

# **Grand River South/Sunnyside**

**Elementary Schools Pupil  
Accommodation Review**

## **Accommodation Review Committee Meeting #1**

**February 4, 2010**

**Sunnyside P.S. Library 4:30 – 6:00 pm**



**Waterloo Region  
District School Board**

# Agenda

1. Welcome/Introductions
2. Role of the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC)/Terms of Reference
3. Background/Explanation of Accommodation Review Process
4. Discussion of Issues/Setting of Review Objectives
5. Explanation of School Information Profiles
6. Roundtable
7. Tentative Future Meeting Dates



## What is a Pupil Accommodation Review?

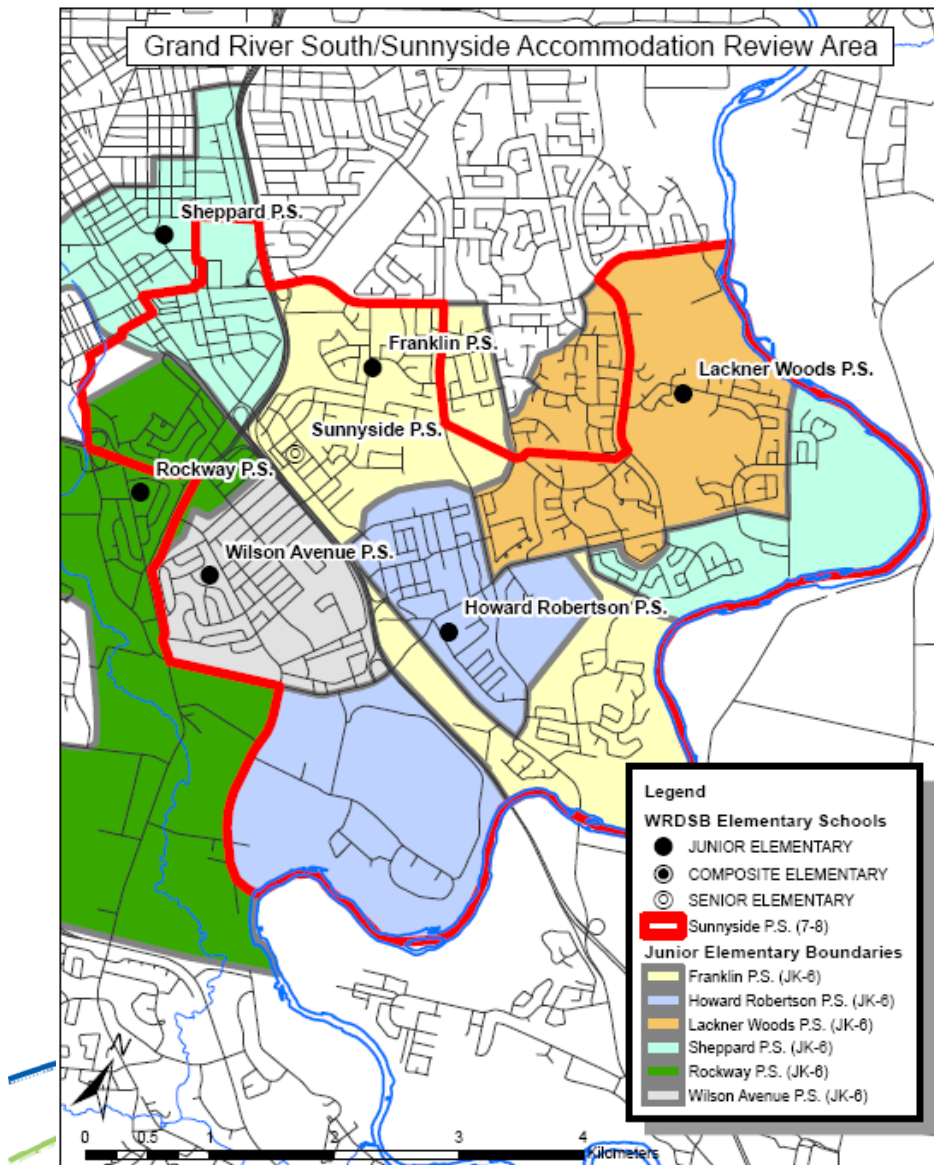
- a formal public process that ensures a decision taken by a school board regarding the potential future of a school (closure or consolidation) has the full involvement of an informed local community
- a process based on a broad range of criteria regarding the quality of the learning experience for students

