

Halton District School Board

Martin Street Boundary Review Committee

Tuesday, December 6, 2016, 7:00-9:00 pm
Milton District High School, Library

Notes

Participants:

Heather Griffin, Anne Woodbury, Kerrie McAlister, Gillian Thomson, Lisa Gent, Vipul Dave, Kathryn Lemke, Nicole Horn, Louise Thewlis, Beth Duraiappah, Brian Hickey, Amie Lear, Lauren Ives, April Bond, Jennifer Sibbitt, Blair Fleming

Public Observers:

Tracy Geaber, Susan Hawes, Karen Colgan, Gwenn Barley

Absent:

Christina Pavone, Reuben St. Louis, Jennifer Murray, Lisa Laba, Ali Chuadhry, Emily Kaija, Dom Renzella

Staff Present:

Laureen Choi, Mitchell Gundy, Gord Truffen, Jacqueline Newton
Kim Graves, Jeanne Gray, Donna Daniell

Meeting Called to Order 7:10 pm by Gord Truffen

1. **Welcome to the second BRC meeting**
 - 1.1. Gord welcomes everyone to the meeting and introduces that staff and trustees.
2. **Product Goals**
 - 2.1. Tonights goal is to discuss the scenarios of the Martin St. build. We need to make sure that this process is fair and transparent, fair for all student, and that you are here for all students not just your family. The final recommendation will be done by a recommendation to the Director. In this report to the Director there could be several scenarios that we could recommend.
 - 2.2. Informs the BRC that there are now signs of the schools that are under the boundary review. Similar to the Burlington Signs but without the possibility of a school closure.

3. Transportation

3.1. Questions around transportation came up at the last meeting. There is a transportation policy. Gord discusses the transportation policy and the distances that students are bussed.

- 1.6km and further for elementary and 3.2km and further for secondary.

4. Grandparenting

4.1. May or may not come into play when talking about the scenarios. Grandparenting is used when kids are being moved around a lot. The School Board may grandparent a student until they complete their grade, transportation is still included, and siblings would be directed to the designated school. Students that prefer not to be grandparented can apply for optional attendance if they do not want to go to the grandparented school.

5. What can be done at this meeting?

- 5.1. What scenarios do you feel have a promise?
- 5.2. What scenarios do you feel better with?
- 5.3. What scenarios can you not live with?
- 5.4. What scenarios can you live with?
- 5.5. What did we miss?
- 5.6. Next meeting we will be doing a dot matrix
- 5.7. The public is here because they saw some of the scenarios
- 5.8. The member are asked to not sit with someone from the same school.

Question: Why was the area with the “dip” selected?

Answer: It made the most sense with the geography, and it alleviates pressures at Escarpment View.

Question: How do we get BRC scenarios to planning?

Answer: Email Gord then he’ll contact planning

Question: Is it possible to change the grades around?

Answer: We have yet to talk to the director about that.

Question: Are any schools closing?

Answer: No.

Question: Could J M Denyes buss later grades?

Answer: It doesn’t have the capacity/accommodation/specialty rooms for those grades.

Question: For J M Denyes, what students would they consider grandparenting?

Answer: Grade 7 of that year would move. Only the new kids would go to W I Dick Middle School.

Question: Should we limit the number of students going into martin street?

Answer: Knowing the capacity of those kids. Martin street will have room for the next few years.

Question: In the scenarios, is the change to grade 2 French Immersion start reflected?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Is there a plan for a review for the French Immersion next year?

Answer: No, but there will be one in the community when the new school is built.

6. **Laureen & Binder Pages**

- 6.1. Laureen presents the new pages and informs the BRC what each of them are and what they show. There are 12 schools and there are 12 maps.
- 6.2. She then discusses the non-transportation maps and how they are labeled. The transportation maps are using October 31 numbers so there might be new students but not many.
- 6.3. She then introduces the bussing eligibility page and numbers. Along with the Glossary that has terms that are used in the meeting and on paper, the members are encouraged to add to these definitions by contacting us. Next is the grade breakdowns that show each school and the numbers there.
- 6.4. As requested areas within the scenarios have been blown up and printed with aerial photos for reference.
- 6.5. On the 11x17 papers there are new scenarios with tweaked numbers, the members are told to throw out the old scenarios as new ones with updated numbers are provided. In addition there is a new summary called the impact summary, it describes all the changes in scenarios 1-7.
- 6.6. Scenario 7**
- 6.7. A new scenario was created from last meetings comments. Marin st boundary does not change. W I Dick Middle School will be taking kids from J M Denyes, Escarpment View isn't touched other than the French Immersion at Escarpment View moves.

