



CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

Box 2222, 2755 Highway 43 - Kemptville, Ontario - K0G 1J0
Phone: 613-258-7757 Toll-Free: 1-800-443-4562 Fax: 613-258-7134
www.cdsbeo.on.ca



Meeting Date:
May 2, 2017

BOARD REPORT

Public **In-Camera**

PRESENTED FOR: Information Approval

PRESENTED BY: Bonnie Norton, Superintendent of Business

SUBMITTED BY: John Cameron, Associate Director of Education
Bonnie Norton, Superintendent of Business

SUBJECT: **Pupil Accommodation Review – Final Staff Report – Report 3**

RECOMMENDATIONS: *“That the Board approve the following staff recommendations concerning the Cornwall Area Pupil Accommodation Review:*

1. *Consolidate/Close Immaculate Conception effective June 30, 2018, and redirect enrolment to Bishop Macdonell and St. Peter in accordance with the Proposed Modified Option 2 Attendance Boundary Map identified in Appendix 19 of the attached Appendix A;*
2. *Declare Immaculate Conception surplus to the Board’s needs effective June 30, 2018;*
3. *Consolidate/Close St. Columban’s effective June 30, 2019, and redirect enrolment to the new Sacred Heart school;*
4. *Declare St. Columban’s surplus to the Board’s needs effective June 30, 2019;*
5. *Consolidate/Close Sacred Heart effective June 30, 2019 and build a new JK-6 Sacred Heart dual track facility to replace the consolidated Sacred Heart/St. Columban’s, preferably on an alternate site, or, if possible, find an alternate facility in close proximity to the existing Sacred Heart school;*
6. *Declare the existing Sacred Heart surplus to the Board’s needs effective June 30, 2019;*
7. *Modify the current St. Anne and Sacred Heart attendance boundaries north of Highway 401, effective September 1, 2019, to be included in the new consolidated Sacred Heart/St. Columban’s boundary, in accordance with the Proposed Modified Option 2 Attendance Boundary Map identified in Appendix 19 of the attached Appendix A;*
8. *Convert the existing St. Joseph CSS to a grade 7 to 12 facility effective September 1, 2019 to take in grade 7 & 8 from St. Anne, Bishop Macdonell and the consolidated Sacred Heart/St. Columban’s, and*
 - a. *Accommodate the grade 7 & 8 enrolment at St. Joseph CSS through the use of alternate space, if this is an option, or*
 - b. *Build an addition to the existing St. Joseph CSS to accommodate grade 7 & 8;*

9. *Convert St. Anne to a JK-6 dual track facility effective September 1, 2019, with grade 7 & 8 redirected to the existing St. Joseph CSS;*
 10. *Convert Bishop Macdonell to a JK-6 dual track facility effective September 1, 2019, with grade 7 & 8 redirected to the existing St. Joseph CSS;*
 11. *Modify the current secondary school boundaries for Holy Trinity CSS and St. Joseph CSS, effective September 1, 2019, to mirror the new proposed boundaries in accordance with the Proposed Modified Option 2 Attendance Boundary Map identified in Appendix 19 of the attached Appendix A, so that students from Bishop Macdonell are not split between the two secondary schools;*
 12. *Pursue the acquisition of an alternate location for St. Matthew CSS, if possible, and effective September 1, 2019, so that the program can be expanded to accommodate grade 7 & 8.”*
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SYNOPSIS:

The Pupil Accommodation Review process for the Cornwall Area commenced on October 4, 2016. The process requires a series of three (3) Staff Reports to be brought before the Board of Trustees. The following Staff Reports were presented to the Board of Trustees:

- Initial Staff Report – Report 1 – presented October 4, 2016
- Staff Report – Report 2 – presented March 7, 2017

This Final Staff Report (Report 3) is the 3rd and final Report to be brought before the Board of Trustees. This Final Staff Report (Report 3), scheduled for May 2, 2017, is a requirement of the Ministry of Education’s Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and the Board’s Pupil Accommodation Review Policy.

BACKGROUND COMMENTS:

On October 4, 2016, the Board of Trustees approved the commencement of the Pupil Accommodation Review for the Cornwall Review Area as a result of the Initial Staff Report (Report 1) that was presented.

Following approval to proceed with the Accommodation Review, an Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) was established. The ARC has representation from each of the nine (9) Cornwall schools under review. The purpose of the ARC is to act as a conduit between the Board and the public and to receive feedback on the proposed accommodation plan for the Cornwall Review Area. The Pupil Accommodation Review for the Cornwall Review Area involves the following Catholic schools:

- Bishop Macdonell
- Holy Trinity Elementary & Secondary
- Sacred Heart
- St. Anne
- St. Columban’s
- St. Peter

- St. Joseph CSS
- St. Matthew CSS

The purpose of this Final Staff Report (Report 3) is to recommend the reduction of pupil places in the Cornwall Area in conclusion of the Cornwall Area Pupil Accommodation Review. This Report 3 and associated Appendices outline information presented to the Board of Trustees on October 4, 2016 and March 7, 2017.

Staff Report (Report 2), that was presented on March 7, 2017, was to inform Trustees on the work conducted by the ARC. It included comments and feedback from the public, the ARC, and the City of Cornwall. In addition, the Report 2 outlined information presented in the Initial Staff Report (Report 1) and presented a “new” proposed modified preferred option based on all the feedback and input received from various stakeholders throughout the Accommodation Review process. The Initial Staff Report (Report 1) and the Staff Report (Report 2) were also requirements of the Ministry of Education’s Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and the Board’s Pupil Accommodation Review Policy and Administrative Procedure.

