




Waterloo Region
District School Board

West Waterloo Elementary Schools Boundary Study

Public Meeting #1

April 23, 2015

Agenda

1. Welcome & Introductions
 2. Explanation of the Boundary Study Process
 3. Working Group
 4. Study Goals & Objectives
 5. Scenarios
 6. Next Steps
 7. Q & A
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What is a Boundary Study?

A Boundary Study is a public process that ensures a decision made by a school board regarding the realignment of attendance boundaries has the involvement of an informed local community



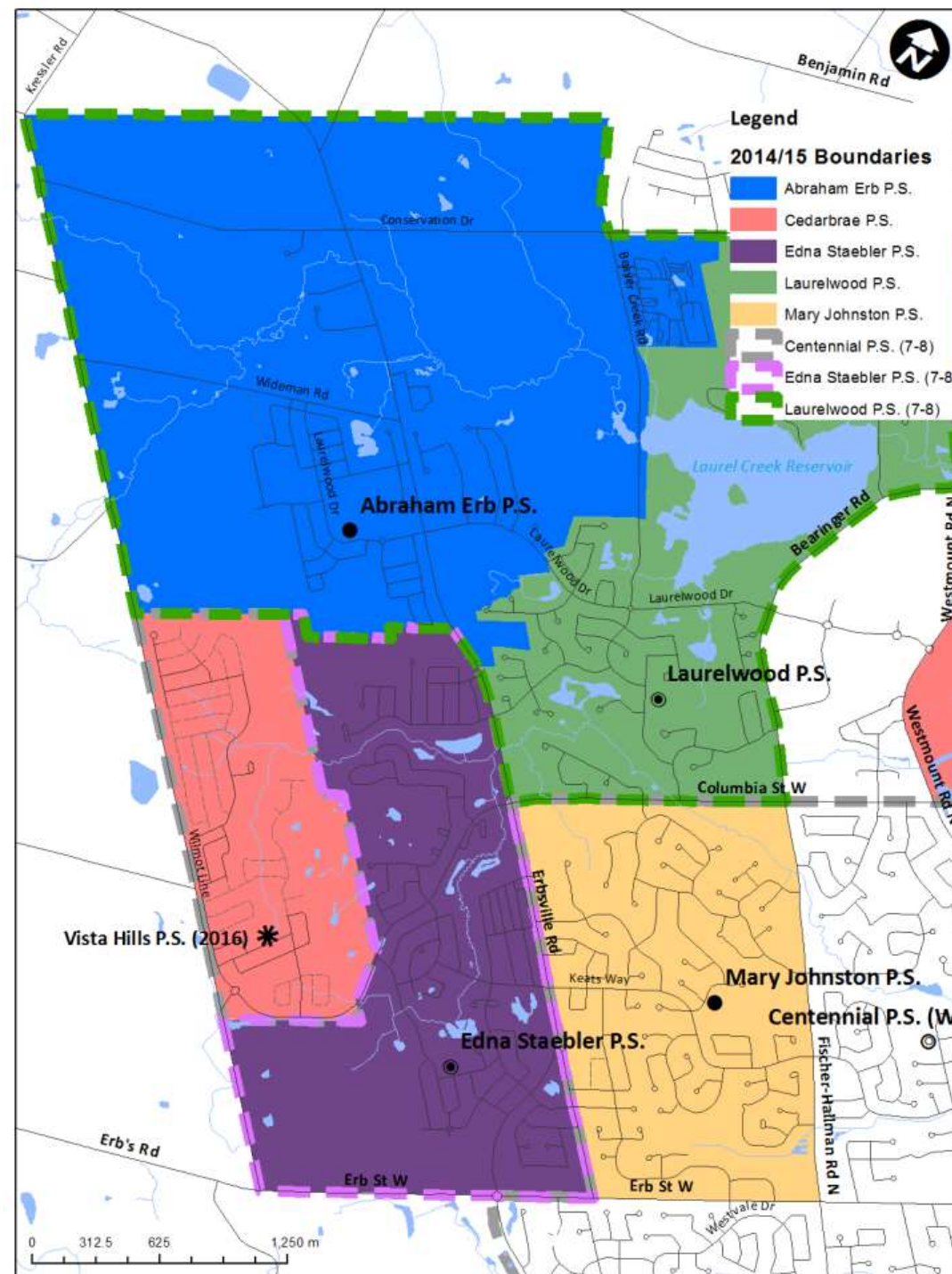
Reasons for a Boundary Study

- Establishing the new boundary for a new school
- Changing the grade structure of a school
- Balancing enrolment



West Waterloo Study Area

- Abraham Erb P.S.
 - JK-6
- Edna Staebler P.S.
 - JK-8
- Laurelwood P.S.
 - JK-8
- Mary Johnston P.S.
 - JK-6
- Vista Hills P.S. (NEW)




2014/15 School Information


School	Grades	March 31, 2015 Enrolment	2014/15 Permanent Capacity	2014/15 Temp. Capacity	Site Size (acres)	Opening Year
Abraham Erb P.S.	JK-6	431	487	0	5.99	2005
Edna Staebler P.S.	JK-8	883	706	207	5.86	2008
Laurelwood P.S.	JK-8	714	375	368	8.04	1998
Mary Johnston P.S.	JK-6	433	447	46	8.18	1987

Vista Hills P.S.	N/A	N/A	647	N/A	5.98	2016
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Background