## Why an Accommodation Review?

- The potential exists within an area under the jurisdiction of the Board to accommodate existing and projected students in fewer educational facilities;
- Due to declining enrolment, a school or group of schools is unable, or projected to be unable to:
  - Provide a suitable and equitable range of learning opportunities for students;
  - Under normal staffing allocations, organize with combined classes of no more than two grades;
- Reorganization involving the school or group of schools could enhance program and learning opportunities for students;
- Teaching and learning spaces and the site are not suitable to provide the programs and accessibility needed to serve the community, and retrofitting and/or enlarging the facility may be cost prohibitive;
- One or more of the schools is experiencing higher building maintenance expenses than average for the system and/or is in need of major capital improvements;
- The Board has received a formal request from a school community or communities requesting a review of their pupil accommodation facilities

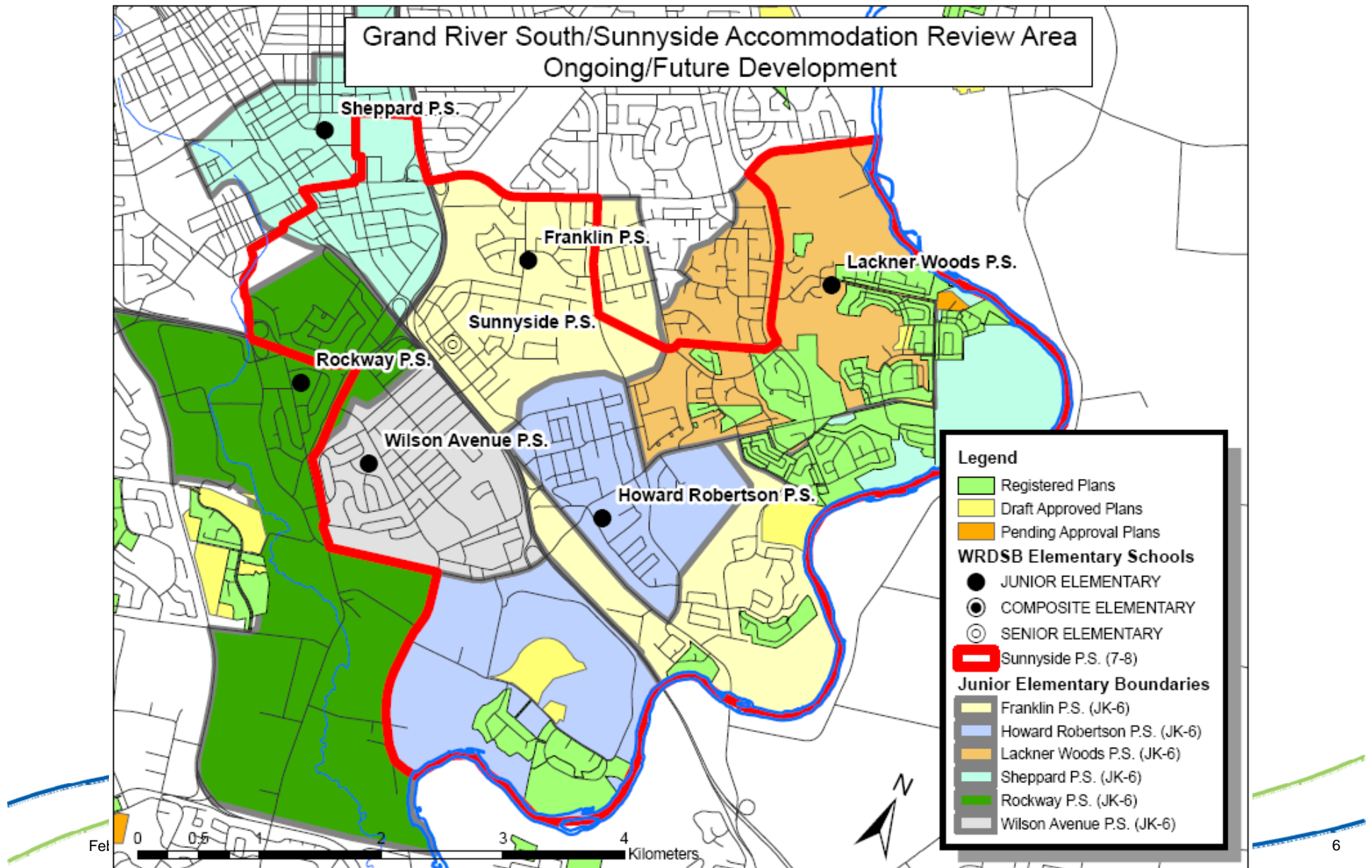


# Why an Accommodation Review in Grand River South/Sunnyside Area?



- Localized residential development putting pressure on a few facilities
- Lower/declining enrolment in other areas
- New direction in curriculum/school organization

# Why an Accommodation Review in Grand River South/Sunnyside Area?





## Current Enrolment and Capacity\*

School	Organization	Total	FTE	Built Capacity	Capacity w/ppk	% Capacity	Site size (acres)	Portables
Lackner Woods P.S.	JK-6	571	500	368	368	136	7.02*	8
Franklin P.S.	JK-6	606	542.5	582	582	93	6.3*	6*
Sheppard P.S.	JK-6	344	291	429	429	68	4.62*	0
Howard Robertson P.S.	JK-6	406	363	526	526	69	8.88**	0
Sunnyside P.S.	7-8	466	466	423	423	110	6.39	0
Wilson Avenue P.S.	JK-6	448	389.5	428	428	91	8.27	15*
