

Report Title: Oakville NE 1 Secondary School and French Immersion

Boundary Review

Submitted by: Frederick Thibeault, General Manager of Planning
Brent Coakwell, Superintendent of Education
Eleanor McIntosh, Superintendent of Education
Claire Proteau, Superintendent of Education
Curtis Ennis, Director of Education

Meeting Date: April 7, 2026

Recommendation

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Trustees approve Option 3 as outlined in Board Report 26022 and its appendices, and establish new boundaries for Oakville NE #1 High School, and adjust the English Track and French Immersion programs for Garth Webb High School, T.A. Blakelock Secondary School, and White Oaks Secondary School, with an implementation date starting in September 2027;*

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the approval of Option 3 French Immersion Boundaries north of Dundas Street in the Town of Oakville are subject to the results of the Oakville Northwest School Boundary Review Process, as it relates to the family of school alignment of Dr. David R. Williams associated Secondary School, which is intended to avoid future split Grade 8 cohorts; and,*

***THAT** the Halton District School Board grant transportation to legacy exempted students in accordance with Option 3, and grant courtesy seat requests to younger siblings until such a time legacy exempted students graduate, as further described in Board Report 26022 and Appendix D-1 and D-2;*

1. Analysis

Based on the Boundary Review Process that has been undertaken up to this point, and community support from the feedback survey results, the Boundary Review Steering Committee (BRSC) has endorsed **Option 3** with the alternative FI realignment south of Dundas Street West. The recommended boundaries are shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3. with the condition that adjustments may be required with the conclusion of the Northwest Oakville Boundary Review.

The implementation of the new boundaries will begin September 2027 when Oakville NE #1 HS opens. The following legacy exemptions will be granted starting in September of 2027:

1. Zones 2 to 10 will make up the boundary for Oakville NE #1 SS which will open as a Grade 9 and 10 English school. Grade 11 and 12 English students in Zones 2 to 10 will remain at White Oaks SS until graduation.
2. Grade 9 English students in Zone 1 will be directed to Garth Webb SS. Grade 10 to 12 English students will remain at White Oaks SS until graduation.
3. Grade 9 French Immersion students in Zones 1, 2 and 7 will be directed to Garth Webb SS. Grade 10 to 12 French Immersion students will remain at White Oaks SS until graduation.
4. Grade 9 French Immersion students in Zones 8, 9 and 10 will be directed to Iroquois Ridge HS. Grade 10 to 12 French Immersion students will remain at White Oaks SS until graduation.
5. Grade 9 French Immersion students in Zone 14 will be directed to Garth Webb SS. Grade 10 to 12 French Immersion students will remain at T.A. Blakelock HS until graduation.

Planning Services has detailed the phased implementation in Appendix D-1 which provide a comprehensive description of the boundary changes, north of Dundas, and Appendix D-2 for areas south of Dundas related to the French Immersion Program, including their effective year, considerations for siblings and transportation planning.

To this end, the BRSC thoroughly reviewed the recommendations from the Boundary Review Committee (BRC) and ultimately recommended Option 3 to the Director, incorporating additional implementation considerations. The BRSC determined that this scenario would:

1. Best meet the criteria as established and prioritized by the BRC;
2. Establish school boundaries in a timely manner that provide existing and future communities direction on where they will be attending with the opening of Oakville NE #1 SS;
3. Address existing issues on secondary French Immersion split cohorts north of Dundas Street;
4. Best response to the consultation feedback and community questions/concerns on the proposed realignment of the French Immersion secondary boundaries by keeping the French Immersion program at T.A. Blakelock HS while resolving outstanding split cohort issues south of Dundas Street at Forest Trails PS.
5. Outstanding split cohorts at Heritage Glen PS for the FI program between Upper Middle

Road, which will continue to be directed to both Garth Webb HS and T.A. Blakelock HS.

