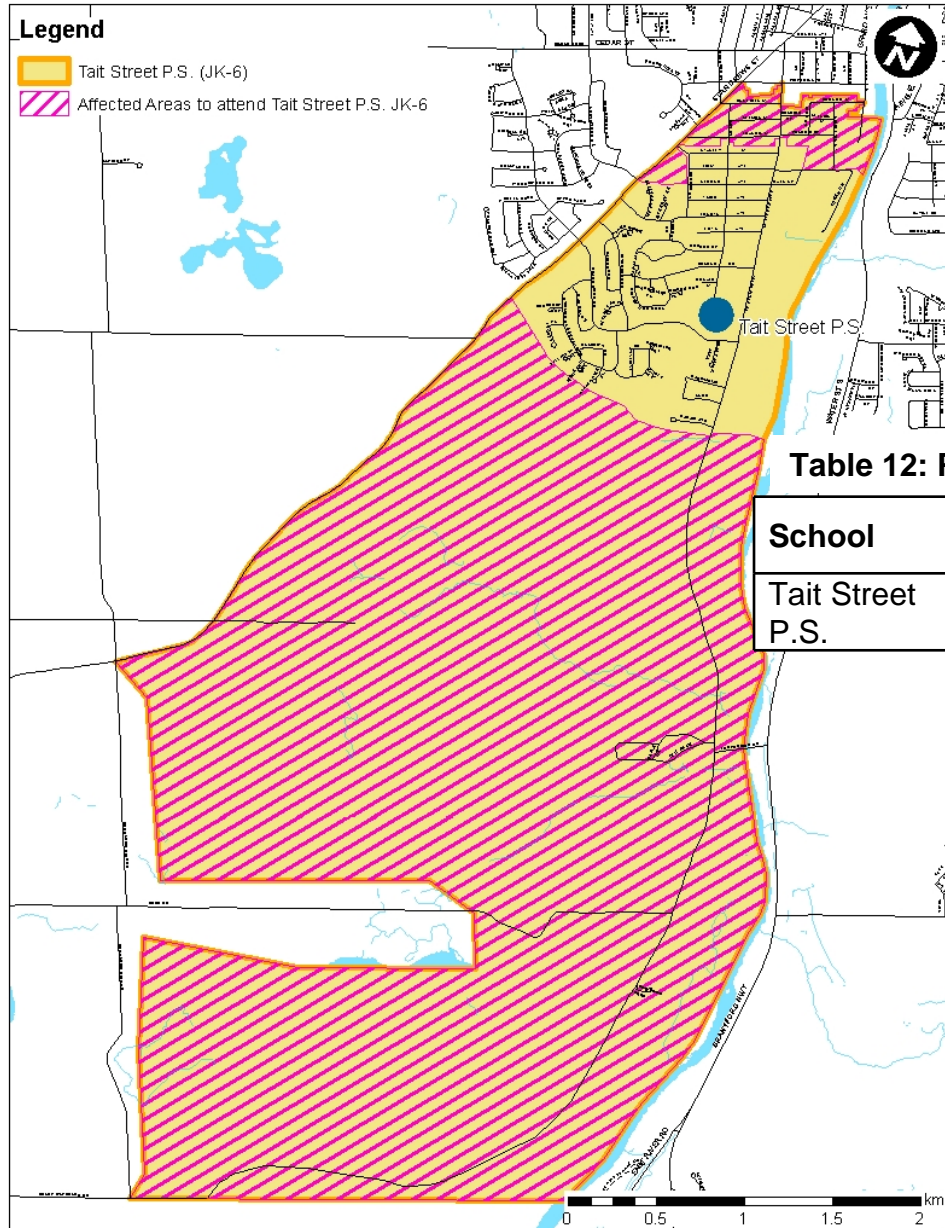
*Transportation be extended to those new JK/SK registrants choosing to attend Tait Street P.S. based on transportation eligibility.*

### **Within the text...**

The ARC recommends that the Board work with Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region (STSWR) and the City of Cambridge to explore alternative options and develop a more appropriate long-term solution for transportation to and from Tait Street P.S.