- Planning for new Vista Hills Public School began in 1996 as part of the Columbia Hills District Plan
 - Edna Staebler Public School opened September 2008
 - Construction of Vista Hills community experienced several delays due to OMB appeals and housing market (school originally planned for 2012 opening)
 - Funding approved to construct Vista Hills Public School April 25 2014 for September 2016 opening
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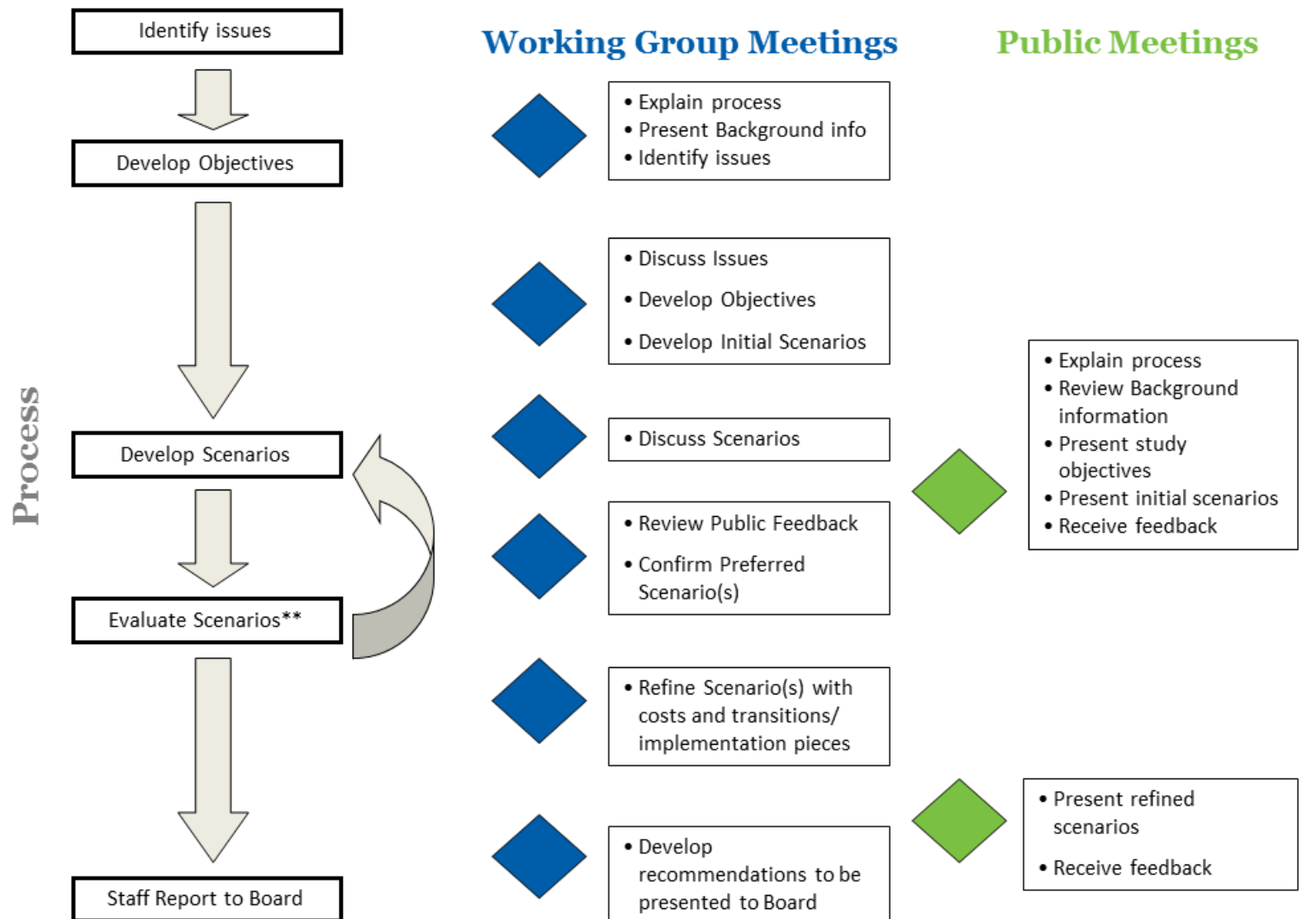
Funding for Capital Projects

- Annual submission to Ministry of Education for Capital Priorities Grant
 - Business cases for Capital Priorities must align with Ministry priorities
 - Ministry of Education Capital Analysts do not look at one school in isolation, but a grouping of schools to determine if additional capacity is required
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Vista Hills Public School