Public delegations were scheduled for April 4, 2017; however, no members of the public requested to make a delegation before the Board of Trustees.

In accordance with the Ministry’s Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and the Board’s policy and procedure, a final decision regarding the proposed accommodation solution can only be made following the conclusion of a prescribed consultation process with the affected school communities, including two (2) public meetings and an opportunity for delegations to appear directly before the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees will make the final decision on this matter.

The Initial Staff Report (Report 1), presented on October 4, 2016, along with Staff Report (Report 2), presented on March 7, 2017, were intended to provide information to the Board of Trustees, and the public, regarding the existing accommodation in the area, the current surplus spaces and the opportunities to redirect dollars spent on fixed resources, such as operating costs, to support student achievement and well-being.

Appendix A attached to this report includes the consolidated Initial Staff Report (Report 1) as well as Staff Report (Report 2) and Appendices 1 to 24.

Conclusion

Throughout the pupil accommodation review process, the public along with the ARC Committee provided valuable feedback to administration regarding an acceptable solution to the surplus capacity issue in the City of Cornwall.

As a result of working with the ARC and taking into consideration all the input and feedback received, board staff has developed a modified preferred Option 2 along with a series of recommendations, similar to those presented in Staff Report (Report 2) on March 7, 2017.

Modified Preferred Option 2

- Consolidate/Close Immaculate Conception effective June 30, 2018, and redirect enrolment to Bishop Macdonell and St. Peter in accordance with the Proposed Modified Option 2 Attendance Boundary Map identified in Appendix 19 of the attached Appendix A;
- Declare Immaculate Conception surplus to the Board's needs effective June 30, 2018;
- Consolidate/Close St. Columban's effective June 30, 2019, and redirect enrolment to the new Sacred Heart school;
- Declare St. Columban's surplus to the Board's needs effective June 30, 2019;
- Consolidate/Close Sacred Heart effective June 30, 2019 and build a new JK-6 Sacred Heart dual track facility to replace the consolidated Sacred Heart/St. Columban's, preferably on an alternate site, or, if possible, find an alternate facility in close proximity to the existing Sacred Heart school;
- Declare Sacred Heart surplus to the Board's needs effective June 30, 2019;
- Modify the current St. Anne and Sacred Heart attendance boundaries north of Highway 401, effective September 1, 2019, to be included in the new consolidated Sacred Heart/St. Columban's boundary, in accordance with the Proposed Modified Option 2 Attendance Boundary Map identified in Appendix 19 of the attached Appendix A;
- Convert the existing St. Joseph CSS to a grade 7 to 12 facility effective September 1, 2019 to take in grade 7 & 8 from St. Anne, Bishop Macdonell and the consolidated Sacred Heart/St. Columban's, and
 - Accommodate the grade 7 & 8 enrolment at St. Joseph CSS through the use of alternate space, if this is an option, or
 - Build an addition to the existing St. Joseph CSS to accommodate grade 7 & 8;
- Convert St. Anne to a JK-6 dual track facility effective September 1, 2019, with grade 7 & 8 redirected to the existing St. Joseph CSS;
- Convert Bishop Macdonell to a JK-6 dual track facility effective September 1, 2019, with grade 7 & 8 redirected to the existing St. Joseph CSS;
- Modify the current secondary school boundaries for Holy Trinity CSS and St. Joseph CSS, effective September 1, 2019, to mirror the new proposed boundaries in accordance with the Proposed Modified Option 2 Attendance Boundary Map identified in Appendix 19 of the attached Appendix A, so that students from Bishop Macdonell are not split between the two secondary schools;
- Pursue the acquisition of an alternate location for St. Matthew CSS, if possible, and effective September 1, 2019, so that the program can be expanded to accommodate grade 7 & 8."

The proposed modified preferred Option 2 would result in the elimination of approximately 697 pupil places in the City of Cornwall and would result in 15 year capacity utilization (2029) of

approximately 97.9%. This is an over 20% improvement in capacity utilization for the Cornwall review area.

Staff recommends the Board of Trustees approve the Modified Preferred Option 2 identified above.

Upon trustee approval, staff will submit the required Business Cases to the Ministry of Education for funding consideration at the next available opportunity, anticipated for July 2017, with funding announcements expected sometime in the Fall of 2017.

Upon Ministry approval of the Business Case submissions, the Board will establish a transition committee to address the transition for students and staff that will work in consultation with parents/guardians and staff.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The current cost to operate the schools in the Cornwall Area Pupil Accommodation Review, based on 2014-15 actuals, totals more than \$2.8 million compared to operating grants of \$2.7 million. This translates into an annual funding shortfall of approximately \$114,000. When removing Holy Trinity CSS and St. Joseph CSS from the equation, the shortfall increases to almost \$325,000 per year. Additionally, five-year renewal needs have also been provided for all the Cornwall schools, estimated at approximately \$30.2 million.

Note: Moving forward with the proposed preferred Option 2 recommendations as identified above is contingent on the receipt of Ministry funding in support of the Business Case submissions.

TIMELINES:

As stated in the Initial Staff Report (Report 1) and the Staff Report (Report 2) and throughout the Cornwall Area Pupil Accommodation Review process, the proposal by staff is to close Immaculate Conception at the end of June 2018 with all remaining consolidation/closure recommendations to be effective June 30, 2019. Business Cases will be submitted to the Ministry at the next available opportunity.

APPENDIX:

Appendix A - Consolidated Initial Staff Report (Report 1), Staff Report (Report 2) and Appendices 1-24 – Cornwall Pupil Accommodation Review

REPORT REVIEWED BY:

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION Approval Date: April 13, 2017

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION Approval Date: April 18, 2017