Rockway P.S.	JK-6	244	213	254	254	84	6.86	2
	Total	3085	2765	3010	3010	-		10

- Total enrolment refers to the number of students registered at the school. FTE refers to the enrolment counting Kindergartens as ½.
- Some facilities are located adjacent to municipal parks. The area of the parks is not included in the site size.
- Portables at Wilson Avenue and Franklin P.S.'s on site to facilitate the construction of additions funded under Primary Class Size (PCS) initiative.

## What is the ARC?

- The purpose of the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) is to conduct an accommodation review of a particular school or schools within a given planning area of the Board in order to advise and provide recommendations that will inform the final decision made by the Board of Trustees on whether a school or schools should be either closed or consolidated



# ARC Membership

## The ARC consists of:

- 2 parents from each school community
- The principal from each school
  - Lackner Woods P.S.
  - Sheppard P.S.
  - Franklin P.S.
  - Rockway P.S.
  - Wilson Ave. P.S.
  - Howard Robertson P.S.
  - Sunnyside P.S.
- The school area superintendent(s)
  - Gregg Bereznick
- Study area municipal representation
  - City of Kitchener
- Up to 2 community representatives
- WRDSB Facilities/Planning Staff



## Voting/Non-Voting Members

### Voting Members:

- Parents
- Community representative(s)
- Municipal representative(s)

### Non-Voting Members:

- Planning Staff
- Superintendents
- Principal(s)
- Other Board representative(s)

Decisions will be determined by consensus whenever possible; however, when a consensus cannot be reached, a majority vote will consist of 50 per cent plus 1 of the voting members present at the meeting the day the vote is held. A vote cannot be held without a quorum. A quorum consists of 50% of the voting members of the committee.



