

## Acton Integration Committee Record of Action - Meeting #4

**Date:** April 20, 2021 **Time:** 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. **Location:** Virtual

### Committee Members Present:

Scott Podrebarac - Committee Chair; Carolyn Neilson- staff rep MSB; Kim Phillips - Principal MSB; Marsha Schnekenburger- staff rep ADHS; Lucy Marion- Principal ADHS; Maria Duckett- Parent Rep ADHS; **Christa Talarowski- Vice Principal ADHS**; Michelle Mattocks-Kennedy- staff rep Robert Little; Colleen Golightly- Principal Robert Little; ; Jeanne Gray - Trustee Halton Hills, Anita Valvasori, parent rep Robert Little; Sarah Cannataro- Vice Principal Virtual School North, Erin Keen- Vice Principal MSB; Shari White - Parent rep MSB;

**Regrets:** Trevor Wright-Dykstra- Vice Principal Robert Little

*Note: This document is not a verbatim transcript. Questions and answers have been paraphrased for the sake of clarity and brevity.*

Welcome	<p>Scott Podrebarac (Chair), Sarah Cannataro (VP Virtual), Erin Keen (VP Acton Elementary), Colleen Golightly (P Robert Little), Anita Valvasori (Parent Representative), Jeanne Gray (Trustee), Michelle Mattocks (Teacher Representative), Carolyn Neilson (Teacher Representative), Marsha Schnekenburger (Teacher Representative), Christa Talarowski (VP ADHS), Shari White (Parent Representative, Maria Duckett (Parent Representative), Lucy Marion (P ADHS), Kim Phillips (P MSB)</p> <p>Regrets: Trevor Wright-Dykstra (VP Robert Little)</p>	
ADHS Facility Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lighting upgrades, outdoor classroom being added (nice elementary type addition to the grounds), upgrades to flooring and ceilings are in the works.</li> <li>• Facilities are beginning to survey the paved “blacktop” area this week.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New lockers were installed today on the third floor.</li> </ul>	
Partnership Update @MSB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Still awaiting approval on the child care plan for MSB but with the new Federal budget we are feeling positive about it. This would be a 3-room child care. Rooms are picked. Plans have been drawn up as part of the submission.</li> <li>• Links2Care - we have room for them to expand out of the HUB and into the school if they need more space (which they have asked for)</li> <li>• Halton Hills is talking about possibly expanding the pool area - more functional and greater use for the programming available. We have space for them but that would be worked through in the township.</li> <li>• Woodview will be moved to a main floor location in MSB from their temporary location they are in this year (upstairs). Some small renovations might be needed, but quite minor.</li> <li>• MSB is going to be full of community programmes and supports for families and kids which is one of the real benefits of this process for all Acton families.</li> </ul>	
Bell Times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not confirmed at this point.</li> <li>• Always dependent on Transportation.</li> <li>• They come to the Board for approval.</li> <li>• We are expecting them soon (potentially May).</li> <li>• It will be communicated out to school communities as soon as we know.</li> </ul>	

School Naming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This has gone to Admin Council.</li> <li>• Changing the name to Acton District School (as an umbrella term for the Acton District High School and Acton District Elementary School)</li> <li>• Sports teams (if senior level) will compete as ADHS. If Elementary they will compete as Acton District School or Acton Elementary School</li> <li>• The whole school community will be “Acton District School”</li> <li>• Very similar to what Aldershot is doing and this honours the tradition in the community but also recognizes the differences between the two schools.</li> <li>• Inside the school the branding will be the Acton Bearcats.</li> <li>• MSB will still be the Mustangs for the Grade K-6</li> <li>• Website will be Acton District School with options for Elementary and Secondary messaging under that umbrella</li> <li>• Work on an integrated communication system to ensure that parents are not getting email that is not relevant to them or the age/grade level of their students.</li> <li>• <b>Question:</b> Jeanne Gray - wondered how soon the board website will reflect the change to Acton District School? Response (Scott, Kim, Lucy): There is ADHS messaging that is still relevant to this school year so it makes sense to make sure that is switched over in the summer.</li> </ul>	
New School Promo Video	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared with the committee.</li> <li>• The whole committee loved it!</li> </ul>	

Integration Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Team has been working hard to provide a virtual transition.</li> <li>• The ADHS team has produced a video (lead by former MSB student) which was shared with the committee.</li> <li>• It will be shared with the teachers to share with students coming from Robert Little and MSB.</li> <li>• Summary of activities shared (geocaching, social media blitz, I Spy, Scavenger hunts, human library, virtual field trip, rock garden, welcome package, t-shirt for all students)</li> <li>• Also a live stream in June with the 9-12 current ADHS students for them to talk about the welcoming of the new elementary students in September</li> <li>• Most of these activities will be shared with the intermediate staff to share with their students in May. It will be links and virtual and teachers can pick and choose the activities they want to use with their students. There are lots of choices.</li> <li>• We were hoping to have some live interaction - ADHS staff willing to do a Q&amp;A virtually for the Intermediate students.</li> </ul>	
Staffing Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staffing is still ongoing.</li> <li>• 12.5 Elementary staff to be hired. Most of this is done but we are still in the process of posting jobs. This is a timeline set by collective agreements.</li> </ul>	
Closing Comments/ Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Question:</b> Is there seed money to get the school up and running to provide opportunities to get the new programme off to a strong start? <b>Response:</b> (<b>Scott</b>) No additional operating budget for start up but elementary school will have it's own budget (pulled from MSB's budget) as well as the upgrades already happening and in place for receiving the new students. (<b>Erin</b>) We have already begun planning for library materials, instruments, desks, etc. to be moved over. (<b>Lucy</b>) because of the reduction of costs this year she has a healthy</li> </ul>	

	<p>budget entering into the next year. <b>(Kim)</b> We are refreshing the look in the school, MSB, but most of the classes lost will be in the end of the school where it will be closed off and will become part of the public domain and therefore going under construction (pool, Hub, Links2Care, daycare)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Question:</b> (Shari) How much of this is public information and will be shared with parents? <b>Response</b> (Scott) - we will post bell times and timetable side by side with high school timetable to give parents a better sense of what it looks like. Pictures and updates will go onto the websites over the summer to update families. This committee information will go up on the website as well (anything on the slide deck). The only thing we pull off is the floor plans but everything that this committee discusses is posted on the websites. Please also share with councils at School Council meetings because not everyone goes to the websites to get the information.</li> <li>• Kudos to everyone who volunteered their time to join this committee. There is a great deal of thought and commitment to making this work. Improvements to the facilities have come about as a direct result of the work and the questions of the committee. There is a great sense of excitement about this change in our community and building a new vision for schools in our Acton community. Thank you from Scott and from Jeanne for the committee members' work.</li> </ul>	
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