



Meeting Notes

1. Welcome

W. Baker, Facilitator of the Committee, welcomed Committee members and those present in the audience to the fourth meeting of the South East Norfolk Elementary Accommodation Review Committee.

In Attendance:

Committee Members

W. Baker (Facilitator) – Superintendent of Education, **Rita Collver** – Trustee, **John Harris** – Trustee, **Krista Kitchen** – Parent Representative, Elgin Avenue Public School, **Melissa Mummery** – Parent Representative, Lakewood Elementary, Lakewood Elementary, **Jessica Smith** – Parent Representative, Lynndale Heights Public School, **Tara Beerepoot** – Parent Representative, Walsh Public School, **Christine Oliveira** – Parent Representative, West Lynn Public School.

Resource Staff

Samantha Nicholson – Principal, Elgin Avenue Public School, **Lori Rodgers** – Principal, Lakewood Elementary, **William Valoppi** – Principal, Lynndale Heights Public School, **Dirk Matthys** – Principal, Walsh Public School, **Dianne Lefler** – Principal, West Lynn Public School, **Jamie Gunn** – Superintendent of Business, **Shawn McKillop** – Manager of Communications and Community Relations, **Michelle Le Dressay** – Planning Officer and **Wendy Slaven** – Recording Secretary.

Regrets

Brenda Blancher - Director of Education

Other Grand Erie Trustees in Attendance

Chair, David Dean

2. Meeting Notes – April 27, 2016

Notes from the April 27, 2016 meeting are posted at www.granderie.ca.

3. Review of March 22, April 12 & April 27 Meetings

Summary details of the first three meetings were presented, and are posted at www.granderie.ca

4. Requests for Information

Email communication had been received from Kelly Isfan, CEO of Norfolk General Hospital confirming there might be interest in acquiring the Elgin property if it became available. Jamie Gunn explained the Ministry of Education governing regulations for disposal of surplus property. If no interest is expressed, the Board can then seek approval to sell on open market. The hospital could acquire the property through municipality's right to acquire, or wait until it's on the market for fair market value.

Comment – Interest was definitely indicated, but there is no commitment to purchase.

One additional request was received, and would have required many staff resources to answer. ARC members decided it was not necessary for these questions to be answered, however request will be provided to Trustees to determine if they wish to have answers.

A summary of the South East Norfolk ARC Options was presented by Wayne Baker, and is available on website at www.granderie.ca

5. **Community Questions**

Q How will students be supported during transition?

R A Transition Committee will be created.

Q If Elgin is renovated, where do the kids go? Disrupting a lot of children is not in best interest of kids.

R Decision is based on the best interest of kids; a committee will be struck.

Q Will we see next steps in paper? How do we make it a successful transfer?

R Next steps are posted on the website. Children will be supported by teachers, principals, support staff.

C Process is Ministry mandated – as school board do everything we can to support, but have to address issues, make hard decisions.

C Principal indicated parents have questions about the transition, but children have not been asking – it is principals' and parents' job to provide support.

Q What more can you provide to schools?

R Know when special consultation is required – staff will be mobilized in a focussed attempt, and will be talking about things to do in anticipation to make a smooth transition. The wait time is part of it – it will be a specialized event

C Rely on support – we don't know answers yet, but staff are there to support the kids, continue to ask questions and let us know what children are worrying about.

6. **Committee Comments and Questions**

C With the past policy, ARC committee makes recommendation to Board. Are options reflected correctly? No longer need to come to consensus.

Q If there is one option we don't necessarily support, would we pass that along to trustees?

R Role of current ARC is to gather and present all information from communities, rather than debate options.

C Emotional process for all – we are all here because of our children and students – no matter what happens we have to remember as parents and teachers we will support our own children and others as well – we are part of the process.

7. Next Steps

Details of dates ARC report to Trustees on Monday Sept. 12th will be available Sept. 9th on the website.

Delegations can be made to Trustees on Sept. 26th, Oct. 17th and Oct. 24th.

Oct. 17th is the earliest date for Trustee decision at Committee of the Whole.

Oct. 24th final Trustee decision will be confirmed.

Transition Committee will be struck comprised of teachers, administrators, parents.

8. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.