

1. Question

In the projections did you do a high, medium, low forecast of the French Immersion program?

Answer

No, Planning Staff do not utilize high, medium or low forecasts for the French immersion program. The enrolment projection methodology utilized includes a number of variables when enrolments are being developed. It includes historical enrolments, progression rates by grade and by program (i.e. French Immersion) and pupil yields from new development.

2. Question

Did you think about decrease in French Immersion numbers due to parents withdrawing from the FI program? If so, do you have a plan “B?”

Answer

Planning staff included a factor of declining enrolment in the French Immersion Program. The assumptions utilized forms the basis of the recommended option.

4. Question

What happens if the new Palermo School becomes over populated will there be another move?

Answer

Based on the enrolment projections it would appear that there would be no required moves within the next five years. However, Planning Staff will continue to monitor enrolments and assess future accommodation requirements.

5. Question

Is it possible if portables are needed on-site at Forest Trail to have a direct link to the school or a walkway to the school?

Answer

No. Fire Code and municipal regulations govern what we can do with portables.

6. Question

Why is there an incubator school?

Answer

On March 25, 2008 Trustee Bateman Olmstead introduced the motion that referred to an incubator school.

7. Question

Would there be flexibility on the boundaries for Option 2?

Answer

Once the Board of Trustees passes the motion, the boundaries will be implemented.

8. Question

Would there be optional attendance for children who are in walking distance of Ecole Forest Trail?

Answer

Ecole Forest Trail is a “closed” school because it is at or over capacity. Optional attendance is not possible at a closed school.

9. Question

What is meant by “Core French Pilot Program” at the new Palermo school?

Answer

When the Palermo school site opens in September 2009, English Track students in Grades 1 to 3 will receive French instruction as part of their program. This will be a pilot because, as per the Ontario curriculum, French instruction begins in Grade 4. Enabling Grade 1 to 4 English Track students to study French will help to create a bilingual culture in the school.

10. Question

What educational resources will be available at Lorne Skuce?

Answer

Lorne Skuce will have the same educational resources as all other schools in the Halton District School Board.

11. Question

Does the Board have a blueprint of what the vision would be for “Bilingual Culture” at Palermo? If so what would it look like?

Answer

A Bilingual Culture will involve staff and students in both the French Immersion and the English Track program in learning and working together in all areas of the school. This concept is the starting point for the principal, teachers and transition committee to work together to shape a framework for the culture of the school. A vision can only be defined by the team of people who work together to shape that vision.

12. Question

Why was the proposed recommended option put forth with no input from the community?

Answer

Public input on the Ward 4 Oakville accommodation issue at Forest Trail began in February 2008 with School Councils. Since that time, the Halton District School Board has provided a public consultation process that involved public input consisting of a mailout process, a focus group process, an email site for public questions and answers, and delegations to the Board. The proposed recommended option is in response to a trustee motion put forth on March 25, 2009.

13. Question

Will there be an opportunity for Optional Attendance at the Palermo School once it opens in September 2010?

Answer

Optional Attendance is offered if the school is not at full capacity.

14. Question

Is the dual track setting effective if there is an imbalance of students in the English and FI program?

Answer

Please refer to the Research Report posted on the Ward 4 Website.

15. Question

Will there be an identity for Palermo, will it have a name, mascot, team colours, and would it be carried to Palermo once opened?

Answer

Yes

16. Question

How will parents be able to meet the daycare needs with such a short time between now and September 2009?

Answer

The principal of the new Palermo school (housed at Lorne Skuce) will prioritize the investigation and planning of daycare. He/she will receive the support of senior board staff in expediting this planning.

17. Question

Why will the enrolments at Forest Trail still be high even with the proposed boundary changes in place for September 2009.

Answer

The decision to “grow” the French Immersion program at a new dual track school combined with the decision to grandfather siblings of older children leaves a large number of students at Forest Trail who live in the new Palermo school boundaries. This decision was made in response to parent requests. While this reduces the number of children who have to change schools, it also leaves a higher number of students at Forest Trail.

18. Question

When will the opening/groundbreaking of Palermo be?

Answer

We would not expect a specific date until late Summer or Fall. Design work is under way; permits will be applied following consultation and design. Then we have to tender and have the Board award the tender to a specific contractor.

19. Question

What is the number of French Immersion students transported by schools?

Answer

School	Total
ACTON SECONDARY	6
ALDRSHOT SECONDARY	44
ALEXANDER'S ELEMENTARY	10
BRUCE T. LINDLEY ELEMENTARY	7
BURLINGTON CENTRAL SECONDARY	21
CENTENNIAL ELEMENTARY	104
CHARLES R BEAUDOIN ELEMENTARY	76
CLARKSDALE ELEMENTARY	173
E.J. JAMES ELEMENTARY	99
E.W. FOSTER ELEMENTARY	205
FOREST TRAIL ELEMENTARY FI	656
GEORGE KENNEDY ELEMENTARY	226
GEORGETOWN SECONDARY	52
LINBROOK ELEMENTARY	229
M.M. ROBINSON SECONDARY	7
MAPLEHURST ELEMENTARY	160
MARTIN ST ELEMENTARY	156
MCKENZIE-SMITH BENNETT ELEMENTARY	29
MILTON SECONDARY	38
MUNN'S ELEMENTARY FI	333
NELSON SECONDARY	68
OAKVILLE TRAFALGAR SECONDARY	49
ORCHARD PARK ELEMENTARY	19
PINE GROVE ELEMENTARY FI	476
PINELAND ELEMENTARY	237
ROBERT BALDWIN ELEMENTARY	43
ROBERT LITTLE ELEMENTARY	83
ROLLING MEADOWS ELEMENTARY	63
SIR E. MACMILLAN ELEMENTARY	46
SUNNINGDALE ELEMENTARY FI	418
T.A. BLAKELOCK SECONDARY	138
TOM THOMSON ELEMENTARY	89
W.I. DICK ELEMENTARY	162
Grand Total	4,522

20. Question

How many FI students live within the Forest Trail walk to circle but are west of Third Line?

Answer

Currently there are 63 FI students (grade 1-8) that live within Forest Trail walk to circle that are west of Third Line. For the 2008-09 school year grade 1-5 students do not cross Third Line to attend Forest Trail. As of 2009/10 school year (subject to Board approval) all HDSB elementary students will be bussed across Third Line.