



**Waterloo Region  
District School Board**

**Education Centre**

51 Ardelt Avenue, Kitchener ON N2C 2R5

phone: 519 570 0003 fax: 519 570 2172

www.wrdsb.ca

**Very important boundary change information: Your response is required.**

February 5, 2013

Dear Parent/Guardian of «First\_Name» «Last\_Name»:

Please note that on January 14, 2013, the Waterloo Region District School Board voted to close Dickson Public School, effective July 2014 and to change the public elementary school boundaries in the area, **effective this September 2013.**

Based on your home address of «Address», «City», we have determined that you reside in “Affected Area D.” There is a map attached to this letter indicating the new boundaries for your area as a result of the Dickson Public School closure. There are a number of parts to this closure and boundary change:

- Effective September 2013, Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 students residing in “Affected Area D” will be in the Highland Public School boundary. Highland Public School is located at 125 Salisbury Avenue, Cambridge.
- Students residing in “Affected Area D” who are attending Dickson Public School on June 27, 2013 are given the option to enrol at either Dickson Public School or Highland Public School for SK-5 during the 2013/14 school year
  - Transportation will be provided to Highland Public School based on the eligibility criteria set out in *Board Policy 4009 – Student Transportation*
- Dickson Public School will formally close effective August 31, 2014
- Effective September 2014 all students residing in “Affected Area D” will be required to attend Highland Public School for Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5, and St. Andrew’s Public School for Grades 6 to 8
- Effective September 2018 Grade 6 classes will be added to Highland Public School. All students in residing “Affected Area D” will be required to attend Highland Public School for Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6, and St. Andrew’s Public School for Grades 7 to 8.

**There will be no other exceptions granted at this time.** To be considered for an exception at a later date, please fill out an out of boundary request form available at your home school. All out of boundary requests will be dealt with through the Superintendent of Education in mid-September.

We are requesting that you fill out, sign and return the attached form by **no later than February 28, 2013.** The information you provide on this form is extremely important to our staffing process that occurs in March. For this reason, please carefully consider the choice you indicate on this form as to the school your student(s) will attend next year as this will be your only opportunity to do so.

*Affected Area D*

We appreciate that this will be a change for your family. Plans will be made to give both you and your children opportunities to visit Highland Public School to meet staff and members of the school community. It is our hope that these opportunities will help everyone to make this transition a smooth one.

If you have any questions about the boundaries, please feel free to contact Ms. Lauren Manske, Senior Planner in the Board's Planning Department at 519-570-0003 ext. 4596. For school-specific questions, please contact Ms. Wendy Bowker at Highland P.S. (519-621-9981), or Mr. Barry Frame at Dickson P.S. (519-621-6030).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lauren Manske". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lauren Manske  
Senior Planner, Planning Department  
519-570-0003 ext. 4596  
Lauren\_Manske@wrdsb.on.ca

Please fill out, sign and return to the Dickson P.S. office **no later than February 28, 2013**

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**RE: SEPTEMBER 2013 HIGHLAND P.S./DICKSON P.S. BOUNDARY CHANGE**

Address: «Address», «City»

I am the parent/guardian of:

Name: «First\_Name» «Last\_Name» who will be in Grade «Grade\_1314» this Sept. 2013

**For the 2013/14 school year, «First\_Name» will attend:** Highland P.S. \_\_\_\_\_ Dickson P.S. \_\_\_\_\_

Reminder: Please carefully consider the choice you indicate on this form as to the school your student will attend next year as this decision is final.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read the attached letter and understand that based on my above noted address, «First\_Name» will be required to attend «M\_201415\_school\_1» effective September 2014.

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

«Teacher\_Name», Class «Class\_Room\_»

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q: I live in the affected area. I have one child currently in Gr. 1 at Dickson P.S. and another that will be entering JK in September 2013. Can my JK student attend Dickson P.S. with their sibling for the 2013/14 school year instead of enrolling at Highland P.S.?**

*A: No, Dickson P.S. will not offer JK classes in the 2013/14 school year. If you want your children to attend the same school, they will both have to attend Highland P.S.*

**Q: I live in the affected area moving to Highland P.S., will I have to go into the school to register my child?**

*A: No. All student records will be transferred automatically from Dickson P.S. to Highland P.S. Please make sure to fill out the attached form to indicate which school your child will be attending in 2013/14 so that their records can be dealt with accordingly. If you are registering a student for Kindergarten for September 2013, you will have to do so at Highland P.S.*

**Q: Why are there no exceptions given at this time?**

*A: Boards are required to meet primary class size caps as set out by the Ministry of Education. Staffing allocations for schools are based on class organizations that have to stay within the primary class size caps. Out of boundary requests may only be accommodated if class organizations can stay within this cap without having to add additional teaching staff to the school. Often this cannot be confirmed until school starts in September (families often move over the summer).*

**Q: My child has special needs and has great supports at my current school. Will they receive these same supports at their new school?**