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## ARC Meeting Procedures

- The ARC shall meet at an agreed upon schedule and location
- ARC meetings are not public meetings. Non-members may attend meetings provided they are invited by the ARC
- Minutes and secretarial support for the ARC will be provided by the Board's Planning Department
- An agenda for ARC meetings will be prepared by the Board's Planning Department and sent to ARC members prior to each meeting
- The agendas, minutes and presentations from each ARC meeting will be posted on the Board's website

## Role of the ARC

### The ARC is responsible for:

- Review Objectives
- Accommodation Options (Scenarios)
- Accommodation Report and Recommendations
- School Information Profiles
- Public Information and Access
- Community Consultation and Public Meetings

## Accommodation Review Objectives

- Generic statements describing the desired goals of the Accommodation Review
- Derived from the issues brought up by members of the ARC and general public and the Accommodation Review Reference Criteria

### Examples of Objectives in previous Accommodation Reviews

- Review current elementary schools organization
- Address community schools/transportation that is within reasonable travel time, distance and cost
- Establish mid to long-term boundaries and viability of all schools involved in the study area
- Support optimal use of facilities, capital and operating resources

# Reference Criteria

## Where possible, accommodation options should take into consideration:

- **Transportation**
  - Maximize the number of students within school boundary who are within walking distance, minimizing the need for transportation and annual operating costs
  - Refer to Board Policy 4009
- **New facilities/Site Selection**
  - Where new construction is proposed, refer to the Board's site selection criteria (revised draft May 1, 2008) for elementary school site size, frontages, shape, location, topography and services, and other preferences
- **Safe and secure learning environments**
  - Ensure all facilities provide a safe and secure learning environment for all students and staff (refer to Board Policy 6000)
- **Grade Configuration**
  - When the opportunity arises, JK-8 is preferred over JK-6 and congregated 7/8 program; however, the Board currently operates schools JK-5, JK-6, JK-8, 6-8, and 7-8
  - Consider the Good Schools Standing Committee Report: Elementary School Size and Configuration, May 14, 2007
- **Equity and accessibility**
  - Maximize the number of facilities that adequately meet student and community needs for accessibility
  - Consider the equity of facilities, site, size and program standards
  - Refer to Board Policy 1008 – Equity and Inclusion
- **Permanent accommodation**
  - Minimize the number of students in portables or temporary structures
- **School utilization**
  - Maximize the use of the existing facilities
- **Program offerings**
  - Consider the Board's Procedures 1000 and 1040 regarding French Immersion
  - Maximize the equity of program offerings (i.e. Music, French Immersion, etc.)
  - Minimize the number of combined grades at a school (Consider the Good Schools Standing Committee Report: Elementary School Size and Configuration, May 14, 2007)
- **Program changes/considerations**
  - Maintain Ministry's target for Primary Class Sizes (PCS)
  - Consideration for the impact implementation of the Early Learning Program (full day Kindergarten) will have on the facilities

## Accommodation Review Scenarios

- Options created to address issues and objectives raised and developed by the ARC and the general public as well as the Accommodation Review Reference Criteria.
- The Accommodation Scenarios can include:
  - Boundary changes between facilities in the review area
  - Program changes at facilities within the review area
  - New construction (renovations, additions, whole new facilities)
  - School closure/consolidation
  - Maintaining the Status quo (doing nothing)
  - Any combination of the above
- Because of the adjacent nature of the Grand River South/Sunnyside Review Area to the Breslau/Stanley Park Review Area there may be scenarios involving facilities that Review Area and vice versa.