Tait Street P.S. is the last school in the review area to implement the Full-Day Kindergarten program. Since there is likely to be classroom construction or conversion required for implementation of this program in 2014, the ARC recommends that the Board take advantage of this opportunity to address the physical accessibility issues at the facility in order to achieve economies of scale in the construction.

**Figure 8: Tait Street Public School Boundary Recommendation**



**Table 12: Projected enrolment at Tait Street P.S. with boundary change**

School	Capacity	Projected Total Enrolment by Year						
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Tait Street P.S.	348	286	293	293	290	298	307	320

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## ***Recommendation #6: Grade 7 and 8 only at St. Andrew's Public School***

The West Galt ARC recommends to the WRDSB that:

*St. Andrew's Public School offer the Grade 7 and 8 program for the review area, with a boundary as shown on Figure 9.*

### ***Within the text...***

It is also recommended that St. Andrew's P.S. continue to offer the Partial French Immersion program for Grades 7-8.

The projections show that the school will be operating with approximately 4 surplus classrooms; therefore, the ARC recommends that the Board explore alternative uses (e.g. Special Education area classes) for the unused classrooms in order to maximize the use of the facility.

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## Recommendation #6

Figure 9: St. Andrew's P.S. Boundary Recommendation

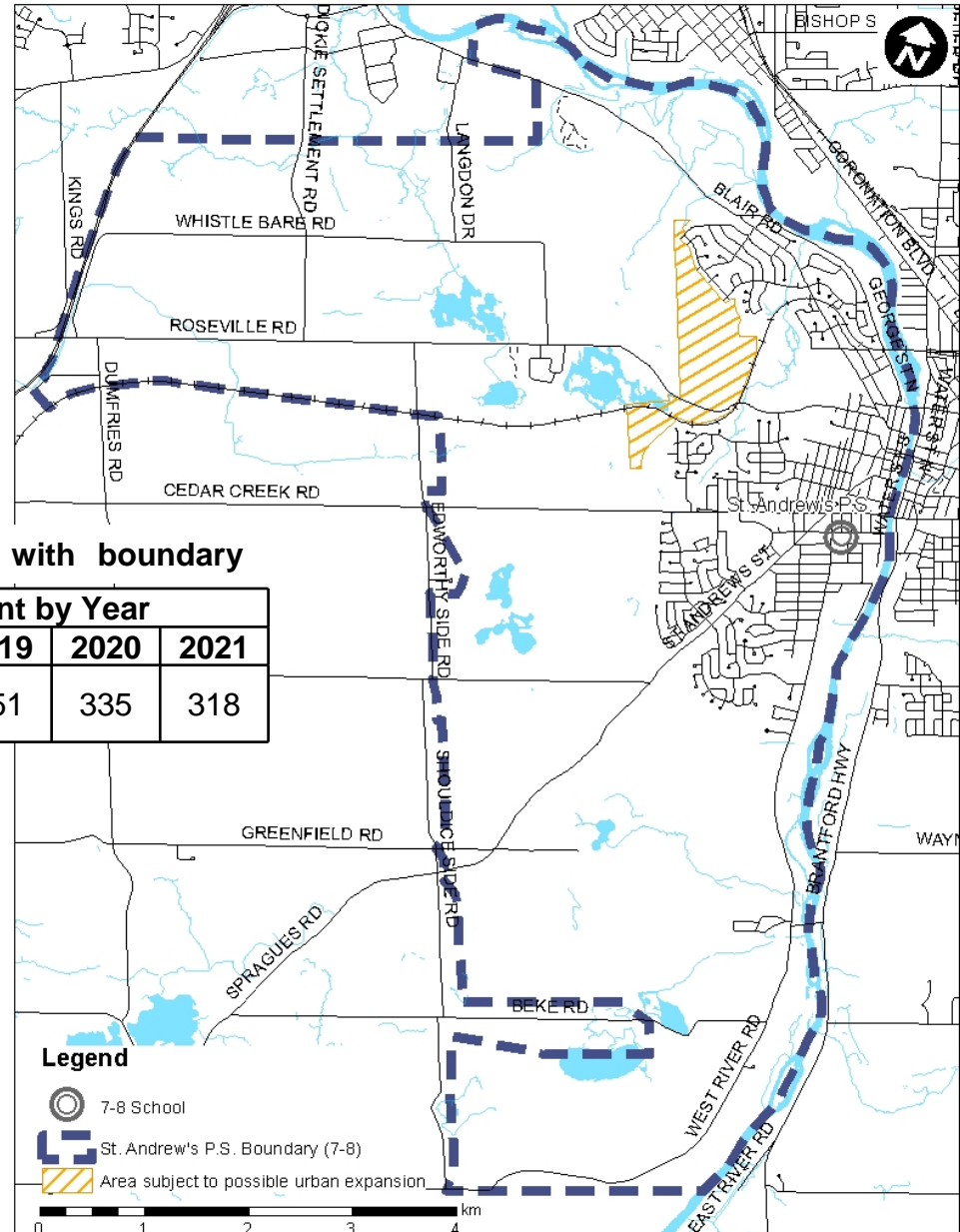


Table 13: Projected enrolment at St. Andrew's P.S. with boundary

School	Capacity	Projected Total Enrolment by Year						
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
St. Andrew's P.S.	401	307	310	318	343	351	335	318



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**Table 14: Scenario 23 versus the review objectives**


Objective	Meets	Doesn't Meet
To reorganize the JK□5, 6-8 school organizations in favour of JK□6, JK□8 or 7-8	X	
To reduce the number of students currently attending Highland P.S. to better match the enrolment to the schools' built capacity	X	
To reduce the potential for combined grades at schools by moving towards the following criteria (from Board Policy 3002): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JK□6 facilities between 350 and 400 students (approx. 2 classes/grade)</li> <li>• JK□8 facilities between 500 and 650 students (approx. 2 classes/grade JK□6, 2+ classes/grade 7□8)</li> </ul>		X