Boundary Study Process




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

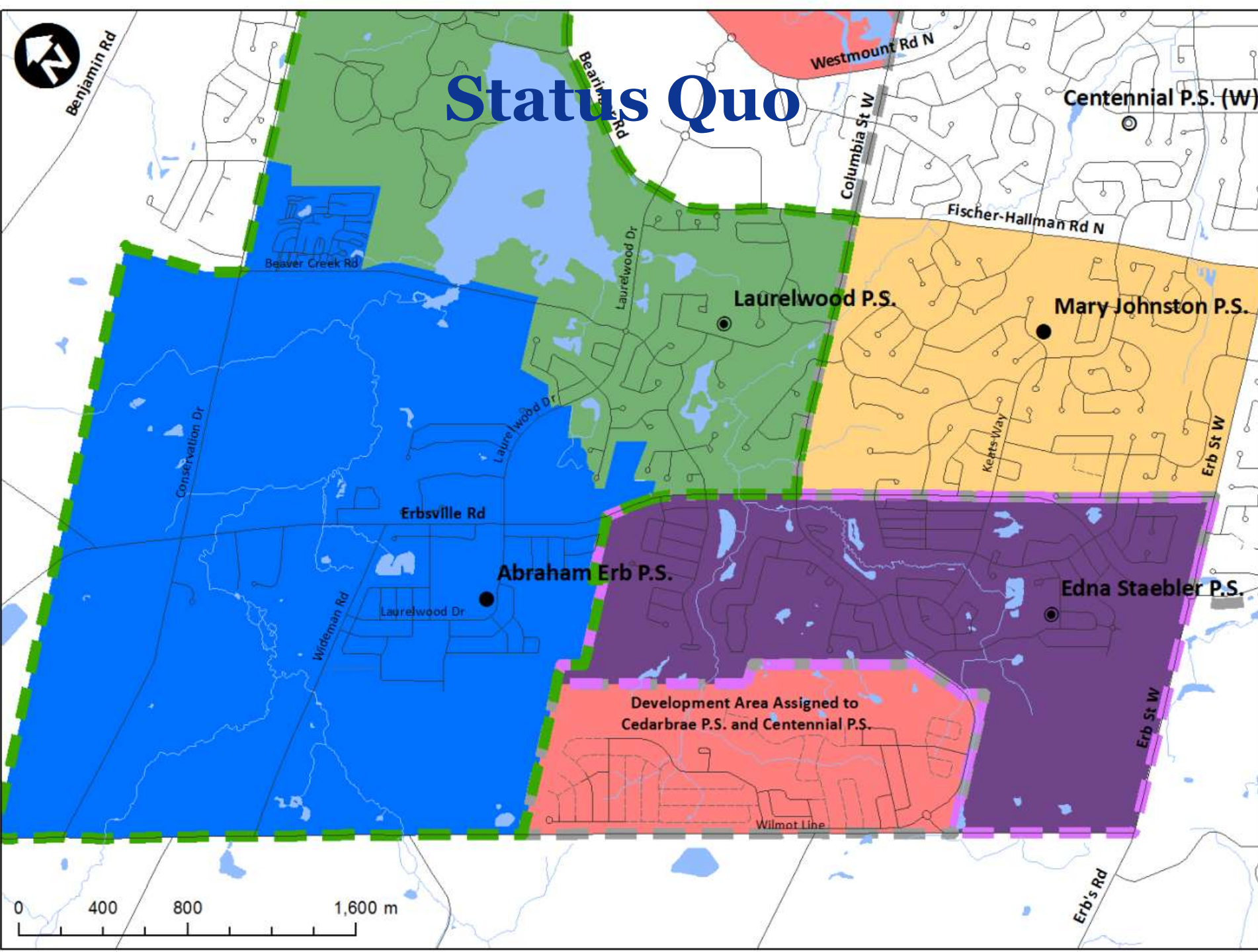
Study Goals

- To establish grade configurations that provide the best learning opportunities for students and staff while giving consideration to:
 - existing facilities, community connections and distance;
 - student learning opportunities;
 - community growth patterns;
 - capital funding, including partnership opportunities
 - To consider facilities and infrastructure (including sites, offices, gyms, specialized classrooms, etc.) necessary to deliver curriculum and support student achievement where changes are proposed
 - To establish boundaries that consider:
 - efficiency of transportation (students within walking distance, bus routes)
 - permanent capacity of schools and/or future construction requirements (e.g., site, program spaces, safety)
 - current and future population density and demographics
 - impact on feeder and surrounding schools (i.e., consistent boundaries for Gr. 6 students moving to Gr. 7, and Gr. 8 students moving to secondary school)
 - the distribution and accessibility of Special Education and French Immersion programs
 - To consider the impact on students where changes are proposed (e.g., consideration for grandfathering, phasing, access to child care, transportation provisions, etc.)
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Study Objectives

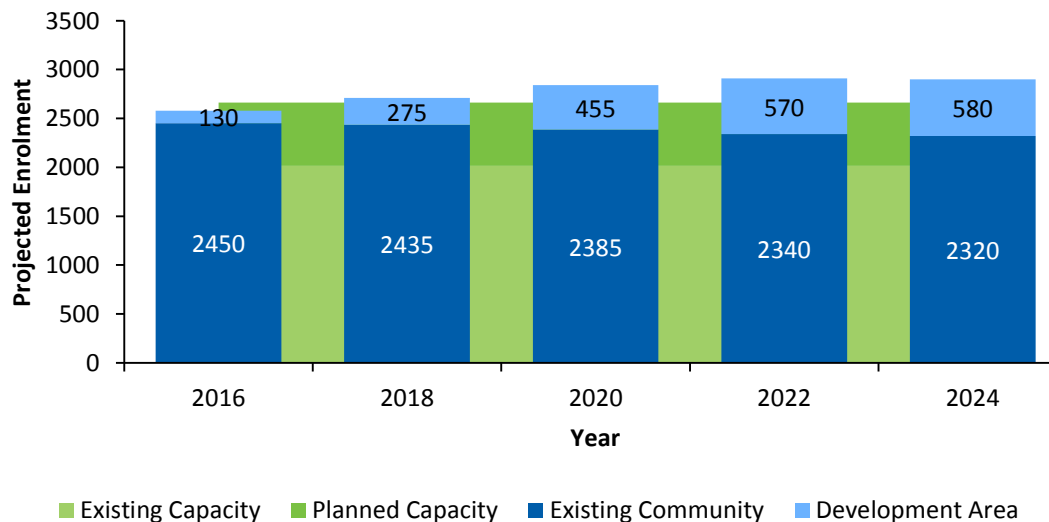
- To establish a boundary for the new Vista Hills Public School
 - To increase the number of classes instructed in permanent classrooms in a cost-effective way
 - To provide equitable learning opportunities for students and staff by moving towards the following criteria: (from *Board Policy 3002 - Elementary School Size and Configuration*)
 - A minimum of 2 classes per grade in JK-6 (built capacity between 350 and 525 students)
 - More than 2 classes per grade in Grades 7-8 (>100 students) to support program
 - JK-8 facilities with a built capacity between 500 and 700 students
 - Minimize the number of schools with enrolments over 700 students wherever possible
 - Minimize the transition of elementary students between schools where practical
 - To increase the number of students within a safe walking distance (e.g., signalized intersections to cross at, crossing guards present) to their assigned school (<1.6km)
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Status Quo