Figure 1: Oakville NE #1 HS Boundary Review - Option 3 ENG map

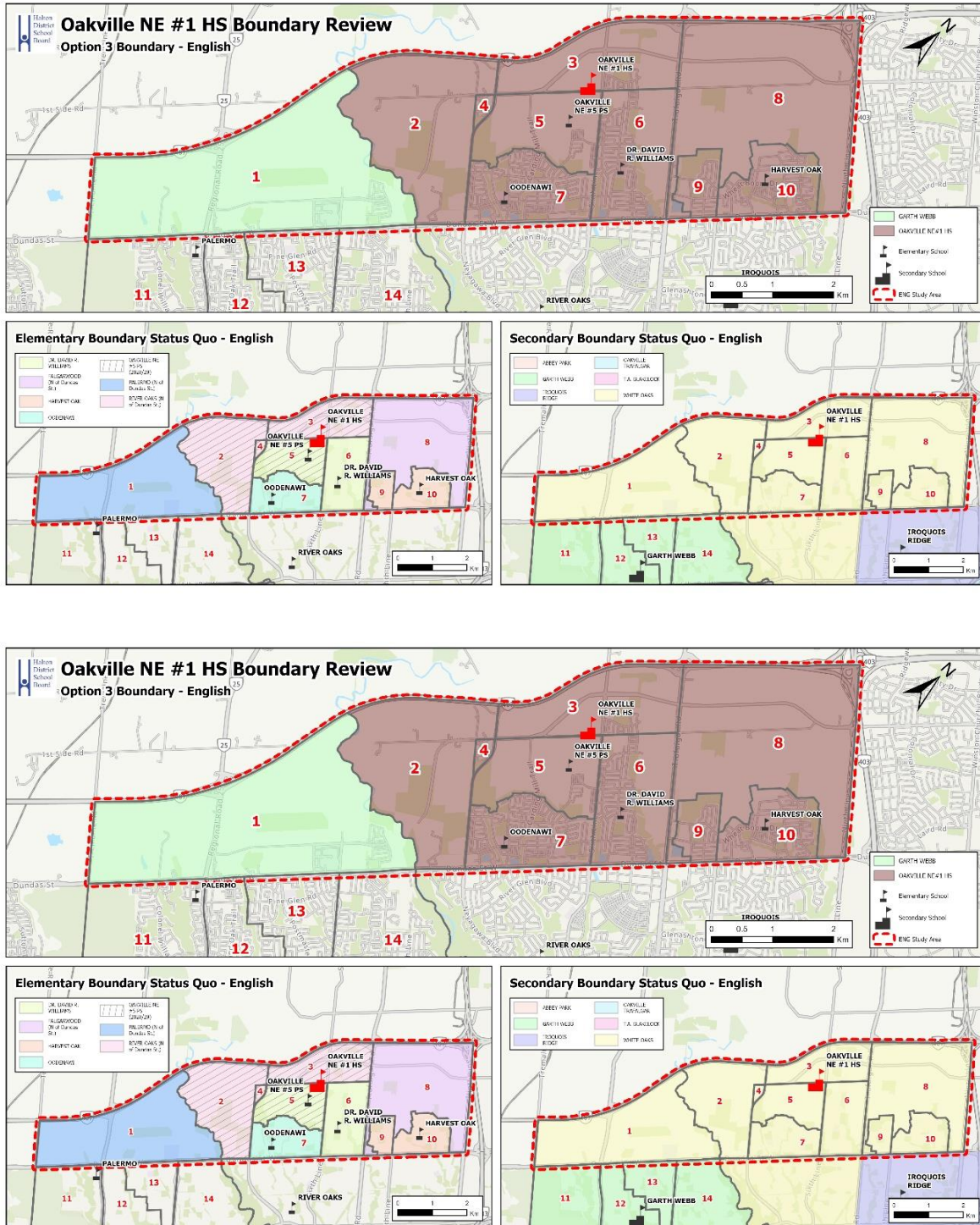


Figure 2: Oakville NE #1 HS Boundary Review - Option 3 FI map

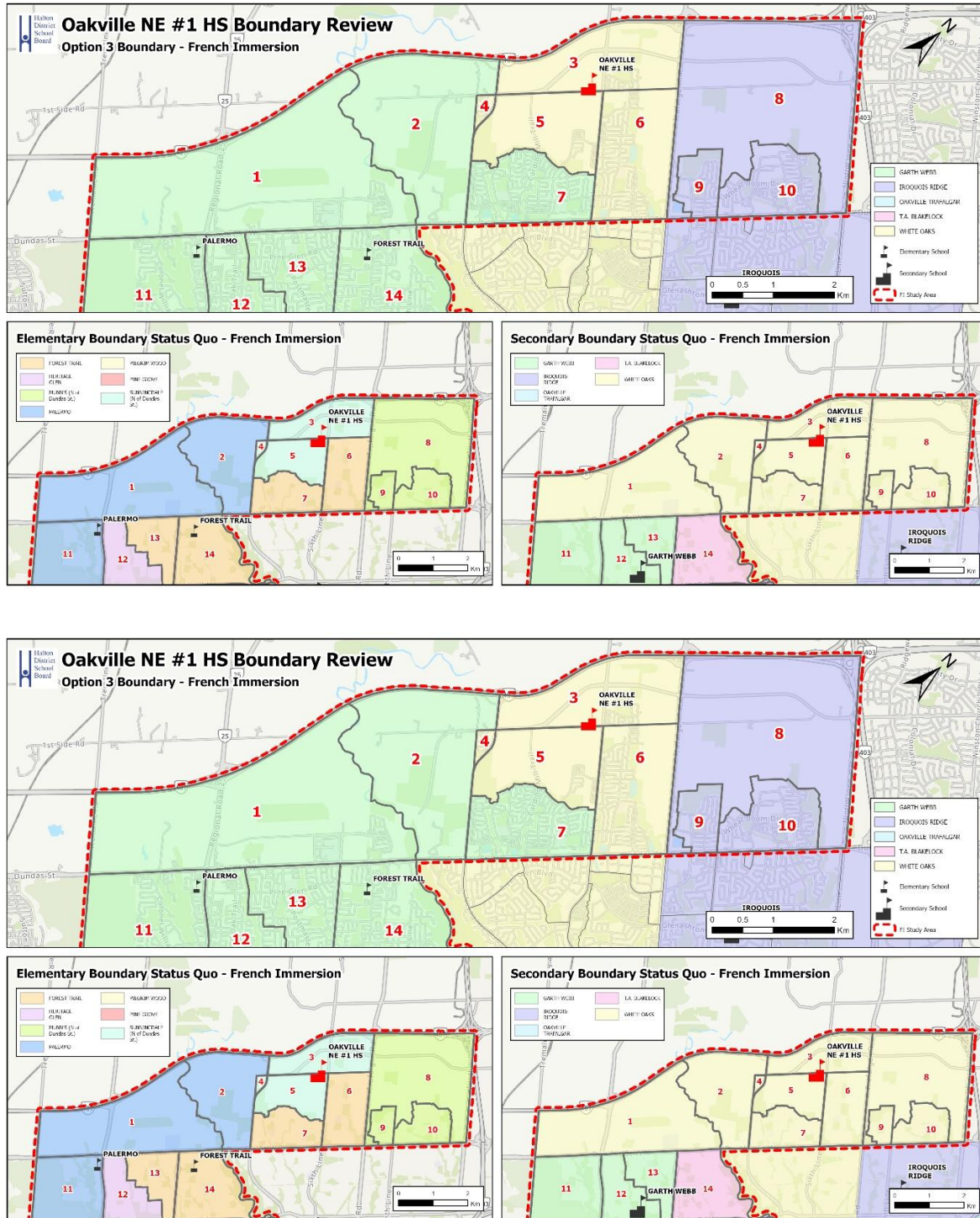
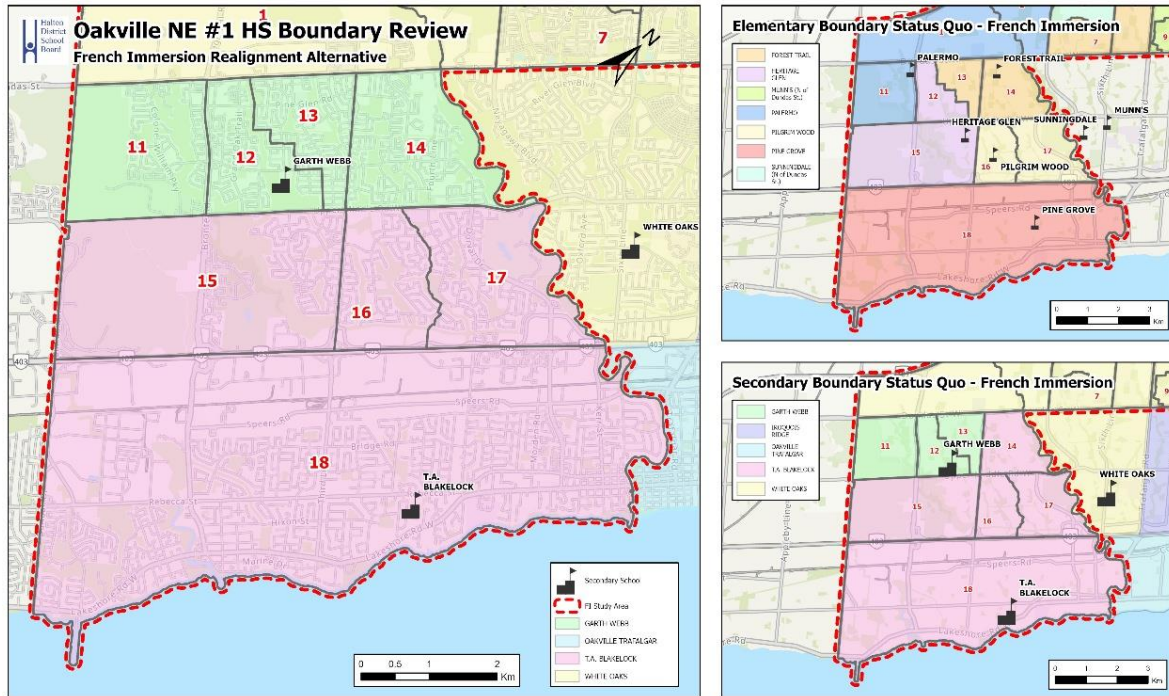


Figure 3: Oakville NE #1 HS Boundary Review – FI realignment South of Dundas Street



Director of Education Recommendation:

The Director and Administrative Council reviewed the recommendation from the BRSC and concurred with their rationale for moving it forward to the Board for consideration and approval. The rationale for Option 3 with the alternative FI realignment south of Dundas Street was as follows:

1. Best addresses the criteria identified during the boundary review process;
2. Provides a balance of overall enrolment across schools in the study areas;
3. Keeps neighbourhood communities together where possible;
4. Maximizes opportunities to walk and ride to school, using active modes of transportation, by keeping current walking patterns and conditions and reduces the reliance on transportation services; and,
5. Where transportation is required, distances are minimized to the best extent possible.
6. End the temporary redirection from White Oaks SS to T.A. Blakelock HS which has been on paused since October 2024.

The approval of Option 3 French Immersion Boundaries north of Dundas will be subject to the results of the Oakville Northwest School Boundary Review Process, as it relates to the family of school alignment of Dr. David R. Williams associated Secondary School. The Oakville Northwest

Boundary Review will have an updated scope to include the review of the French Immersion distribution between the area north of QEW and south of Dundas Street, as well as reconsider the family of school feeders for Forest Trail PS. The outcome of the Oakville NW boundary review will be, among other matters, be undertaken to avoid future split Grade 8 cohorts between the elementary and secondary panels.

