

**Minutes of March 10 BRC
West Oak Trails P.S.**

Meeting started at 7 p.m.

Chairs Superintendent Stuart Miller and Trustee Kelly Amos

Action: Last week's meetings minutes electronically distributed. Hard copies available as required. Correction to minutes: *delete under point 4:* 9, 10, 11 all seemed reasonably workable.

Reminder from chair that if there are questions on the website, we will answer them as a group at BRC before posting answers. No questions have been submitted to the website; however, the chair advised that there were three questions from BRC participants.

(i) Cost of Transportation: There is a cost to transportation but it is not effective to calculate cost for all 12 scenarios. Once the scenarios are reduced to two or three, transportation costs will become part of the criteria.

(ii) Cost Range for Portables: The base cost is between \$50,000 - \$100,000. The cost of moving a portable is approximately \$50,000.

(iii) Start up monies from Ministry for French Immersion: These monies are for French resources. First year \$3,100/class Second year \$950/class Ongoing \$1,000 to library per year for French library resources

1. Review of Norms and Process

The chairs reviewed the Norms and the Process for the BRC.

A public meeting is scheduled for April 7 – two more BRC meetings before public meeting. Probably two or three scenarios will be presented at the public meeting.

One BRC participant shared a question regarding student population in Scenario 11 at Abbey Park. The reason for the significant student decrease was that 87 students attending Abbey Park on optional attendance would be moved to the new high school.

2. Overview of Scenario 12 (Laureen Choi)

Detailed data was distributed on Scenario 12 – including area map and grade breakdown. Major change involves boundaries for FI program. No clarification was required.

3. Criteria Discussion

Criteria have been reduced to 10 after last week's discussion and clarification. The criteria have not been prioritized to date. Since not all schools had representatives tonight, the criteria are not going to be prioritized. At the next meeting, March 24, each school will choose two main criteria as priorities.

Participants worked in focus groups to review Scenario 12 as well as any other scenarios requiring more discussion (if not completed at last week's meeting) Focus groups had been asked to try to have input on all 11 Scenarios for this week (homework).

4. Dotmocracy of 12 Scenarios

Each person given 5 red circles (dots), 5 green circles (dots) to place on 12 scenarios. Not necessary to use all dots. Participants advised to only use one dot per scenario. Red means “discard”; Green means “keeper.” Participants given five minutes to place dots. Once all participants had completed the process the Scenarios were reviewed.

Focus on Green Scenarios

Scenario 10 – sensitive to cohorts; students from elementary school to same high school, keeps every school under total capacity. Overall balance of enrolment in all high schools. Program viability.

Scenario 5 – similar reasons to Scenario 10; Students attend closest high school i.e. Palermo Eng goes to new school not Abbey Park. Heritage Glen stays at current high school (Abbey Park)

Scenario 11 – Keeps cohorts together, walk to for Eng. and FI; Negative – put Abbey Park way over capacity compared to new school and TAB.

Scenario 1 – Upper Middle dividing line good for Eng. program. Abbey Park same community. TAB not over enrolled. FI issue not addressed. Transportation will be an issue re FI. Does not address need for walk to for FI.

Scenario 6 – 50/50 split – draws from a greater area for FI programs for greater viability

Scenario 2 – 50/50 split

Focus on Red Scenarios

Scenario 12 – no program viability – imbalance at all high schools

Scenario 3 – Heritage Glen issues; does not address FI in area north of QEW

Scenario 4 – north/south split; splits Forest Trail community

Scenario 7 – over crowds Abbey Park; many students in transition from FI perspective

Scenario 8 – Abbey Park still over crowded; TAB under utilized; FI program small in many schools

Scenario 9 – no comments

Question regarding importance of percentage of opinions on each scenario. Not valid as 12 scenarios, 10 opinions requested and so inevitably there will be some scenarios with fewer dots.

People who were absent will be asked to review scenarios to pick “Top Five” and “Bottom Five” (maximum of five yes, five no). Absentees will be requested to reply back by March 23 so that their data can be included for the next meeting. At the next meeting, all scenarios will still be posted.

How do you want to pick criteria? BRC chose to use revised criteria for decision making process. (possibly group 1, 5, 8 together as related and all criteria should be re-identified alphabetically not numerically to avoid confusion)

5. Communication

What information from tonight should BRC share with School Councils?

- Wait till input from all participants before sharing Dotmocracy and top scenarios.
- Share new criteria with Councils.

HDSB website Update

- Revised criteria should be put on website with the two understood criteria included. (Fiscal Responsibility and Grandparenting of graduating students.)

6. April 7 Public Meeting

Chair requested that BRC start thinking about format for public “Town Hall” meeting. IRHS can accommodate all BRC on stage or only a few. Who will be spokespersons?

Brainstorming on ideas for meeting followed.

The objective of the meeting is to inform public of final scenarios and to get input from public.

How do we get feedback? Feedback sheet; email address; Q & A for limited time; possibility of building in opportunity for discussion – i.e. smaller groups (possibly by school) looking at scenarios and reporting back

How to present information?

BRC will present final scenarios to school or school council before public meeting.

Important to post information on the website as early as possible – comments submitted through website – possible Q/A at meeting

Open House before meeting with Visual Presentation and BRC and HDSB staff available for clarification (i.e. maps, charts)

Visual Presentation; Website info; opinion captured via small groups (school community – possibly led by BRC leaders) collectively as well as individually

Because of short timeline, HDSB staff to proceed to further analyze top four choices – 1, 5, 10 and 11 regarding fiscal feasibility and possibly 2 and 6 (50/50) depending on absentee votes.

7. Other

Administrators from all schools affected by this accommodation study met today for update. Process explained with criteria; scenarios presented; information on communication protocol; website explanation. One administrator mentioned importance of student involvement through student council. BRC to include Student Council and request top two priorities from students – general feedback.

8. BRC Homework

BRC Participants to choose two priorities for criteria. (school basis)

Share revised criteria with school community.

Ideas regarding format for April 7 meeting

Each school involve students (possibly through student council) to choose two top priorities for students.

Meeting adjourned: 8:55 p.m.

Next Meeting: March 24, 7 p.m.