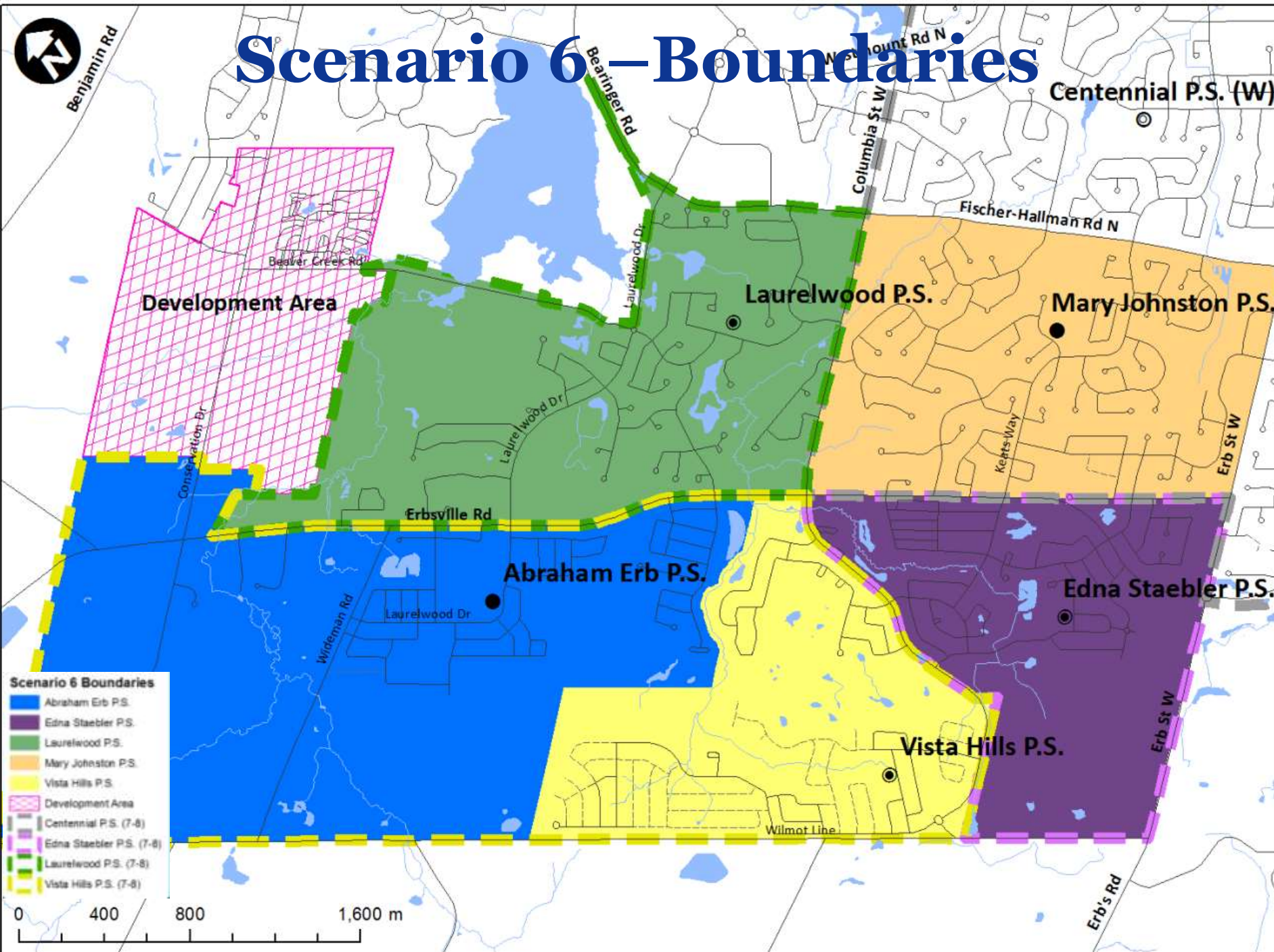


Status Quo

School	Total Capacity	Grades	Enrolment Projection by Year				
			2016	2018	2020	2022	2024
Abraham Erb P.S.	487	JK-6	410	390	355	355	360
Edna Staebler P.S.	706	JK-8	940	925	915	890	860
Laurelwood P.S.	375	JK-8	670	695	690	670	660
Mary Johnston P.S.	447	JK-6	430	425	425	425	440
Development Area		JK-8	130	275	455	570	580
Total	2015		2580	2710	2840	2910	2900