Ultimately, the Director recommended the Halton District School Board implement the boundaries as outlined in Option 3 with the alternative FI realignment south of Dundas Street effective September 2027.

Communication Plan following approvals:

Subject to final approval from the Board of Trustees, staff will communicate to the broader community the outcome of the review and the decision of the Board. They will also be advised of the transition planning process to best accommodate the students moving to new schools in their respective years of implementation.

Below is the detailed plan for the communication rollout following Board approval on May 5, 2026:

1. The Trustees, school administrators at the elementary and secondary schools impacted, and Halton Student Transportation Services will be notified.
2. Notice of the approved recommendation will be sent to the families of the impacted school communities by School Messenger.
3. The boundary review [webpage](#) will be updated with notice of the approved recommendation.
4. The [Find Local School](#) tool on the HDSB website will be updated to incorporate the future boundary changes of residential properties to the schools mentioned in this report.

1.1 Governance Alignment

The Board of Trustees is responsible for determining the attendance areas for schools throughout its jurisdiction. The purpose of this report is to outline the recommended option that was developed throughout the Boundary Review Process, as presented by the Director of Education, in accordance with the Board's [Administrative Procedure](#).

As per the above, the purpose of this report is to present the Director's recommendation, which was guided by the BRC and BRSC, to the Board of Trustees for consideration and approval, to be implemented starting as early as September 2027. As per the Board's Governance By-law, the report is to be presented twice to the Board of Trustees (see Appendix C of Governance By-law), and final approval will be sought on May 5, 2026

1.2 Alternatives

There are two (2) alternatives to the Oakville NE #1 HS Boundary Review Study process. They are as follows, along with a brief rationale (more information in Section 2): This section outlines alternative options to the recommendations presented (which may include what happens if the recommended action/motion is not adopted) and provides a brief analysis of the option(s).

In this section, key information (timelines, relevant data, etc), is also provided:

- [Oakville NE #1 HS Boundary Review – Status Quo](#): If the Board determines that the options presented as part of this report are not suitable, it may decide to not proceed with any changes, and maintain the status quo. A new process would be required, however, as Oakville NE #1 HS is scheduled to open in September 2027 and requires a future boundary.
- [Oakville NE #1 HS Boundary Review – Option 1](#): The Board may choose to select the other option that was presented at the Public Information Meeting (PIM). From the feedback received, Options 1 and 3 had almost equal approval ratings with Option 3 with a slightly higher average.
- [French Immersion Initial Option](#): Staff initially proposed the consolidation of all secondary French Immersion programs west of Sixteen Mile Creek, and consolidate the T.A. Blakelock French Immersion program with Garth Webb. This was the initial recommended option given the low enrolment entering into the Grade 9 program over the last two years.

Since the recommendation was initially made, changes to the Board's protocols which allow for a student to attend both the French Immersion and the iSTEM program, which has increased participation. Staff will monitor enrolment and program delivery. If it is determined that the issues are not resolved with the change in protocol, the consolidation of the program will need to be explored anew.

2. Background

At the November 4, 2025 Board meeting the Board of Trustees approved the following Recommendation as per [Board Report 25122](#):

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Trustees direct staff to initiate and complete a boundary review for SRA 201 South of Dundas Oakville (formerly SRA 102 and 103) and SRA 202 North of*

Dundas Oakville (Formerly SRA 108) to establish a new secondary school boundary for the new Oakville NE #1 Secondary School and to review the distribution of the French Immersion Programs.

The primary objective of this boundary review was to:

1. Create a new boundary for the Oakville NE #1 HS, currently holding at White Oaks Secondary School;

The review was also an opportunity to achieve additional actions:

2. Realign the French Immersion Boundaries for school facilities south of Dundas, and consider whether a new FI program at the new school is warranted;
3. Review the viability of the secondary French Immersion program at T.A. Blakelock High School, as enrolment and participation have been decreasing year over year; and,
4. Consider the long-term accommodation needs of the Board, and what initiatives could be housed at the White Oak Secondary School North Campus.

The study areas for the [English boundaries](#) and the [French Immersion boundaries](#) were established once the objectives of the boundary review were confirmed.

Discussion:

A Boundary Review Steering Committee (BRSC) was established to lead the school boundary review process with the first meeting on January 8, 2026. At this meeting, Planning Services recommended that Pathway 1 and Pathway 2 run concurrently to address the two main objectives of this boundary review.

Pathway 1 – Establish the Oakville NE #1 HS boundaries

The primary objective of the boundary review is the creation of the boundaries for the new Oakville NE #1 HS scheduled to open September 2027. Planning staff noted that several viable boundary options were possible and that a number of students and school committees would be impacted with the opening of the new school. Therefore, a Pathway 1 process was recommended and approved by the BRSC.