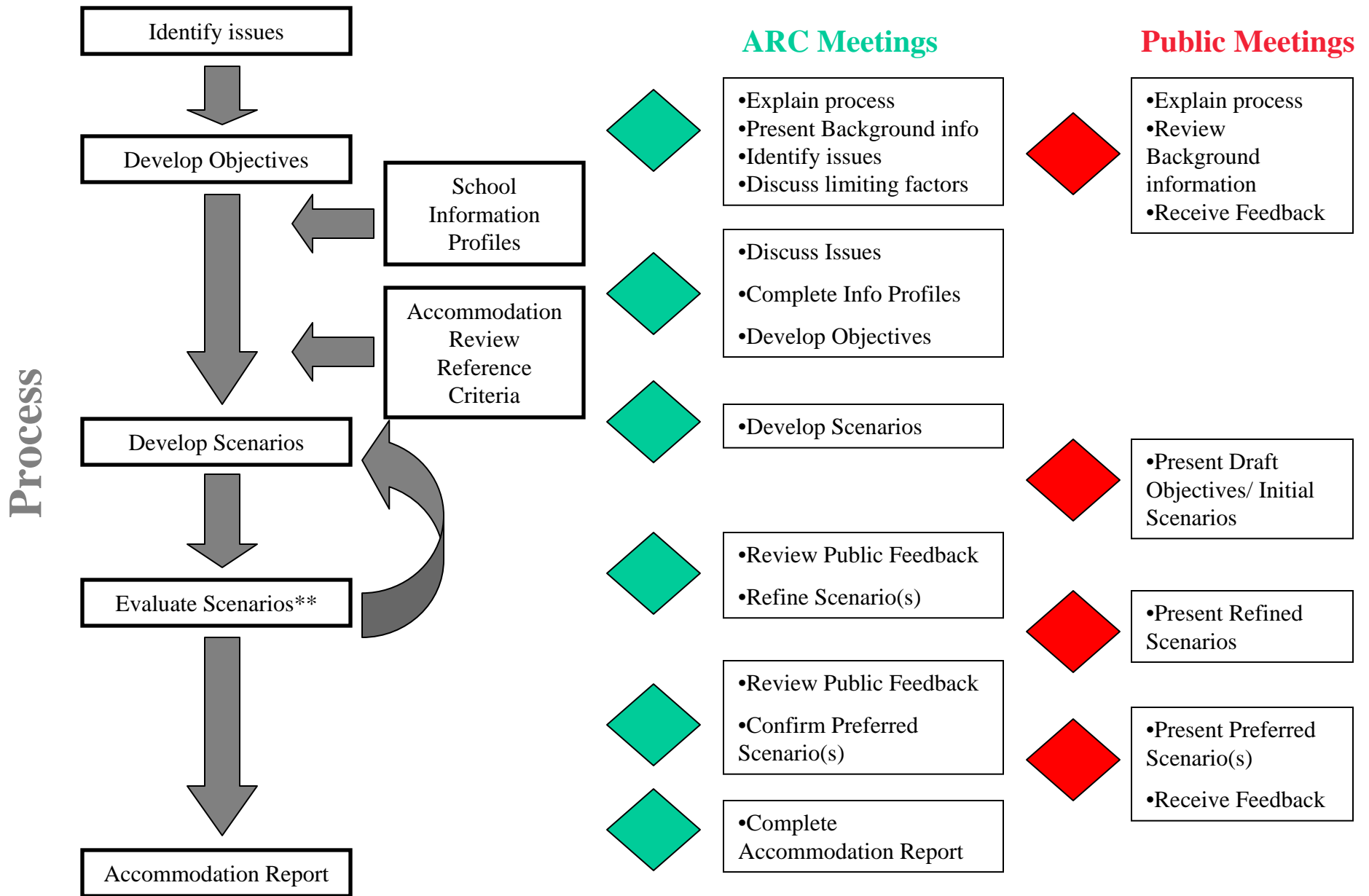




## Accommodation Report and Recommendations

- ARCs must complete an Accommodation Report for each school reviewed, using the customized School Information Profiles, that will make recommendations regarding the future of the schools being considered and submit the report to the school board administration
- The needs of all students within the Grand River South/Sunnyside review area are to be considered
- ARCs must share the Accommodation Report, in plain language, with the community at a public meeting

# The Accommodation Report (Getting There)



\*\*Scenario development and evaluation may go through multiple iterations as scenarios are evaluated , and new ideas result from the evaluation.