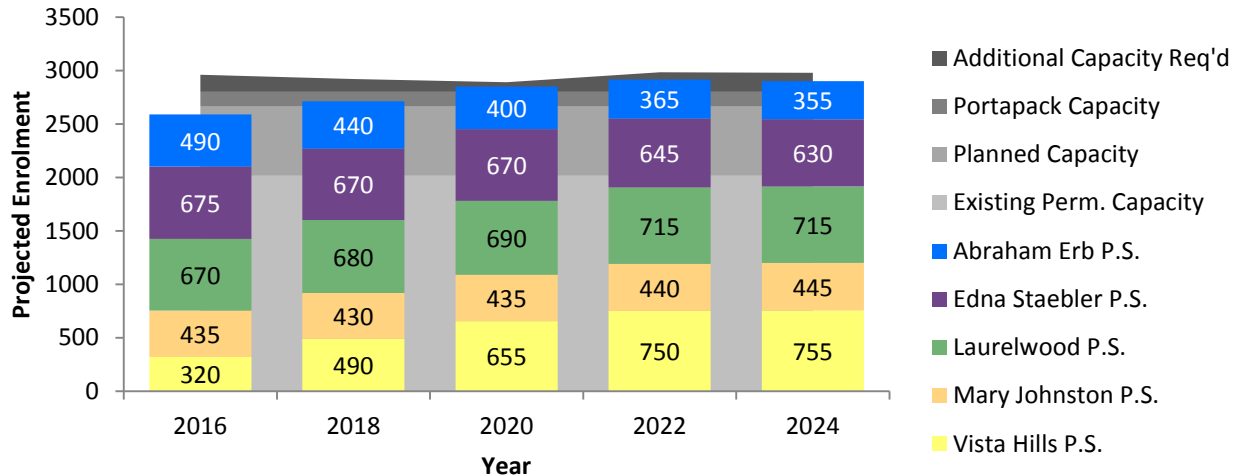


Scenario 6—Boundaries



Scenario 6

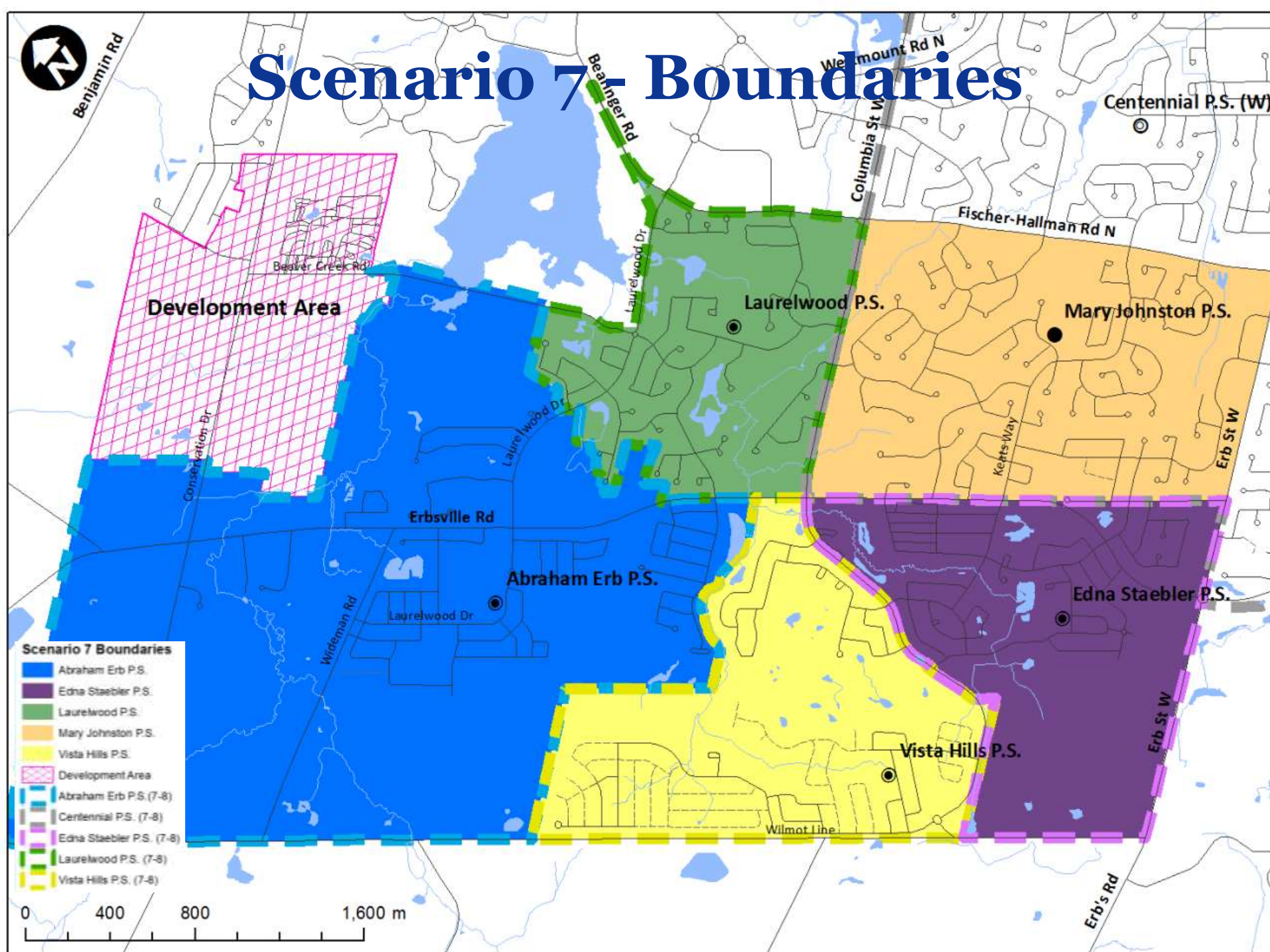
School	Perm. Capacity	Grades	Enrolment Projection by Year				
			2016	2018	2020	2022	2024
Abraham Erb P.S.	487	JK-6	490	440	400	365	355
Edna Staebler P.S.	706	JK-8	675	670	670	645	630
Laurelwood P.S.	375	JK-8	670	680	690	715	715
Mary Johnston P.S.	447	JK-6	435	430	435	440	445
Vista Hills P.S.	647	JK-8	320	490	655	750	755
Total	2662		2590	2710	2850	2915	2900