Pathway 2 – Review of French Immersion programs

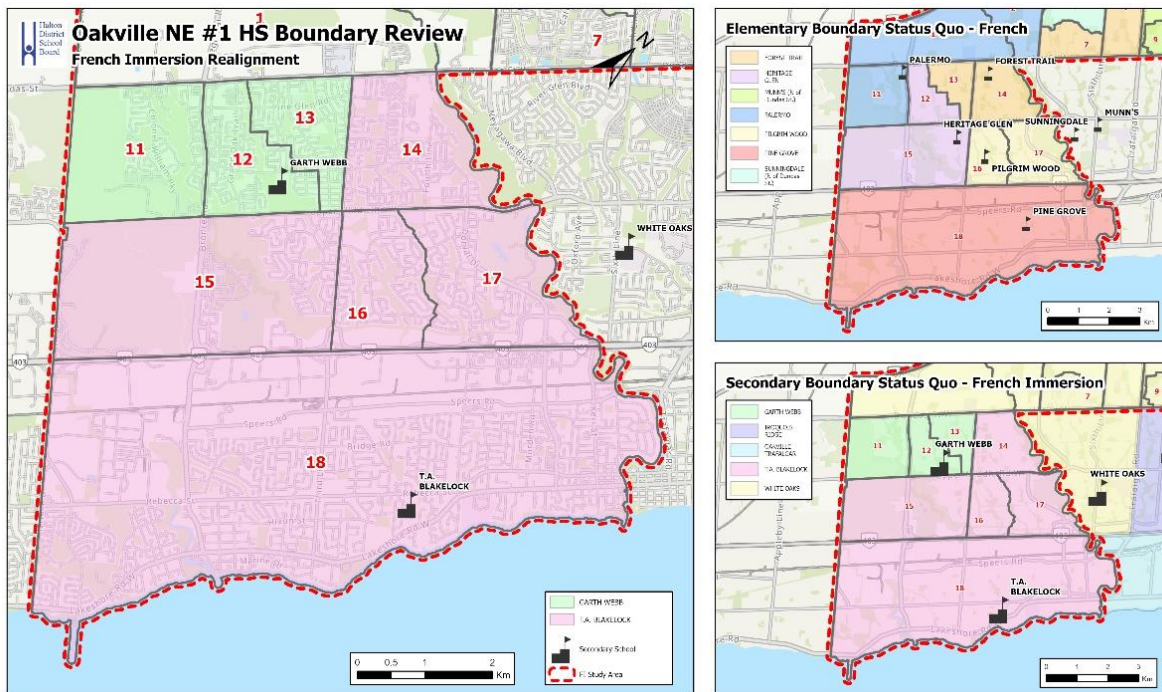
Pathway 2 process was recommended to inform the community of the proposed recommendation to phase out the T.A. Blakelock HS French Immersion program. Existing French Immersion students would be allowed to graduate from T.A. Blakelock HS. The rationale was that there were limited boundary options to review and no current students would have been impacted with the boundary change.

In addition to Pathway 2, a feedback survey would be created to provide additional information to the impacted communities to gauge the response of the proposed recommendation. It was also determined that the information should be presented at the Public Information Meeting.

French Immersion secondary school program review

The opening of Oakville NE #1 HS presented opportunities for Planning staff to review the delivery of secondary French Immersion programs in Oakville. After reviewing initial projections and preliminary discussions, it was recommended that Oakville NE #1 HS opens as an English program school. This was to give the new school enough time and space to see what student enrolment will be once it opens. French Immersion programs in Oakville secondary schools south of Dundas Street were reviewed and it was determined that the French Immersion program at T.A. Blakelock HS was no longer viable due to declining enrolment. Figure 4 shows the current French Immersion boundaries for T.A. Blakelock HS and Garth Webb SS.

Figure 4: Existing FI boundaries for T.A. Blakelock HS and Garth Webb SS



The initial recommendation was to realign the French Immersion boundaries south of Dundas Street to distribute the current T.A. Blakelock HS French Immersion boundary to Garth Webb SS which would align existing split cohorts and also had the space to accommodate additional French Immersion students.

An alternative to the proposed recommendation was developed after discussions with Senior Administration to keep the French Immersion program at T.A. Blakelock HS.