Question: Do we concern ourselves with the logistics? (busses and traffic that could increase)

Answer: No, Jacqueline responds; Boyne requested to parents saying to stop driving their kids to the school. How do we change the mindset of parents to stop driving their kids to school when they could walk or buss? people say they want a "walk to school" but in reality they still drive.

Question: Scenario 7 shows W I Dick Middle School but the wording has it labeled as Sam Sherratt.

Answer: Follow the map.

7. **Matrix and Scenarios**

- 7.1. The BRC gets into groups and use their matrix to evaluate the scenarios. Gord goes over how to use the matrix and what to look for when evaluating the scenarios. Laureen, the Trustees and the Superintendent walk around to each of the groups to answer the questions that the groups and individuals may have.

8. **After Group Discussion**

- 8.1. Gord asks what people like?
 - Each group responds with scenario 7 being the best choice.
 - One concern is with the English program at Martin Street, "There are not enough people going to that school (Martin Street)"
 - Another Concern is underutilization at Robert Baldwin and J M Denyes.

Question: Shouldn't we be including projections from Boyne?

Answer: Boyne is not part of the boundary review. We will be doing this in a year from now for a new school in Milton. We can't project Boyne's boundary but we can guess that we will be looking at some of the same schools, but that is not clear at this time.

Question: So I have to go back to my school and say that we will be part of another boundary review next year?

Answer: We won't be talking kids away from Anne J. MacArthur, and we won't be looking to add kid to Boyne.

9. Variations on Scenario 7 From Each Group

9.1. Group 1

- For JK-6 have Martin Street dual track.
- The Current grade sixes stay where they are.
- Grades 7-8 stay at Anne J. MacArthur
- Have French Immersion 2-6
- There are concerns with the English attrition rate in French Immersion
- By moving to grade 2 French Immersion HDSB might have to go back to the French Program and rework it.
- HDSB have not polled the interest in the grade 2 French.

9.2. Group 2

- Scenario 7 doesn't solve the English problems from the "nob" on the South boundary.
- Scenario 7 adds to the numbers of English students at Martin Street.
- Could have the entire FI program at Escarpment View go to Martin Street.
- Have neighbourhoods that move together. They don't get to walk anymore but they know peers.
- Escarpment view pressure goes down naturally.
- English stream does not have enough kids.
- Scenario 7 but have Heathwood area French Immersion and English goes to Martin Street up to grade 6.

9.3. Group 3

- Move the triangle?
 - Gord responds with where would they go?
- Decision on gifted is not the BRC.
- Gifted could come out of Sam Sherratt? Then they could go to Martin Street?

9.4. Group 4

- Concerns about English at W I Dick Middle School.
- Possibly changing W I Dick Middle School into French Immersion only school?
 - The only feeder school would be Robert Baldwin and E W Foster.
- Gord says that as a Board we are trying to avoid single track French Immersion
- W I Dick Middle School has only 678 in French Immersion

- The feeders are only Robert Baldwin and E W Foster
- English from J M Denyes and Robert Baldwin?
- Martin Street would stay at Martin Street (kids don't move)
- Why do we need W I Dick Middle School?
 - Gord reminds the committee member that closing a school during from this review would not be compliant with the policy.

Question: Where would it make sense to get more English student, for W I Dick Middle School

Answer: Robert Baldwin is a possibility

Question: At W I Dick Middle School is there a divide between English and French?

Answer: Yes

Question: Could the transportation numbers be too high/Should we be considering the amount of students bussed?

Answer: If you qualify for transportation you get transportation. We are more focused on the numbers

10. Gord's Statements after Questions and Feedback

- 10.1. At W I Dick Middle School are not worried about OTG
- 10.2. We need to be aware of accommodation at W I Dick Middle School
- 10.3. We can look at transportation but if they qualify they qualify for it.
- 10.4. Do not worry about the cost of transportation.

Questions: Could Anne J. MacArthur reduce the boundary by bringing the top boundary down and the bottom boundary up to Main Street? Take a chunk out of J M Denyes?

- We would not have kids walking across Derry Road.

Question: Could the area below Main Street go to Robert Baldwin from Chris Hadfield?

- We shouldn't be taking kids out from Chris Hadfield.

11. Gord moves on with respect to time.

12. Timelines

- 12.1. Next meetings let's think about the recommended scenarios.

Closing statements 9:06 pm

13. Next Meeting: December 20, 2016