



Boundary Review Public Meeting #2

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

6:30 pm

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Grand Erie Staff: Chair, W. Baker, Superintendent of Education
R. Wyszynski, Superintendent of Business
N. Hercanuck, Planning Supervisor
J. Cottam, Principal St. George German Public School
R. Garnier, Principal North Ward Public School
L. Hearn, Principal Glen Morris Central Public School
K. Graham, Superintendent of Education
C. MacDonald, Principal Cobblestone Elementary School
L. Reuben, Principal Paris Central Public School
A. Schuyler, Principal Burford District Public School
J. Pathak, Planning Officer

Community: J. Ammendolia, Watson and Associates
C. Balog, Paris High School Parent Council
S. Beatty, St. George German Public School Parent Council
M. Fairfax, Glen Morris Central Public School Parent Council
M. Francis Paris District High School Parent Council
L. Keefe, Paris Central School Parent Council
B. Kenney, Paris Central School Parent Council
S. Nash, Cobblestone Public School Parent Council
M. Shewburg, Glen Morris Central Public School Parent Council
M. Starratt, Burford District Elementary School Parent Council
Y. Rutherford, North Ward Public School Parent Council
J. Valenti, Watson and Associates

Trustees: R. Collver
T. Waldschmidt

Regrets: J. Merrick, Principal Paris District High School

Recorder: W. Kipp, Executive Assistant

A - 1 **Opening**

Superintendent Wyszynski read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

B - 1 **Boundary Review Background**

J. Ammendolia, of Watson & Associates, shared data and background information on the boundary review, presenting 5 options to the Public for discussion and feedback.

C - 1 **Public Discussion**

All comments and questions received from the public verbally, through the meeting chat box, or via planning.granderie.ca have been collated.

Grouping of these questions do not reflect the order they were asked.

1. **What is the timeline for the boundary changes?**

Boundary changes could be implemented for fall of 2023 and some changes phased in for the fall of 2024. February 27th is the decision date by the Trustees so public should know by the end of February.



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2. Has a middle school been considered as an option?

Yes, a middle school has been discussed. The issue with a middle school is there is a moratorium on accommodation reviews in the province right now, meaning boards can not close schools or consolidate schools. A move of more than 50% of a population in a school would then trigger an accommodation review.

3. Are catholic schools full as well and if not, can we use rooms in their schools?

The Catholic board is also full and going (or will be?) through their own boundary reviews. School boards are not able to use another school boards open classrooms, in any case.

4. Are you considering length of time on a bus?

The committee has brought this up as a consideration.

Area 12 has students who are bused to Sacred heart across the road, is it an option to keep those kids at COB?

Yes, it has been considered as shows in Option #5.

5. Are you taking into consideration services that are offered at current schools and if those services will still be available at the student's new school?, i.e., childcare.

Current services offered will be brought up at the next Committee meeting.

What supports are put in place for children, such as counselors, more childcare providers?

Information regarding childcare will be brought to the committee at their next meeting to address these concerns.

When transitioning students to a new building, we meet with those parents and identify students who need supports.

The committee acknowledges the challenges of students who are moving and will take each situation into account individually.

Is a new day care going in at Cobblestones?

Yes, the childcare will continue, and Facilities is looking at putting an addition onto the west end of COB but this will require a business proposal.

6. Will legacy provisions be implemented?

A goal of the committee is to provide the least disruptive transition for students. The committee has already established that they will keep, if possible, 7 and 8's in the school they are in now. Any decisions in this regard will depend on how urgent the relocation needs are.

Will special needs children be offered legacy provisions if needs are being met?

Spec ed students will stay where their programs are, regardless of boundary changes.

7. If there is a local rural residence that is not within SGG boundaries but is 5 minutes from the village, is there an application to fill out to try and get their kids to the school? What would be the steps for this?

Requests to attend a school outside the home area school must be made on the "Request to Attend a School Outside the Home Area School (SO-121)" form which can be found [here](#) under School Operations.

What part of governor's road east is in St. George?