Figure 5: Initial Proposed FI boundaries for T.A. Blakelock HS and Garth Webb SS

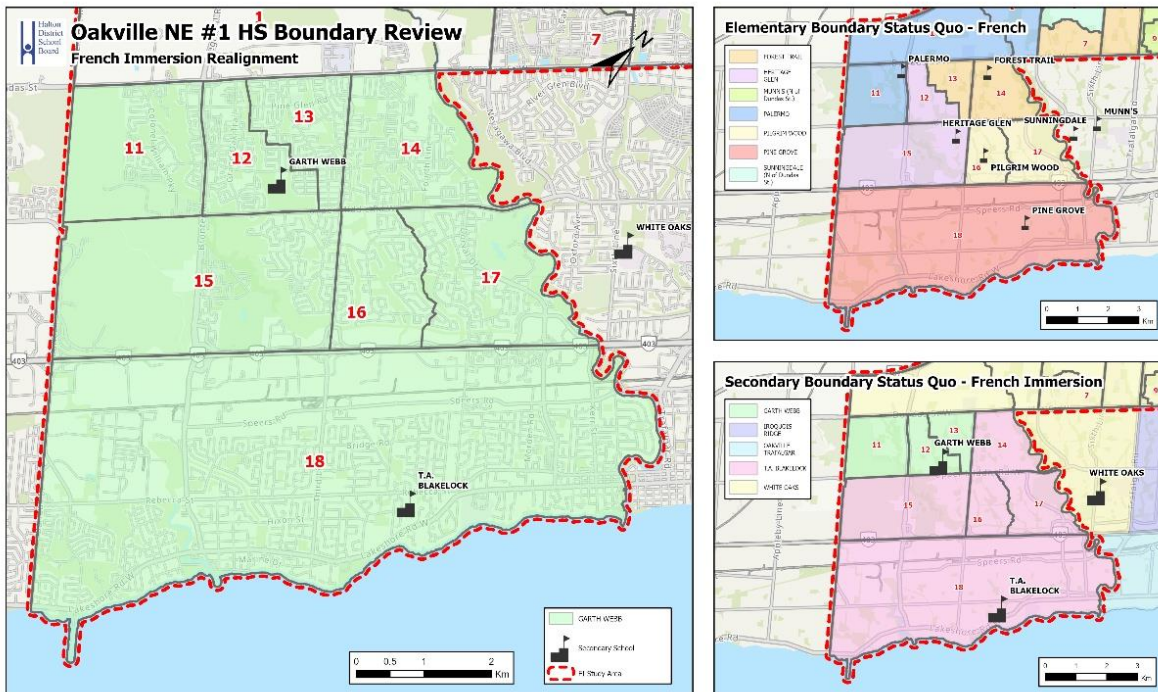
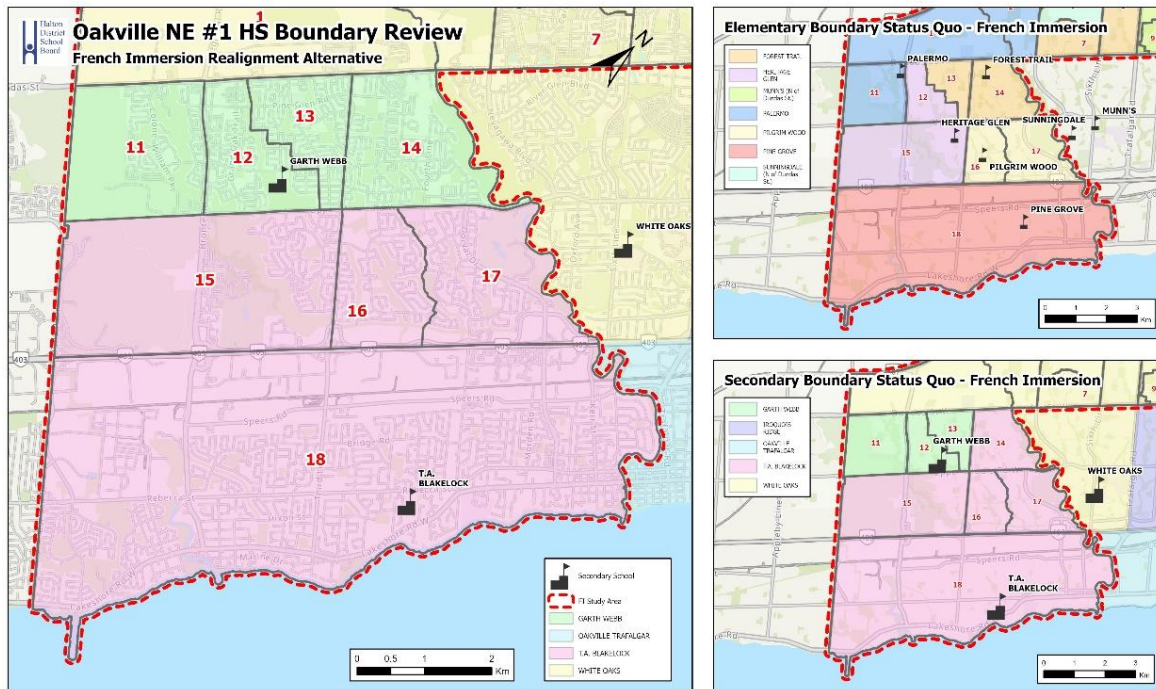


Figure 6: Alternative to Proposed FI boundaries for T.A. Blakelock HS and Garth Webb SS



In addition to the Pathway 2 process, a feedback portal was created and distributed to families that may be impacted by the proposed recommendations. Notification of the feedback survey via School Messenger was sent to impacted French Immersion school communities on February 19, 2026. The feedback portal closed on February 27, 2026.

A total of 85 individual responses were submitted. A summary of the feedback results were shared with the BRC at the [March 9, 2026 BRC meeting](#). It is noted that 81% of the responses supported the alternative recommendation where the French Immersion program remains at T.A. Blakelock HS.

Boundary Review Committee (BRC)

A BRC was established and held three (3) meetings in the period between February 2, 2026 to March 9, 2026. Data that the BRC examined included:

- Enrolment data, school capacity including building on the ground (OTG) and maximum capacity (with portables), building utilization, and estimated number of portables required in the next ten (10) years.
- Information on school programs, viable programs, and walking distances.
- A ten-year enrolment projection for each scenario proposed including proposed transitions by year and discussion points.
- Program boundary maps for the English and French Immersion programs of the current scenario, as well as each option developed as part of the process.
- A [zone map](#) was provided for ease of reference for the BRC and BRSC.

