



Halton District School Board

Report Number: 14179
Date: November 19, 2014

FOR DECISION

TO: The Chair and Members of the
Halton District School Board

FROM: R. Eatough, Superintendent of Education
D. Euale, Director of Education

RE: Phase Out of Kindergarten at Pineland Public School

Warrant

At the October 1, 2014 Board meeting the Board approved the following recommendation:

Be it resolved that the Halton District School Board direct the Director of Education to prepare a report for the Board, to be presented no later than the second meeting in November, outlining possible scenarios phasing out FDK at Pineland Public School.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be it resolved that the Halton District School Board maintain the original phase out plan for kindergarten at Pineland Public School, as per the previously approved scenario (Scenario 3a) for the ERA 103 boundary review and as detailed in Report 14099.

Background

The ERA 103 Boundary Review (2014) process resulted in approved boundary changes for Southeast Burlington and the phasing out of the English and Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) programs at Pineland Public School beginning in 2015-2016. On October 1, 2014 the Board of Trustees also approved a motion to explore other possible scenarios for phasing out FDK at the school.

Subsequent to debate at the Board meeting on October 1, staff sought to determine the number of pre-school aged children who may be eligible for kindergarten at Pineland in the coming years. These are students who currently live within the Pineland English catchment and have older siblings currently attending the school. Data was accessed through the Halton District School Board Student Information System and a survey of parents and guardians of Pineland Public School students living within the English catchment for the school (*Appendix A*).

Pineland Parent Survey

The Pineland Parent Survey took place between October 15 to November 12, 2014 with the parents and guardians of current Pineland Public School students living within the English catchment of the school.

The questionnaire asked parents/guardians to respond to two items:

Do you have any pre-school aged children born after December 31, 2010 and not yet enrolled at Pineland Public School?

If so, please provide the date of birth and gender for each child.

The questionnaire was sent by Canada Post to 131 families on October 15, 2014. Parents and guardians were asked to return completed surveys using the addressed, stamped envelopes provided. A reminder message was sent to all non-respondents via the Board's Home Notification system on October 29, 2014. Parents/guardians were provided with an additional opportunity to complete the questionnaire by contacting the Halton District School Board Information Centre through e-mail or telephone. Surveys were received until November 12, 2014. In total, 55 surveys were returned representing a 42 percent response rate.

Survey Results

The number of students currently attending Pineland Public School and residing within the English catchment and the number of students attending the Full Day Kindergarten program at the school was confirmed through the HDSB Student Information System. Table 1 shows the number of students currently attending Pineland Public School and residing in the Pineland English catchment by grade, program and for all students.

Table 1: Number of Students attending Pineland Public School and Residing in the Pineland English Catchment by Grade (Oct. 1, 2014, Trillium Extract)

	Grades										Total
	JK	SK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
ENG	22	19			6	9	11	4	7	7	85
FI			17	21	11	11	10	15	13	9	107
Total	22	19	17	21	17	20	21	19	20	16	192

As of October 1, 2014 a total of 192 students were enrolled at Pineland Public School and resided within the school’s English catchment. Information about the number of pre-school aged children with siblings attending Pineland Public School and residing in the English catchment was obtained through a parent survey. Table 2 shows the total number of pre-school aged children with siblings currently attending Pineland Public School and residing within the English catchment by year of birth and gender based on information provided by survey respondents.

Table 2: Number of Pre-school Aged Children with Siblings Attending Pineland Public School and Residing Within the English Catchment of the School by Birth Year and Gender.

Year Born	Year of Entry	Male	Female	Total
2011	2015	2	4	6
2012	2016	5	7	12
2013	2017	3	0	3
2014	2018	4	0	4
Total		14	11	25

The results of the Pineland Parent Survey show 25 pre-school aged children with siblings attending Pineland Public School reside in the English catchment of the school. Six children were born in 2011, 12 children were born in 2012, 3 children were born in 2013 and 4 children were born in 2014. The results represent information provided by 42 percent of eligible respondents and should therefore be considered with caution.

Description of Current Scenario for Phase Out of FDK at Pineland PS

In September 2015, new boundaries are in effect for ERA 103. Pineland Public School begins transition to a Single Track Gr. 1-8 French Immersion School with boundaries as identified in Scenario 3a. All kindergarten registrants to ERA 103 register at a school where their grade/program is available.

OPTION 1 (Scenario 3a): Pineland Public School -Program Availability

Yes = Grade is available N/A = No Grade available

Year	ENGLISH JK -8						FRENCH IM				
	JK	SK	Gr. 1	Gr. 2	Gr. 3	Gr.4	Gr.5	Gr.6	Gr.7	Gr. 8	FI 1-8
2014	22	19	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2015	N/A	22	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2016	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES	YES
2018	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES
2019	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES

Description of Additional Scenarios for Phase Out of FDK at Pineland PS

In Option 2, new boundaries are in effect for ERA 103 in September 2015. Pineland Public School begins transition to a Single Track Gr. 1-8 French Immersion School with boundaries as identified in Scenario 3a. However, Pineland defers the phase out of kindergarten for one additional year.