Scenario 6 vs. Study Objectives

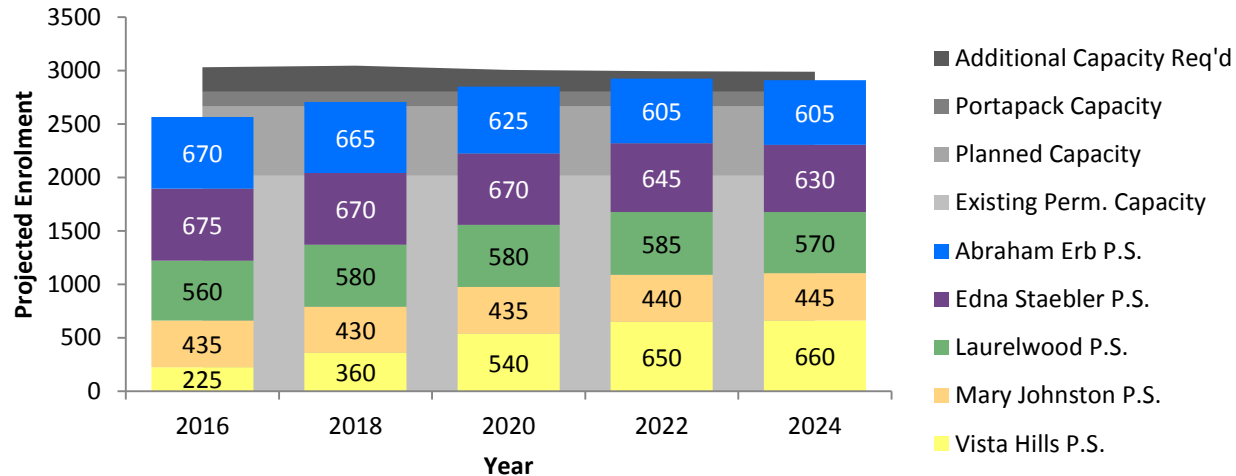
Objective	Met?
To establish a boundary for the new Vista Hills Public School	YES
To increase the number of classes instructed in permanent classrooms in a cost-effective way	YES, approx. 10-14 add'l classrooms req'd (
To provide equitable learning opportunities for students and staff by Moving towards the following criteria:	
A minimum of 2 classes per grade in JK-6 (built capacity between 350 and 525 students)	YES, mid to long-term
More than 2 classes per grade in Grades 7-8 (>100 students) to support program	YES
JK-8 facilities with a built capacity between 500 and 700 students	YES, mid to long-term
Minimize the number of schools with enrolments over 700 students wherever possible	NO
Minimize the transition of elementary students between schools where practical	YES, except Abraham Erb PS
To increase the number of students within a safe walking distance (e.g., signalized intersections to cross at, crossing guards present) to their assigned school (<1.6km)	YES, eliminates uncontrolled crossings of Erbsville Rd or Columbia St

Scenario 7 - Boundaries



Scenario 7

School	Total Capacity	Grades	Enrolment Projection by Year				
			2016	2018	2020	2022	2024
Abraham Erb P.S.	487	JK-8	670	665	625	605	605
Edna Staebler P.S.	706	JK-8	675	670	670	645	630
Laurelwood P.S.	375	JK-8	560	580	580	585	570
Mary Johnston P.S.	447	JK-6	435	430	435	440	445
Vista Hills P.S.	647	JK-8	225	360	540	650	660
Total	2662		2565	2705	2850	2925	2910



Scenario 7 vs. Study Objectives

Objective	Met?
To establish a boundary for the new Vista Hills Public School	YES
To increase the number of classes instructed in permanent classrooms in a cost-effective way	YES, approx. 14-18 add'l classrooms req'd
To provide equitable learning opportunities for students and staff by Moving towards the following criteria:	
A minimum of 2 classes per grade in JK-6 (built capacity between 350 and 525 students)	YES, long-term
More than 2 classes per grade in Grades 7-8 (>100 students) to support program	YES, long-term
JK-8 facilities with a built capacity between 500 and 700 students	YES, mid to long-term
Minimize the number of schools with enrolments over 700 students wherever possible	YES
Minimize the transition of elementary students between schools where practical	YES
To increase the number of students within a safe walking distance (e.g., signalized intersections to cross at, crossing guards present) to their assigned school (<1.6km)	YES, eliminates uncontrolled crossing of Columbia St, more 7-8 w/i 1.6 km



Benjamin Rd

Scenario 8 Phase 1 - Boundaries

Westmount Rd N
Columbia St W

Centennial P.S. (W)

Fischer-Hallman Rd N

Development Area

Beaver Creek Rd

Laurelwood P.S.

Mary Johnston P.S.

Erbville Rd

Abraham Erb P.S.