The BRC reviewed two (2) options developed by the BRSC. During the process, one additional option was generated and assessed as per the established criteria. A total of three (3) options were reviewed and considered by the BRC. More information on the options and the discussions can be found on the boundary review [webpage](#). It should be noted that the primary focus of the BRC review and discussions were on the establishment of the Oakville NE #1 HS boundary. The BRC were kept updated on the discussions around the French Immersion secondary school program review.

The Boundary Review Committee (BRC) thoroughly reviewed criteria and engaged in in-depth discussions to ensure minimal impacts on students, addressing key concerns such as active transportation to schools, providing enrollment relief to overcrowded schools, and distributing future student enrollments more evenly.

The committee also carefully considered concerns about the potential loss of French Immersion (FI) programs and the viability of these programs in the affected schools. These discussions and evaluations culminated in the development of two (2) preferred options: [Option 1](#) and [Option 3](#) which aim to balance these priorities effectively.

On March 2, 2026, the virtual Public Information Meeting was [live-streamed](#). The invitation was sent to all impacted school communities, including instructions on accessing the live-stream and participating by posting questions and comments on the live Google Form during the virtual meeting. Both the question forum and the Public Information Meeting presentation were made available to the public in advance of the meeting to allow time to formulate questions for the members of the BRSC. This forum provided the opportunity for public input on the preferred options both in advance of the meeting.

At the Public Information Meeting, Board staff and school representatives of the BRC shared information on the process, and the recommended options responded to questions regarding the process, and explained the feedback process. There was a total of 107 viewers with a peak of 39 concurrent viewers and an average viewing time of 23 minutes during the meeting. The facilitators at the meeting received a total of 29 questions, where several were answered during the meeting ([summary accessible here](#)).

The public was asked to provide their insights on a feedback form directly on a link provided on the Board's website. All feedback was to be submitted by March 5, 2026, using the Public Information Feedback Form. A total of [45 individual responses](#) were submitted. A summary of the feedback results was shared with the BRC at the [March 9, 2026 BRC meeting](#).

The BRC had its final meeting on March 9, 2026 (virtual). The focus for this evening was to analyze the data from the Public Information Feedback responses regarding the two (2) options presented at the Public Information Meeting and to reach a consensus on which

option(s) they wanted to suggest to the BRSC to present to the Director of Education for consideration. It was concluded that:

1. Although all criteria were highly ranked, the Public Feedback showed the three (3) most important criteria to consider are:
 - a. Student experience
 - b. Proximity to school
 - c. Viability of Programs
2. The two (2) options were carefully evaluated and determined to meet the established criteria; however, Option 3 was identified as best aligned with these priorities. It is important to acknowledge the significant volume of feedback received from the Pine Grove PS community due to the interest of the proposed changes to the French Immersion program at T.A. Blakelock HS. It is also notable that almost all other school communities contributed some feedback. This broader context helped guide the recommendation of Option 3 as the most balanced and effective choice.
3. The feedback from the French Immersion proposed recommendations contributed to the French Immersion program to remain at T.A. Blakelock HS. Additional information from School Programs and from school administration at T.A. Blakelock HS also contributed to the recommendation for the alternative proposal.

Options Reviewed by BRC:

There were a total three (3) options reviewed by the Boundary Review Committee. For more information on why certain options were not selected to advance for consideration by the BRSC and/or Director of Education, please review the minutes and recording of the BRC meeting presented on the dedicated [Boundary Review Website](#).

Communications Plan Details Leading up to Board approval:

A dedicated website was created on the Board [website](#) and shared as part of the initial communications to the community. Throughout the process, the public was encouraged to send their inquiries about the boundary review through email at OakvilleNE1HS@hdsb.ca.

Following the approval of [Board Report 25122](#), a communication was sent to the community on November 27, 2025, announcing the approval of the Oakville NE #1 HS Boundary Review. An email was sent to school administrators on January 19, 2026 requesting parent representatives for the BRC that included the meeting schedule and outlined the responsibilities of BRC members. While several volunteers came forward, not all schools were able to provide two (2) parent representatives.

After the initiation of the Boundary Review Steering Committee (BRSC), a communication was sent to the community on January 23, 2026. This update confirmed the schools involved in the boundary review and outlined the next steps to establish a Boundary Review Committee (BRC).

A communication was sent on February 19, 2026 to impacted French Immersion communities on the proposed changes to the T.A. Blakelock HS FI program.

A communication was sent on February 20, 2026, announcing the date of the Public Information Meeting on March 2, 2026. An additional reminder about the Public Information Meeting was sent to the community on February 26, 2026.

The notes from each meeting and the various versions of the scenarios developed were posted on the website after the BRC meeting on the dedicated [Boundary Review Website](#). Video recordings were also posted for the community to watch as observers.

A final communication will follow the Board's decision, whether the recommended options are approved or not, to ensure the community remains informed (see previous section).