*A: Special Education supports (including resource teachers, child and youth workers and educational assistants) are determined by the overall needs of a school's student population. A student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) identifies what modifications and/or accommodations are needed to support that student. If a student moves to another school anywhere in the Province, their Ontario Student Record (OSR) which includes their IEP, moves with them. It is the IEP that assists schools in determining how best to support that child.*

**Q: What is going to happen to Dickson Public School once it is closed?**

*A: If a property or building is no longer needed for school board purposes, it is declared surplus and the board may choose to sell or lease it. Boards must first offer their properties for purchase or lease to public organizations, such as other local school boards, Provincial or Federal agencies, local municipalities, colleges, and universities at fair market value. If no public agency expresses their interest, boards can use the open market to proceed with the sale/lease of the property. All future uses must be consistent with municipal by-laws.*

# Boundary Change - September 2013

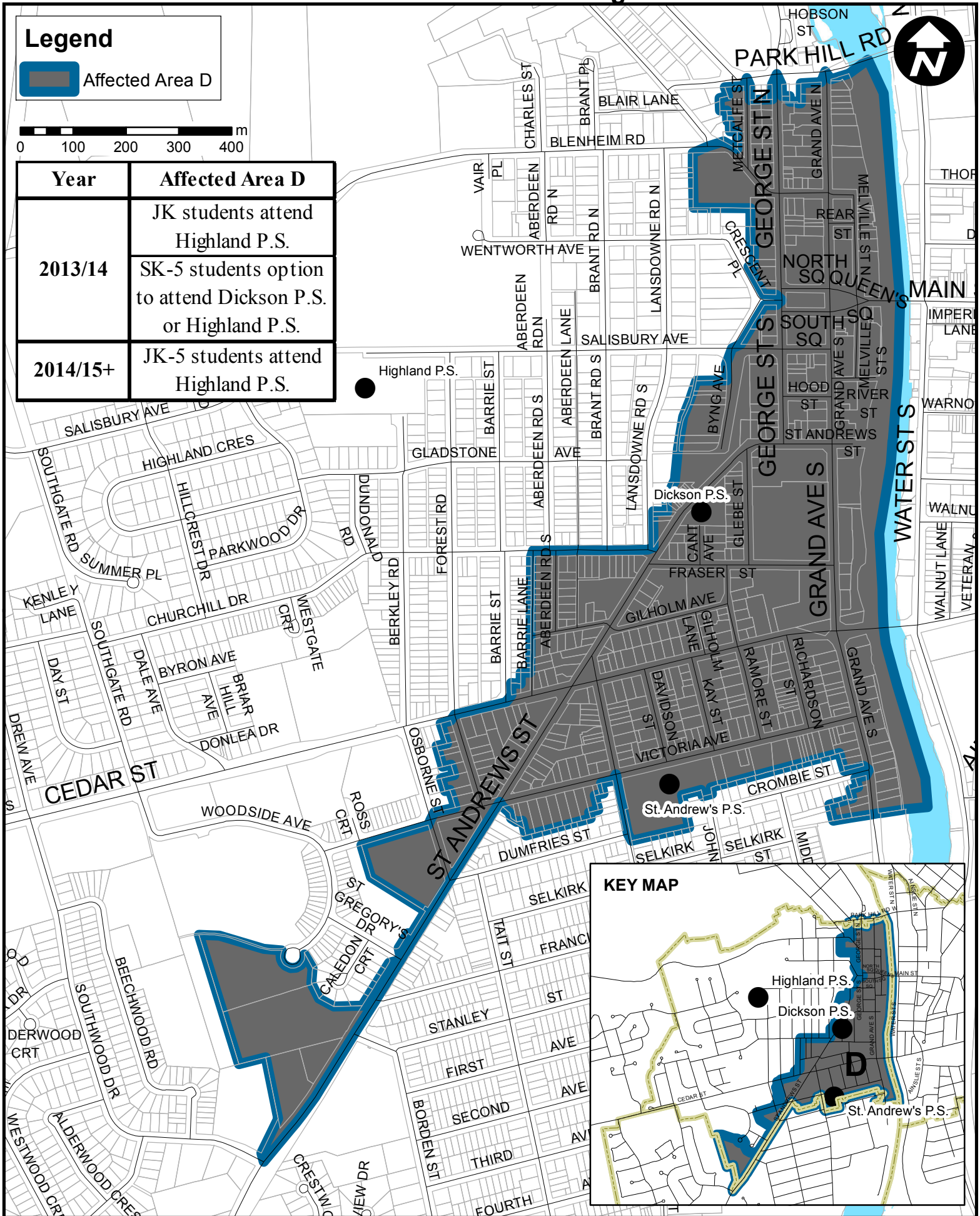
## Bewteen Dickon Public School and Highland Public School

### Legend

 Affected Area D

0 100 200 300 400 m

Year	Affected Area D
2013/14	JK students attend Highland P.S.
	SK-5 students option to attend Dickson P.S. or Highland P.S.
2014/15+	JK-5 students attend Highland P.S.



### KEY MAP

