



Working Group Meeting #5 Lower Stoney Creek

Wednesday March 23, 2016

Gatestone



Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Tour of Facility
3. Group Discussion – East Hamilton
4. Review & Approve Minutes
 - Working Group Meeting #3
5. Recommended Option – Discussion
6. Public Meeting #2 – Discussion
7. Final Report – Discussion
8. Next Meeting



Group Discussion

- East Hamilton & Lower Stoney Creek



Review Minutes

- Working Group Meeting #3



Recommended Option Discussion

- Review the pros and cons from advisory committee and the public.
- Develop additional feedback for the Trustees to be included in the final report
 - Additional feedback can be pros, cons, concerns, suggestions, anything you'd like to share with trustee



Advisory Committee – Recommended Option

Pros

- Sense of community pride with new schools in Lower Stoney Creek
- More clubs/activities/sports in each school
- New/better facilities for many generations of students to come
- New schools may attract students to Board
- More collaboration for teachers
- We have three years to prepare students who will be attending a new school
- Three new schools mean all students have access to new facilities and equipment
- Still opportunity for students to walk

Cons

- Close walkers become bussers
- Large amount of construction waste from demolished buildings
- Large school for children social/emotional challenges potentially
- Children who have thrived with their current school/staff will have to adjust
- Big school populations - losing the small “community” “family” feeling (caring for and knowing everyone)
- Feel like there is more community pride with smaller schools not bigger new ones
- Some communities could be lost in the process changing schools



Public– Recommended Option

Pros

- Larger classrooms
- Larger gyms
- Critical mass of specialized teachers, programs, coaches, interests, etc.
- Better use of capital i.e. nice new schools vs. throwing good money at bad buildings
- New facilities - disabled access
- Standardized facilities for all Stoney Creek
- All schools have equal room sizes, gyms, changing facilities

Cons/Concerns

- Safety for students walking to school
- Transportation
- Perception of larger class sizes
- Budget
- Staff changes
- Transition for students



Public Meeting #2 – Proposed Outline

- Overview of Accommodation Review process and work completed to date
- Rationale for moving away from alternative & status quo options
- Review the recommended option
- Review funding for recommended option vs repairing and maintaining schools
- Review “concerns vs realities”
- Share draft report to Trustees
- Next Steps – report submission, public delegations, Trustee proposals



Rationale for moving away from two options

Status Quo	Alternative
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Financially more challenging – funding comes from school renewal and improvement funding pot which is limited• Risk that public will not be satisfied• Facility updates may not be seen, a lot of work is done behind the walls	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not fair for only one school to close and be consolidated into 3 different school communities



Public Concerns

What public concerns/topics need to be addressed at the next public meeting?

- Safety for students walking to school
- Transportation
- Perception of larger class sizes
- Transition for students



Prep for Final Report

- Overview of the accommodation review process to date
- Community Consultation section of report will contain all feed back from the advisory committee & public meeting regarding recommended, alternative and status quo option for trustee consideration
- What are the key items the advisory committee would like included in the community consultation section?



Rescheduled Meeting Proposal

Proposing to reschedule the cancelled working group meeting from March 2 to:

Wednesday April 20th – 6:00 pm at Eastdale

Purpose of meeting is to review final report to be submitted to Trustees.



Next Meetings

Working Group Meeting #6 – Wednesday April 6, 2016

- Dinner at Memorial (SC) – 5:30
- Meeting Start – 6:00