3. Financial Impact

Overall, there will be decreases in transportation costs with the opening of Oakville NE #1 HS since many of the transportation routes to White Oaks SS will no longer be required. Transportation cost for Grade 11 and 12 English students to White Oaks SS will be incurred for two (2) more years when the new school opens in September 2027.

As for portable needs, phase-ins have been arranged to minimize the number of moves between sites, and instead opting to provide legacy exemptions at schools where portables already exist. Portables no longer required will be removed at a moderate rate to ensure they are not being removed prematurely as trends settle.

4. Multi-Year Strategic Plan Alignment

Priority Alignment: **Learning, Engagement and Achievement**

Given the ongoing pressures and accommodation issues at the affected schools, the opening of a new school, a plan to redirect students to a school facility with available space and establish new school boundaries was undertaken with the intent of balancing out current and projected enrolment in the study area, and provide the most stable boundaries for the longest term possible. This supports learning conditions to elevate student achievement identified in our Multi-Year Plan.

5. Attachment(s):

- 5.1. APPENDIX A: Boundary Review Steering Committee (BRSC) Members
- 5.2. APPENDIX B: Boundary Review Committee (BRC) Parent Members
- 5.3. APPENDIX C: Milestones and Key Dates
- 5.4. APPENDIX D1: Recommended Option 3 and Implementation Charts (North of Dundas)
- 5.5. APPENDIX D2: Recommended Option 3 and Implementation Charts (South of Dundas)



Board Report Number: 26022

For Future Action

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick Thibeault

General Manager of Planning

Eleanor McIntosh

Superintendent of Education

Claire Proteau

Superintendent of Education

Brent Coakwell

Superintendent of Education

Curtis Ennis

Director of Education

APPENDIX A: BOUNDARY REVIEW STEERING COMMITTEE (BRSC) MEMBERS

1. Carol Baxter - Trustee for Oakville Wards 1 & 2
2. Joanna Oliver - Trustee for Oakville Ward 4
3. Tanya Rocha – Trustee for Oakville Wards 3 & 6
4. Audrey Wubbenhorst – Trustee for Oakville Wards 5 & 7
5. Donna Danielli - Trustee for Milton Wards 1 & 2
6. Claire Proteau (BRSC Co-chair) - Superintendent of Education
7. Brent Coakwell - Superintendent of Education
8. Eleanor McIntosh - Superintendent of Education
9. Tara Connor (BRC Co-chair) - Superintendent of Education
10. Frederick Thibeault - (BRSC/BRC Co-chair) General Manager of Planning
11. Laureen Choi - Specialist
12. Mitch Gundy - Analyst
13. Romer Abalos - Senior Transportation Analyst, Halton Student Transportation Services

APPENDIX B: BOUNDARY REVIEW COMMITTEE (BRC) PARENT MEMBERS

1. Jessica Harrison-Kerr – Dr. David R. Williams PS
2. Shameen Mazhar - Dr. David R. Williams PS
3. Makdas Chaudhry – Harvest Oak PS
4. Mustafa Ansari - Harvest Oak PS
5. Samira Abubakar - Oodenawi PS
6. Oyindamola Oseni - Oodenawi PS
7. Makdas Chaudhry – Munn’s PS
8. Cara Ducasse – Sunningdale PS
9. Meetu Mehra – Forest Trail PS
10. Erin Wu – Forest Trail PS
11. Sophia Siddiqi – White Oaks SS
12. Zena Al-Mudaris – White Oaks SS

Note: Volunteers were requested from the following schools but no names came forward

- Falgarwood PS
- River Oaks PS
- Palermo PS

APPENDIX C: MILESTONES AND KEY DATES

Milestones	Dates
Boundary Review Approved by Board of Trustees	November 4, 2025
Notification of Boundary Approval	November 25, 2025
Boundary Review Steering Committee Meeting	January 8, 2026
Communication to School Communities	January 23, 2026
Boundary Review Committee Meeting (BRC) & Boundary Review Steering Committee Meetings	February 2, 2026
Boundary Review Committee Meeting (BRC) & Boundary Review Steering Committee Meetings	February 11, 2026
Communication to School Communities (Pathway 2)	February 19, 2026
Feedback Portal Open (Pathway 2)	February 19, 2026
Invitation to Public Information Meeting to the Community	February 20, 2026
Feedback Portal Open (Pathway 1)	February 20, 2026
REMINDER Invitation to Public Information Meeting to the Community	February 26, 2026
Feedback Portal Closed (Pathway 2)	February 27, 2026
Public Information Meeting	March 2, 2026
Feedback Portal Closed (Pathway 1)	March 5, 2026
Boundary Review Committee Meeting (BRC) & Boundary Review Steering Committee Meetings	March 9, 2026
Report to Administrative Council	March 30, 2026
Notification of Recommended Option to Affected Community	Week of Mar 30
Board Meeting: Recommended Option for information	April 7, 2026
Board Meeting: Recommended Option for approval	May 5, 2026
Notification of Decision to Affected Communities	After Board Approval

APPENDIX D: RECOMMENDED OPTION 3 AND IMPLEMENTATION CHARTS

SEE FOLLOWING PAGE