# School Information Profiles



## School Information Profile

Date: **January/2010**  
Month/Year

SCHOOL PROFILE		
School: <b>Franklin Public School</b>		
Address: <b>371 Franklin Street North, Kitchener, ON N2A 1Y9</b>		
Grade Configuration	JK-6	
Age of Facility	47 years	
Site Size	6.3 ac	2.549 ha
Building Size – GFA	43645 sq ft	4054.75 m <sup>2</sup>
School Capacity (building only, Ministry recognized)	582	
School Capacity (building and porta-pak)	582	
Number of portables	6	
Current enrolment (Total/FTE)	608/545	
Utilization (% Accommodation)	94%	
Historic FTE Enrolment (past 5 years) Based on October 31 Enrolment	Year: 2008	Enrolment: 541.5
	Year: 2007	Enrolment: 527.5
	Year: 2006	Enrolment: 553.5
	Year: 2005	Enrolment: 564.5
	Year: 2004	Enrolment: 545.5
Enrolment FTE Projection (next 5 years)	Year: 2010	Enrolment: 555
	Year: 2011	Enrolment: 540
	Year: 2012	Enrolment: 550
	Year: 2013	Enrolment: 543
	Year: 2014	Enrolment: 532
Feeder Schools:	Grades:	
Number of Out of Boundary Students	132	
Number of Split Grades		
Is there a French Immersion Program?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	

Attachments: Site and Floor Plans with date of original building and any subsequent additions

The ARC may customize the Board's generic School Information Profile to the schools under review. The School Information Profile must include the four considerations:

**Section 1: Value to the Student**

**Section 2: Value to the Board**

**Section 3: Value to the Community**

**Section 4: Value to the Local Economy**



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## Public Information and Access

- ARCs are to ensure that all information relevant to the accommodation review is to be made public by posting it in a prominent location on the school board's website or making it available in print on request

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

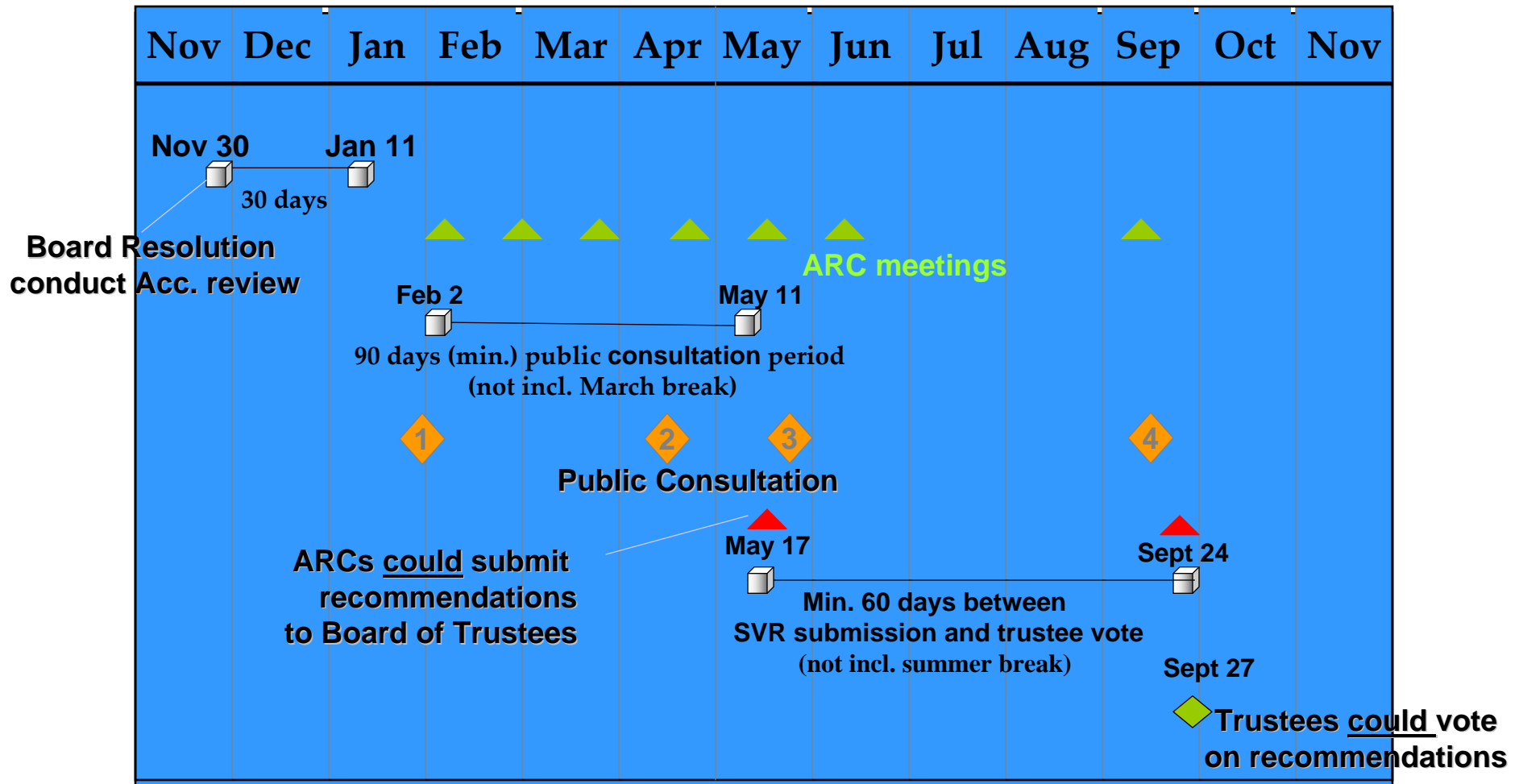
- All information that is used to determine the value of a school must be publicly available
- Where relevant information is technical in nature, it is to be explained in plain language