Edna Staebler P.S.

Vista Hills P.S.

Scenario 8 Ph 1 Boundaries

- Abraham Erb P.S.
- Edna Staebler P.S.
- Laurelwood P.S.
- Mary Johnston P.S.
- Vista Hills P.S.
- Development Area
- Centennial P.S. (7-8)
- Edna Staebler P.S. (7-8)
- Laurelwood P.S. (7-8)
- Vista Hills P.S. (7-8)

0 400 800 1,600 m

Wideman Rd

Laurelwood Dr

Beaver Rd

Laurelwood Dr

Laurelwood Dr

Ketts Way

Erb St W

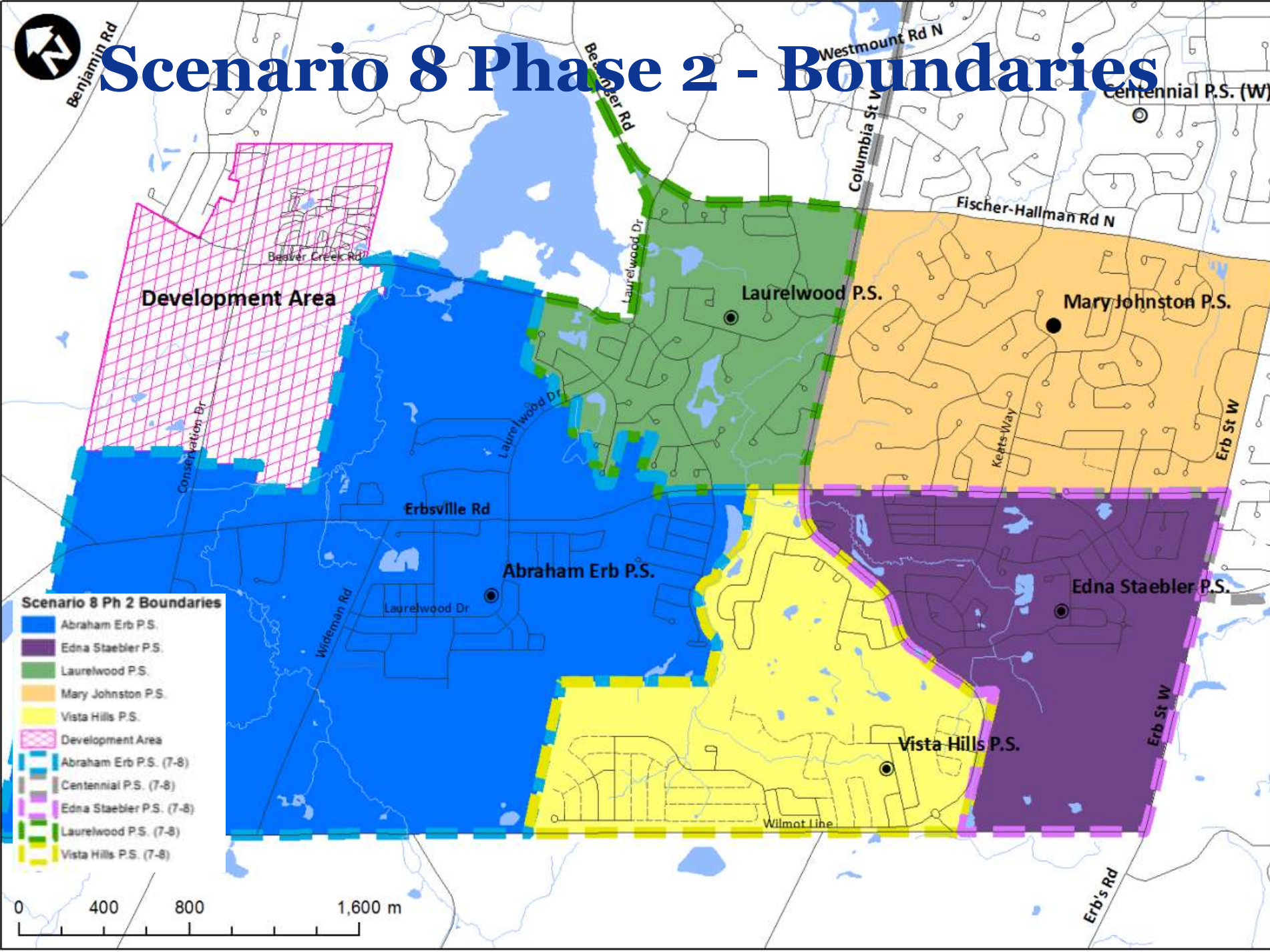
Erb St W

Erb's Rd

Wilmot Line

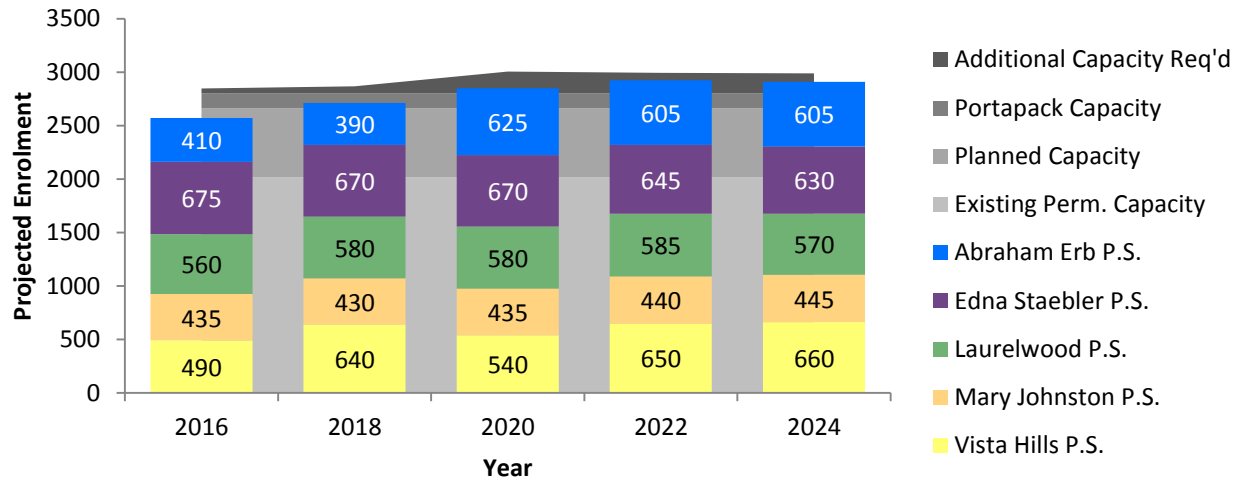


Scenario 8 Phase 2 - Boundaries



Scenario 8

School	Total Capacity	Enrolment Projection by Year						
		PHASE 1			PHASE 2			
		Grades	2016	2018	Grades	2020	2022	2024
Abraham Erb P.S.	487	JK-6	410	390	JK-8	625	605	605
Edna Staebler P.S.	706	JK-8	675	670	JK-8	670	645	630
Laurelwood P.S.	375	JK-8	560	580	JK-8	580	585	570
Mary Johnston P.S.	447	JK-6	435	430	JK-6	435	440	445
Vista Hills P.S.	647	JK-8	490	640	JK-8	540	650	660
Total	2662		2570	2710		2850	2925	2910




Scenario 8 Ph. 1 vs. Study Objectives

Objective	Met?
To establish a boundary for the new Vista Hills Public School	YES
To increase the number of classes instructed in permanent classrooms in a cost-effective way	YES, approx. 8-9 add'l classrooms req'd
To provide equitable learning opportunities for students and staff by Moving towards the following criteria:	
A minimum of 2 classes per grade in JK-6 (built capacity between 350 and 525 students)	YES
More than 2 classes per grade in Grades 7-8 (>100 students) to support program	YES
JK-8 facilities with a built capacity between 500 and 700 students	YES
Minimize the number of schools with enrolments over 700 students wherever possible	YES
Minimize the transition of elementary students between schools where practical	YES, except for Abraham Erb P.S.
To increase the number of students within a safe walking distance (e.g., signalized intersections to cross at, crossing guards present) to their assigned school (<1.6km)	YES, eliminates uncontrolled crossing of Columbia St, increases 7-8 transportation

Scenario 8 Ph. 2 vs. Study Objectives

Objective	Met?
To establish a boundary for the new Vista Hills Public School	YES
To increase the number of classes instructed in permanent classrooms in a cost-effective way	YES, approx. 8-9 add'l classrooms req'd
To provide equitable learning opportunities for students and staff by Moving towards the following criteria:	
A minimum of 2 classes per grade in JK-6 (built capacity between 350 and 525 students)	YES
More than 2 classes per grade in Grades 7-8 (>100 students) to support program	YES
