

SW Milton #9 ps Boundary Review Committee (BRC) Meeting #2
Minutes
Tuesday, December 2nd, 7-9 pm
Milton District High School

Present:

David Euale (Director), Rob Eatough (Superintendent), Gord Truffen (Superintendent), Donna Danielli (Trustee), Kim Graves (Trustee), Katherine McArthur (Anne J. MacArthur Principal), Krista Benedetti (TJS principal), Tony Cancellara (Irma Coulson Parent Rep), Jane Chin (Tiger Jeet Singh Parent Rep), Dorothy MacCrae (PL Robertson Parent Rep), Erin Kijewski (J.M. Denyes Parent Rep), Sandra Stewart-Fearnside (EW Foster Parent Rep), April Bond (Chris Hadfield Parent Rep), Anne Ondercin (Craig Kielburer SS Parent Rep), Jennifer Wood (Brookville PS Parent Rep), Kim Prangley (Anne J. MacArthur Parent Rep), Michelle D'Aguiar (Senior Planner), Sarah Galliher (Planner)

The Trustee welcomed committee members to the meeting and initiated introductions. An overview of the meeting agenda was provided and the process was reviewed.

Senior Staff reviewed relevant considerations starting with transportation. Planning Staff explained the transported and non-transported zone hand-outs. It was pointed out that this data represents current school catchments, not proposed scenarios.

The conceptual walking distance map for the new SW Milton #9 ps will certainly change based on input from Halton Student Transportation Services (HSTS) and total number of crossing guards which are the responsibility of the municipality (Town of Milton).

The Trustee provided comment on possible unsafe crossings.

Senior Staff clarified that determining transportation eligibility is within the purview of HSTS not the BRC.

Trustee added that while this is true, BRCs have in past given consideration to the impact of transportation eligibility in their scenario review. The example provided was with regards to Bruce Trail / Irma Coulson.

Senior Staff then reviewed Grandparenting considerations, explaining that this is a strategy BRCs have historically used to make a scenario better. This level of fine tuning comes at the end of the process when preferred scenarios have been identified. An easy way to look at this is that the boundaries are about long term but grandparenting can ease transitions for the short term.

The assumption is no grandparenting unless it has been specified within the scenario and board report. Siblings can be a consideration of grandparenting. Even with grandparenting, a child may be granted optional attendance to *not remain* based on grandparenting (helping keep siblings and families together).

A parent rep provided an example of transportation and grandparenting from a prior boundary review.

Senior Staff summarized the feedback from the last BRC meeting. It was evident that Senior Staff's view was that new development areas could be carved out of Tiger Jeet Singh to provide relief to that school. BRC parent representatives, on the other hand, felt that it makes more sense to attend near where you live and were reluctant to carve up the Tiger Jeet Singh boundary.

In summary, scenario 1 was supported if tweaked into scenario 1a. There was not a lot of support for scenario number 7, which was viewed to negatively impact many families. There was some support for scenario 6 due to the consistent and clear boundaries between French and English (in this case the new school would be dual track).

Senior Staff pointed out the importance of giving consideration to accommodation pressures at schools north of Louis St Laurent mainly because this may be the last chance to correct some of the imbalance in that area.

The new SW Milton #9 ps will have opportunity to be re-shaped as additional new schools come online. This is not the case for Anne J. MacArthur PS or Tiger Jeet Singh PS.

Discussion followed about the plans for the Martin Street PS re-build, which still has many unknowns in terms of what exactly will be built.

Senior Staff asked that we view Anne J. MacArthur as though it could hold a maximum of 12 portables rather than 18 (currently on site).

Senior Staff asked that consideration be given to the fact that Escarpment View PS area FI students may be pulled from Anne J. MacArthur to populate Martin Street ps Rebuild; how many moves will these students have made?

Senior Staff presented criteria to measure the impact and effectiveness of the scenarios and provided a brief explanation of the consideration matrix hand-out.

Planning Staff began a review of the 4 new scenarios (10 through 13).

Scenario 10 shows SW Milton #9 ps as a JK-8 regular track school. There would be no change to the Tiger Jeet Singh PS boundary north of Louis St. Laurent (this is basically scenario 1a that was requested by the BRC last week). In this scenario, Tiger Jeet Singh would appear to continue to face enrolment pressures.

A Parent Rep requested confirmation on the timing of future schools in southwest Milton. The Trustee responded, explaining the Business Case process for receiving new school funding. Future new schools are not yet funded and may not necessarily make the Ministry's priority list.

A Parent Rep explained that scenario 1a was requested as a way of prolonging the period until schools were critically over capacity, based on the assumption that new schools would be approved within a five year time frame.

Senior Staff expressed concerns about Tiger Jeet Singh's numbers by 2016 in this scenario. It was explained that additional approvals would be required in order to increase the portables on site beyond the current maximum of 12.

A Parent Rep identified advantages of scenario 10 and was supportive of additional portables at Tiger Jeet Singh.

Planning Staff provided an overview of Scenario 11.

It is similar to scenario 10 but SW Milton #9 ps opens as a dual track school. Anne J. MacArthur could drop to 8 portables.

Planning Staff provided an overview of Scenario 12. SW Milton #9 ps opens as a regular track school. P.L. Robertson's FI boundary is extended south.

In Scenario 13, SW Milton #9 ps is a regular track school and Anne J. MacArthur becomes a single track FI school. Different French Immersion uptake rates used here, not identical to scenario 7.

For clarity it was reiterated that JK/SK is not currently offered in single track FI schools in Halton. In that case, it would be regular track students leaving after SK to attend regular track grade 1 elsewhere.

Senior Staff invited committee reps to review the new scenarios in groups of tables. Staff floated between tables to address questions and comments.

After a half hour of group work, the Trustee brought the group together to collectively review the scenarios.

Senior staff explained the dot-mocracy process and distributed stickers.

Below summarizes the scenario dot totals;

Scenario	Dots	Discussion : On each scenario reps were invited to discuss whether the scenario should remain in the discussion or be shelved. It was clearly stated that shelved scenarios could be brought back at any point.
Scenario 1	1	Shelved
Scenario 2	0	Shelved
Scenario 3	5	Shelved
Scenario 4	8	Reps asked to keep Scenario 4 on the table because it is dual track
Scenario 5	6	Shelved
Scenario 6	0	Shelved
Scenario 7	0	Shelved
Scenario 8	0	Shelved
Scenario 9	0	Shelved
Scenario 10	23	BRC Rep had questions about Scenario 10, looking for feedback as to why this was considered viable. Fellow BRC Reps responded that numbers were high for Tiger Jeet Singh, initially thought portables could be a viable solution but now realize that more infrastructure would be required.
Scenario 11	3	Shelved
Scenario 12	44	Reps asked for a scenario 12a, with the blue area west of Bronte to be shifted to SW Milton #9 ps and pink area shifted to Anne J. MacArthur. BRC rep stated that scenario 12 was most supported because Tiger Jeet Singh has real problems in scenario 10.
Scenario 13	0	Shelved

In summary, Senior Staff did advise the group that revisiting boundaries to clean up the map visually is an option in the distant future.

Senior Staff reviewed the communication strategy explaining a syner-email was planned for distribution the following day.

A BRC rep asked whether the communication should include the fact that this is being considered the last chance to reshape schools north of Louis St Laurent.

Dialogue unfolded about whether or not to delay the communication until after the next BRC meeting. In the interest of effective consultation and transparency it was determined that the communication should proceed sooner rather than later.

Next Meeting: Thursday December 11, 2014

Craig Kielburger SS Library

7:00 pm