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The boundary east of Kitchen School Road is within St. George German's catchment.

There has not been a lot of discussion regarding Glen Morris and St. George for boundary changes?

GLE has a little bit of room for a few possibilities, such as adding areas 11 and 12, but we still need a few schools for holding zones. SGG is going to take off and a few huge subdivisions planned so SGG is not as prominent in the plan.

8. What part of Governors' Road E is within SGGs? Does it go from Paris to Harrisburg Road?

Governors' Road is the divider north and south between SGGs and COB attendance areas and any students who live east of Kitchen Road go to SGGs and anything west attend COB.

Are boundary meetings held annually for SGG?

Boundary reviews do not happen annually and are typically conducted as required to address enrolment pressures for an area.

9. Area 6-2 contains a difficult three-way intersection with no sidewalks on one side. Has anyone considered the risks involved with this walking route?

All walking paths would use pedestrian infrastructure to ensure safety. One infrastructure near Bobby West that does not have sidewalks and would require students to walk around it, if the distance were to increase to over 1.6 km, then bussing would be put into place.

Will students who reside on Barker Street in Paris go to COB with the boundary changes?

In the proposed options, Barker Street would remain within the COB attendance area.

Does the board own land in Paris slated for an elementary school?

At this time they do not.

10. The board must be able to work with the County to alter the agreement regarding expansion at BUR. The county is starting to look at implementing sewers in the area which should alleviate any septic issues in the future if this infrastructure plan moves forward.

Yes, Grand Erie planning department has reached out to see if the county will adjust the agreement.

Why does the board have that agreement in place?

Burford is on septic, therefore the county wanted to limit seepage going into the ground, so they are restricting the square footage on that site

11. Is a new secondary school in the plan?

Secondary is not in the plan now but is on the radar for the future.

If the boundaries change, are the children currently enrolled at PDHS able to continue at PDHS until they graduate?

The boundary change options are focused on the elementary school attendance areas, so there would be no change to the secondary students currently enrolled at Paris District High School

12. How will the board staff a new school when the time comes, there is not enough staff for schools now.

This is a question for Human Resource department, but staff follow the



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students; if students re-locate, then so will staff. If there are enrolment increase, there would also be staffing increases.

13. Projections for next 3-5 years and how to handle projection growth?

Yes, utilization at each school has been projected for the next many years. The longer-term plan is to submit a proposal to the Ministry for a new build.

The process of land acquisition to the final opening of a new school is a lengthy one, is the Board considering purchasing land for future schools - both elementary and secondary?

With a business case we will be looking for property in the Paris area, but we are a non EDC board, so for us to identify land and purchase it, we require the Ministry's approval, and this coincides with the approval of a business case. Right now, a secondary school is not in the board's initial plans but is on the radar for the secondary panel.

D - 1 **Statements from Public Input**

- Most FI families would prefer to have a K-8 school so all FI students are in one school.
- Moving FI students from Paris takes students out of their own community.
- FI to BUR makes sense as Paris requires more spots for development.
- A parent commented that their child(ren) has moved from Burford to Paris and will now have to move back to Burford and does not support this change.
- A few comments to provide an express bus or centralized bus pick-up location for bussing FI students from Paris to Burford
- Information to keep in mind when making decisions is this is not pieces on a board game moving around; these are adjustments that affect many families.
- Before- and after-school care require commitments by the start of June, therefore we need a decision as soon as possible so families know the school at which they are requesting care.
- Grade 7 and 8's should be legacied in.
- New schools are needed for the Paris area.
- Trustees will recommend a new school when the Ministry allows business plans to be submitted.

E - 1 **Next Steps**

- Committee will have information from current service providers to answer inquires from this meeting.
- Administrators will share, planning@granderie.ca with their school communities to submit questions, comments, and concerns to the committee. Committee will put together their recommendation to submit to the Board of Trustees.

F - 1 **Adjournment** 6:47 pm



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G - 1 **Next Meeting**

Wednesday, January 25, 2023, Paris Ad Hoc Meeting #4