# Community Consultation and Public Meetings

- Consultations must be based on the customized School Information Profiles in order to elicit input from the various perspectives around the value of the school
- The ARC must seek input and community feedback on options for accommodating students who would be affected by a school closure
- At a minimum, ARCs are required to hold **four public meetings** to consult and to present the Accommodation Report and recommendations
- Minutes reflecting the full range of opinions expressed at the meetings are to be kept, and made publicly available



# Proposed Accommodation Review Timeline



**November 30, 2009 – January 11, 2010**

30 day minimum period between Board announcement of Accommodation Review, and first public consultation (not incl. winter break).

**February 2, 2010– May 11, 2010**

Public consultation period. Minimum 90 days (not incl.. March break). Minimum 4 public meetings.

**May 17, 2010- September 24, 2010**

Minimum 60 day period (not incl. summer break) between Accommodation Review Committee's (ARC) submission of Accommodation Report and meeting where Trustees vote on recommendation.

## Next Steps

- ARC to discuss Issues and develop Objectives
- ARC to review the School Information Profile Template, modify if necessary.
- ARC to discuss existing conditions, accommodation options, and recommendations
- ARC prepares Accommodation Report and Recommendations



## Future Meeting Dates

- Grand River South/Sunnyside Accommodation Review
  - ARC # 2: Feb 18, 2010, Sunnyside P.S. 4:30-6:00pm
  - ARC # 3: Mar 4, 2010, Sunnyside P.S. 4:30-6:00pm
  - ARC # 4: Mar 30, 2010, Sunnyside P.S. 4:30-6:00pm
  - ARC # 5: Apr 20, 2010, Sunnyside P.S. 4:30-6:00pm
  - School Tour: TBD

## Contact Information

- Website: [www.wrdsb.ca](http://www.wrdsb.ca)
  - » About>Planning>Accommodation Reviews
  - » Grand River South/Sunnyside Accommodation Review
- E-mail: [boundaryfeedback@wrdsb.on.ca](mailto:boundaryfeedback@wrdsb.on.ca)
- Phone: 519-570-0003 ext. 4419

