

Apr 1, 2026 | S.W. Burlington Elementary Boundary Review

BRC Meeting #6

BRC Members:

Caileah Palmer, Bika Diakouloukas, Jessie Hunt, Susanna Tillich, Stephanie Rowan, Elma Hrapovich-Forto, Allison Sohanlal, Brandy Spencer, Demah El-Sadek, Megan Butchard, Caitlin Howell, Paul Dunslow, Joanne Jones, Joelle Burns, Bhavna Duggal, Lindsay Kalan, Carissa De Rubeis, Bradley Barbour, Julia Garboll, Lauren Bond

BRSC Members:

Fred Thibeault, Amy Collard, Eleanor McIntosh, Colette Ruddock, Jonathon Shoss, Aiman Flahat, Nick Frankovich, Robbie Brydon, Margo Horne, Amy Collard, Xin Yi Zhang, Romer Abalos, Michelle D'Aguiar, Mitchell Gundy

Notes

- General Manager Frederick Thibeault welcomes the BRC back to Burlington Central HS for the final BRC meeting.
- Superintendent Eleanor McIntosh honours the land and territory.
- **Boundary Review Milestones**
 - We are currently at the last BRC meeting.
 - This meeting's goal is to review the feedback gathered and have the BRC give their recommendation or recommendations to the BRSC.
 - At the May 5th and June 3rd Board meetings, the Trustees will discuss the Report. At the May 5th meeting, the report will be presented for information. On June 3rd, there will be a vote to make a decision by the Board of Trustees.
 - Option Recap 13c & 14b
 - Option 13c (modified)
 - Tom Thomson PS - Single Track ENG
 - Central PS - dual track school (2-6)
 - Burlington Central - dual track school (7 & 8)
 - English
 - Area 1: King to Lakeshore PS
 - Area 2: King to Central PS
 - Area 3: Cen to Lakeshore PS
 - Area 4: Cen (South of Elgin St) to Lakeshore PS
 - Area 6: Northeast of Courtland Ave to Tom Thomson
 - Area 12: Tec to Lakeshore PS / Burlington Central
 - French
 - Central PS dual track school (2-6)
 - Burlington Central dual track school (7 & 8)

- Option 14b (modified)
 - Tom Thomson PS - Dual Track ENG, FI
 - Tom Thomson PS - dual track school (2-6)
 - Burlington Central - dual track school (7 & 8)
 - English
 - Area 1: King to Lakeshore PS
 - Area 2: King to Central PS
 - Area 3, south 4: Cen to Lakeshore PS
 - Area 9 & 10 (Grade 7 & 8): Tec to Burlington Central
 - Area 12: Tec to Lakeshore PS / Burlington Central
 - French
 - Area 1 & 2: MAP to Central PS
 - Area Tec, & 11: Tom T. & Bur Cen to Pineland

● Feedback

- The public meeting had roughly 90 attendees on March 11th.
- Fred thanks the BRC members who spoke at the public meeting.
- The feedback form received 196 responses.
 - 105 were from Tom Thomson
 - 78 were from Central PS
- Student experience ranked #1 in the preferred criteria.
- The majority of the responses were from grades 1-4.
- Option 14b had an average rating of 3.27
- Option 13c had an average rating of 2.85
- Popular topics in the written responses were Legacy Exemption, Walkability, and French Immersion.

● Recommendations

- The planning department's recommendation is for options 14b and 13c.
- If we were to proceed with 13c, we would unify zone 6.
- Acknowledge that without the full set of tools, such as a PAR, we are not able to address every concern at this moment.

● Legacy Exemptions

- Legacy Exemption / Automatic Guaranteed Approval to transfer schools: Students who reside at their current home address are permitted to remain at their original school until they complete the highest grade level offered at their current school. Transportation will be provided.
- Siblings: Students with siblings not attending schools, the younger sibling will be directed to the newly designated school for their residence. They will be ineligible for Legacy Exemption or guaranteed Transfer School status.
- New to The Community: Students will be assigned to their local catchment school. They will be ineligible for Legacy Exemption or guaranteed Transfer School status.

- **Secondary**

- The HDSB may look at a process to align the secondary boundaries with the results of this review.
- It will fix the cohort issues.

- **Discussion**

- The BRC recommends both options
- 14b with legacy
- Several respondents requested that community 6 remain together. Discussion arose on hold to respond, which included a 13d - option 13c with zone 6 as a whole to Tom Thomson PS with legacy exemption and guaranteed acceptance for the Transfer School Process.

- **Next Steps**

- If you have questions, please submit them to SWB_Review@hdsb.ca
- The BRSC will write the Board Report with the Director's recommendations and present it to the Board of Trustees
- Notification of the recommendations will be sent out to the community after the draft report is shared with the Administrative Council.
- May 5, 2026 - report presented to Board for information
 - The BRC will be sent a copy of the report prior to the Board meeting.
- June 3, 2026 - report presented to the Board for decision
- There will be opportunities for the community to [Delegate the Board](#) at the May 5th and June 3rd board meetings.

- **Thank you**

- General Manager Frederick Thibeault thanks the BRC for their involvement in the review.

- **Questions and concerns:**

- What happens with staffing if FI is moved?
 - HR builds the school classes based on requirements and determines the number of teachers a school has.
 - Teachers are moved around depending on the change in enrolment or program movement, along with other factors such as options, seniority, or unions.
- Having teacher and principal input would have been valuable
 - Noted, and this could have been included not so much in the option side but more in the operation.
 - Such as what is working and what is not working.
- How many extra buses per school would it be? Can we receive this information?
 - This can be included in the report.
 - If more buses were needed at Central, they would be staggered.
 - There are arrival and departure windows.
- If a school reaches critical capacity, a redirection is put in place for incoming students. FI students could be directed to an FI school outside of their community

- What happens next with the recommendation: The BRSC can take what is recommended, amend it, or change it. Same with the recommendation from the Director to the Trustees.