OPTION 2: Pineland Public School -Program Availability

Yes = Grade is available N/A = No Grade available

Year	ENGLISH JK -8							FRENCH IM			
	JK	SK	Gr. 1	Gr. 2	Gr. 3	Gr.4	Gr.5	Gr.6	Gr.7	Gr. 8	FI 1-8
2014	22	19	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2015	6	22	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2016	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES	YES
2018	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES
2019	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES

In Option 3, new boundaries are in effect for ERA 103 in September 2015. Pineland Public School begins transition to a Single Track Gr. 1-8 French Immersion School with boundaries as identified in Scenario 3a. However, Pineland defers the phase out of kindergarten for two additional years.

OPTION 3: Pineland Public School Program Availability

Yes = Grade is available N/A = No Grade available

Year	ENGLISH JK -8							FRENCH IM			
	JK	SK	Gr. 1	Gr. 2	Gr. 3	Gr.4	Gr.5	Gr.6	Gr.7	Gr. 8	FI 1-8
2014	22	19	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2015	6	22	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2016	12	6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
2017	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES	YES
2018	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES	YES
2019	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES	YES
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	YES

Considerations for Extended Phase Out of FDK at Pineland Public School

An extended phase out of the FDK program would provide the opportunity for some Pineland families to have their children attend the same school. Based on the survey data collected, there are numerous considerations regarding the proposed amendment:

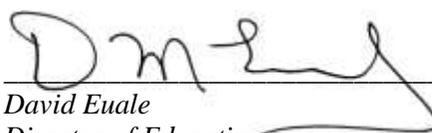
- There does not appear to be sufficient enrolment patterns to sustain an FDK program or a small class of 15 over the duration of the full phase out of the Pineland English Program (June 2019).
- Each successive year the number of potential grandparented families that would have a kindergarten aged child will be reduced.
- An extended phase out of FDK at Pineland, would mean a slowing of the accommodation relief for Pineland.
- As with the current situation, kindergarten students attending Pineland would have to leave the school in order to access the grade 1 English program (e.g., Mohawk Gardens).
- In the final year of FDK in Option 2 (2016) and Option 3 (2017), kindergarten enrolment is not likely going to be sufficient. This may result in the need to redirect the remaining senior kindergarten students to Mohawk Gardens; thereby adding an additional transition for students planning on returning to Pineland in grade 1 for French Immersion.

- Since the Board is funded based upon a 26 students/class average across the system, any class size between 16 and 26 is more costly to run. According to the survey data, there may be financial implications related to having slightly more than a class of 15 students (e.g., 18 students in the 2016/17 school year), which would require the class to be staffed with both a teacher and an ECE.
- The approved Scenario 3a, from the ERA 103 Boundary Review, redirects new registrants from the catchment north of New Street from Mohawk Gardens PS to Frontenac PS effective September 2015. The loss of these new registrants, coupled with a delayed redirection of students from Pineland, would have an impact on enrolment at Mohawk Gardens PS.

Respectfully submitted,



Rob Eatough
Superintendent of Education



David Euale
Director of Education

Appendix A

PINELAND PUBLIC SCHOOL – PARENT SURVEY

This survey is intended for those parents with children currently enrolled at Pineland Public School and living within the existing English catchment area.

Background

The Halton District School Board approved boundary changes for Southeast Burlington as a result of the ERA 103 Boundary Review (2014). The approved boundary changes also included plans for the phasing out of the English and Kindergarten programs at Pineland Public School beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.

On October 1st, the Board of Trustees also approved a motion to direct the Director of Education to prepare a report outlining other possible scenarios for phasing out Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) at Pineland Public School beginning in the 2015-16 school year. In an effort to gather information to inform this report the HDSB is asking parents with children currently enrolled in Pineland Public School and living within the existing English catchment area to participate in a very brief survey.

Should you provide the requested information, please know that it will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and individuals will not be identified in any reports. All information will be kept in a secure location for a period of 2 years and is accessible only to Research Department staff. The information will be used by the HDSB to help inform decision-making concerning the process for phasing out FDK at Pineland Public School.

In an effort to identify future potential FDK enrolments, please respond to the following item.

Do you have any pre-school aged children born after December 31st, 2010 and not yet enrolled at Pineland Public School? YES NO

If YES, please provide the following information for each child below.

Date of Birth				Gender	
	Year	Month	Day	Male	Female
1					
2					
3					

Please Refer to Back of this Page

Thank you for completing the survey. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Please return the completed survey in the self-addressed and stamped envelope to the HDSB Research Department no later than October 29th, 2014.

Personal information is collected under the authority of the *Education Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2 and will be used by the HDSB to inform decisions concerning school boundaries, program administration and the delivery of education at Pineland Public School. If you have questions about this collection please contact

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