To increase the number of students within walking distance to their assigned school	X	
To reduce the reliance on portable classrooms for long-term student accommodation	X	
To reduce unused (surplus) capacity by organizing schools and boundaries to achieve utilization rates (enrolment/capacity) that exceed 80% over the long□term (approx. 10 years)	X	
To maintain those school buildings that can provide appropriate, purpose□built facilities (kindergarten rooms, gyms, libraries, etc.)	X	
To reduce the cost to achieve legislated accessibility requirements by 2025	X	



# Draft Accommodation Report

## Appendix B

### Potential West Galt Timeline of ARC's Scenario 23 Recommendations

Scenario 23	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Recommendation #1: Close Dickson P.S.	Sept. 2014 – June 2015 JK option to attend receiving school June 2015 Last day of classes	Sept. 2015 – June 2018 Gr. 4 & Gr. 5 option to attend Blair Road, Highland, Tait Street or the new school		
Recommendation #2: Construct a new JK-6 facility	 School construction	Sept. 2015 - School opens	Sept. 2015 – June 2017 Gr. 5 & Gr. 6 option to stay at Highland P.S. or Tait Street P.S.	
Recommendation #3: Modify Blair Road P.S. Boundary	Sept. 2014 – June 2015 JK option to attend Blair Road P.S. or Dickson P.S.	Sept. 2015 – June 2016 Gr. 6 option to stay at Blair Road P.S.		
Recommendation #4: Modify Highland P.S. Boundary and add Gr. 6	Sept. 2014 – June 2015 JK option to attend Highland P.S. or Dickson P.S.	Sept. 2015 – Gr. 6 classes begin Sept. 2015 – June 2017 Gr. 5 & 6 option to stay at Highland P.S.		
Recommendation #5: Modify Tait Street P.S. Boundary	Sept. 2014 – June 2015 JK option to attend Tait Street P.S., Blair Road P.S. or Dickson P.S.	Sept. 2015 – June 2017 Gr. 5 & 6 option to stay at Tait Street P.S.		
Recommendation #6: Offer only Gr. 7-8 at St. Andrew's P.S.		Sept. 2015 Gr. 7 & 8 only at St. Andrew's P.S.		



## Future Meeting Dates

- **Public Meetings**
  - Public Meeting # 4: TBD
- **ARC Meetings**
  - ARC #13: Required?
- **Report to Board of Trustees**



## Contact Information

- Website: [www.wrdsb.ca](http://www.wrdsb.ca)
  - » About Us > Planning Department > Accommodation Reviews > West Galt Elementary Schools
  - » Search “West Galt Review”
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