

Halton District School Board

South Georgetown Boundary Review Committee

Monday, January 30, 2023, 7:00-9:00 pm

Boundary Review Committee:

Aditee Goswami, Kiran Heer, Gillian Revie, Thuy Vanherk

Staff Present:

Laureen Choi, Mitchell Gundy, Frederick Thibeault, Jennifer Fowler, Jeanne Gray

Regrets:

Scott Podrebarac, Carole Baxter, Andrew Capern

Meeting Notes:

Meeting starts at 7:00 pm

8 observer.

- Superintendent Fowler welcomed the BRC, BRSC and observers.
- Superintendent Fowler honors the land and territory.

Part 1

- Introductions
 - General Manager Thibeault goes over the rules for observers at the meeting.
 - Materials from the public consultation meeting are available on the website.
- Agenda
 - General Manager Thibeault goes over the agenda for the meeting.
 - Setting the target of having a recommended option.
- Housekeeping
 - All the Options (1 to 5) presented to date have assumed the following:
 - September 2023 implementation of the new boundaries
 - Current Grade 7 English students will not be impacted, they will remain at their current school for Grade 8.
 - Consideration may be given to extending the exemption to beyond current Grade 7 students (ie. current Grade 6 students)
 - Legacy Exemption (“Grandfathering/Grandparenting”) for Ethel Gardiner PS
 - Option 2 moves Zones E1, E2, and H to Silver Creek PS
 - Option 5 moves Zone E1 to Silver Creek PS

- Timelines
 - Currently at the last BRC meeting.
 - Community will be provided a communication in the week of Feb 6th.

Part 2

- Public feedback
 - General Manager Thibeault goes over the feedback results.
 - Total of 51 responses
 - 1/3 of responses came from the E2 area
 - 98% of responses were from the English program
 - 83% from Ethel Gardiner PS
 - 11% from Silver Creek PS
 - Primary grades were the majority of responses
 - Criteria ranking
 - Student Experience is the top priority
 - Long Term Stable Boundaries is second
 - Followed by Proximity to School and Viability of Programs
- Written feedback
 - Legacy exemption for students in later grades (5+)
 - Consideration of the mental health of the students after Covid.
 - Mature/established areas are considered last in being moved.
 - IEP considerations
 - Students that are assisted by special education teachers but not part of the Special Education program.
 - Better transparency from the BRSC when it comes to the development of options
 - Yields
 - How student numbers are calculated.
 - Traffic safety
 - Eaton Street is already a busy street during morning drop off and afternoon pickup, so it will be important that the Board addresses traffic safety for walkers due to the increase in bus and parent traffic.
 - Communication Timing
 - Timing of communication being sent home to families right before the winter break causing stress.
 - We typically do not communicate out to the impacted communities until the committee is made and has had one meeting.
 - Going forward this will be taken into consideration.

Part 3

- Option 2
 - Zone E and H go to Ethel Gardiner PS.
 - 125 students are impacted.
 - Trying to adhere to walking boundaries as much as possible

- Effective at dropping pressure at Ethel Gardiner PS
- Silver Creek PS will gain 1-2 portables over the long term.
- Option 5
 - Zone E divided.
 - 89 students are impacted.
 - Ethel Gardiner PS has a slow decline in portables.
 - Silver Creek PS may see a portable depending on staffing allocation.
- Breakout session.
 - BRC takes time to discuss the two options as BRSC takes notes on the Jamboard.
 - Refer to the jamboard at the end of the notes for discussion points.
 - Legacy exemption
 - Legacy exemption should be presented to the siblings but it is up to them if they stay at the school or not.
 - The bell time review is a separate process and would review Georgetown as a whole.
 - Follow up with Andrew Capern with timing of bell time review.
 - Strong support for option 5 from the BRC and community.
 - With legacy exemption for current grade 7s
 - Transition
 - Welcome package
 - Sign off form to be sent to parents and brought back to admin.
 - Allow students to indicate who they would want to be in a class with at the new school.
 - What is the best way of communication?
 - School messenger
 - Take home printout
 - Sending communication through multiple avenues is best
 - Outreach for students with additional needs
 - Staff reaching out to the parents to see what the needs may be.
 - BRC agrees to move forward with the following recommendations to the BRSC:
 - Option 5 Boundaries
 - Provide Legacy Exemption to Grade 7 students currently attending Ethel Gardiner as of now
 - Provide Optional Attendance options for new students moving into E1 to attend Silver Creek, without transportation.

Part 4

- Notification of the recommendations will be sent out to the community the week of February 6, 2023 after the draft report is shared with the Administrative Council.
- The BRSC will write the Board Report with the Director's recommendations and present it to the Board of Trustees.
- February 15, 2023 - report presented to Trustees for information
 - The BRC will be sent a copy of the report prior to the Board meeting.

- March 1, 2023 - to the Board of Trustees for decision
- There will be opportunities for the community to [Delegate the Board](#) at both board meetings
- Trustee Gray thanks the BRC and the community for their involvement and comments.
- General Manager Thibeault thanks all in attendance.

Any questions please contact us southgeorgetownreview@hdsb.ca

Group Discussion: Option Shortlist

Option 2

Option 5

Option 2 introduces portables to Silver Creek

Silver Creek is open to students and happy to accommodate more students

E1 students - will be moving in both options, have been here for around 2 years

less students moving in Option 5 but value in listening to community and what they prefer

option 5 potential has less busses to Silver Creek since less students being moved

this option moves more students but can have more legacy students and more grades stay at Ethel Gardiner

consider # of students and increasing the number of grades grandfathered

Option 5 was developed by the BRC and still holds value due to the feedback from the community

strong support by BRC parent reps and the community for this option

portables exists in both options for Ethel Gardiner

rather choose to be in portable than move schools

Q1: What additional considerations should we have in the implementation of the preferred Option?

bell times - can be reviewed to find efficiencies once an option is approved, reviewed by HSTS

enhance communication piece to schools - need to be multi-platform (ie. email, handouts, School Messenger, newsletter, backpack flyers)

legacy to current gr7 students and siblings - pinpoint families and the impact, check different programs, SPED, etc

Sign off form, info/welcome package

opportunity for Silver Creek to reach out to students moving in advance of move

any changes to bell times notified by June, before the end of the current school year --> FOLLOW UP required on exact timelines of review and impact on families

issue - parents do not open emails or download the School Messenger app

welcome package include provide info on family to help with community building, special requests and preferences, have family and student input to help with classroom building

advising YMCA, child care of boundary changes

changes to bell times to both schools? unknown at this time, need to consider HCDSB schools as well

staff outreach for individual students that require individual support - outreach to students with special needs

share students lists/transition lists to SO's and school admin