JK-8 facilities with a built capacity between 500 and 700 students	YES
Minimize the number of schools with enrolments over 700 students wherever possible	YES
Minimize the transition of elementary students between schools where practical	YES
To increase the number of students within a safe walking distance (e.g., signalized intersections to cross at, crossing guards present) to their assigned school (<1.6km)	YES, eliminates uncontrolled crossing of Columbia St, decreases 7-8 transportation

Next Steps

- Working Group to review public meeting comments
 - Working Group to refine scenarios based on public feedback
 - Working Group to develop recommendations
 - A minimum of 1 additional public meeting to share draft recommendations
 - Staff to bring recommendations to Board of Trustees
 - Board of Trustees vote on recommendations
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Website



Planning Department

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West Waterloo Elementary Schools Boundary Study

Schools Involved

- Abraham Erb Public School
- Cedarbrae Public School
- Centennial Public School
- Edna Staebler Public School
- Laurelwood Public School
- Mary Johnston Public School
- New West Waterloo (Vista Hills) elementary school to be built at 314 Sweet Gale Street, Waterloo.

Background

Approval for a capital request to build a new JK-8 elementary facility of 646 pupil places was received from the Ministry of Education on April 25, 2014 for the new West Waterloo area (Vista Hills) elementary school to be located on a 6 acre site at 314 Sweet Gale Street in the Vista Hills community. The targeted opening date for this school is September 2016.

At the [May 12, 2014 Committee of the Whole meeting](#) of the Waterloo Region District School Board, Trustees voted in favour of the commencement of an Elementary Boundary Study of Abraham Erb, Cedarbrae, Centennial, Edna Staebler, Laurelwood and Mary Johnston Public Schools, and including the new school to be constructed at 314 Sweet Gale Street, Waterloo, to be called the West Waterloo Elementary Schools Boundary Study.

The boundary study will commence in the 2014-2015 school year. It will establish the boundary for the new West Waterloo area (Vista Hills) Elementary School and address the long-term program and accommodation needs of the West Waterloo community. The issues to be examined in this area include:

Contact Information



www.wrdsb.ca/planning



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Please indicate West Waterloo in subject line



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@wrdsb

Questions?

