

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board
New North Transitions Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 19, 2015
 Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School
 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Welcome	Jamie Nunn, (Acting) Superintendent of Leadership and Learning, welcomed all. Handout included the <i>Agenda</i> as well as an <i>Outline of the Work for New North Secondary School from 2015 – 2017.</i>
Suggested Working Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote a positive environment • Treat all other members and guest with respect • Recognize and respect the personal integrity of each member of the committee • Use established communication channels when concerns and questions arise • Promote high standards of ethical practice at all times
Facilities Management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key timelines for Construction • Imaging the New North Secondary School 	<u>Highlights of Power Point presentation from Dan Del Bianco, Senior Facilities Officer:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rough sketches from the architects illustrate how the building was developed and configured from needs/input of both the HWDSB and City of Hamilton <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Combined designed by the city and the school board was agreed upon as of May 14 ○ Final committee approval is scheduled for June 14th • Preferred option was to build on the Scott Park site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Design needed to meet the program needs ○ Jimmy Thompson pool stays ○ Community Centre being built by city ○ Green space between buildings will be shared • Parking on site and off site. • Interior is designed to isolate community-use space from classrooms to accommodate easy after-hours access for the community • Black Box (Drama room) will open up out into the court for outside performances if wanted • Running track of gymnasium is internal and on the 2nd floor • Two-story cafeteria and drama room. • “Anchor tenants” is gym on one side and a two-story learning commons (library, resource room, etc) on other side • Everything in the building is fire code safe for kids to work in the hallways, etc. • Roof top greenhouse at one end of the school

- Large glass windows for light so always bright and open appeal
- Secondary School Design Manual is handed out to architects before design is started
 - All details are captured in the manual and architects must follow this.
 - In the building there are a total of 37 regular classes at about 800 square feet each.

Questions/Comments:

- What about Prom rooms, etc. for helping the needs of students?
 - Designation of space can be discussed as we move forward
- All shops are on the ground floor and will have loading areas for supplies
- Many lines of Tech currently at Delta. Can they all be accommodated in this new building?
- Roof and gymnasium will be reinforced and designed to accommodate specialty programs in future (i.e. gardening)
 - Gymnasium roof has always been designed for future accommodation of program
- We have been looking at green roof area, grey water, type of lighting to prepare for optimum results in the building and use of the latest technology available to us.
- Accessibility?
 - Yes it is fully accessibility to the highest standard.
- Why is special education segregated?
 - Gym and shop are where they need to be while the rest of classroom /program are open to discussion in sub-committee groups.
- Guidance on second floor needs to be near office.
- Is the Hospitality room large enough?
 - Will work towards what is needed.
 - It is a classroom as well so space is needed for this.
 - We need baking facilities, etc.
 - These will be tweaked as we go through sub committee process.
 - We are in the position to add, subtract and augment.
- For approvals we need the structure of the building; inside configurations can be discussed later on.
- Six science labs on 2nd floor but SJAM currently have 7 science labs and each is full.
- Will SJAM and other staff have input?
 - More than likely but we need to prepare to have approval and meet with the public then we can start meeting with individual stakeholders (community, teachers, students)
- Parking cannot be any closer and it has been looked at.
 - Board will own the parking lot not the city.
 - It will be shared with the city.
- Street lights will be installed
- Skateboarding, etc. can there be a cement pad now that we are on a main road? Students are going to do this in their unstructured time so can we make it safer for them?
 - Middle is still open for design as we progress.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What if there is overcrowding? New building could be a huge draw and people move to the area. Portables? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The school is designed with an addition that would be able to be added if enrolment spikes. • Concern of drop off and danger? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ There is a drop off loop designed right inside the parking lot. • Is there enough space to have a common lunch? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ This will be a challenge but what we are trying to do is make the courtyard almost an extension of the cafeteria with students flowing inside / outside. • SJAM program has toddlers/parents together. What are the plans for any childcare program in the building? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ We are working with the city now to investigate what they are offering. ◦ We know there is a need. • For the SJAM art program an ordinary art room is not going to meet the needs of this specialty program. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The design will not dictate the program but instead the program will dictate the design. • City is excited about having a new school and high school kids in the area are looking towards a community connection. • Program for this school will be unlike any other school. Innovative, new, fresh. • Greenhouse is just out over the roof not intrusive to the surroundings.
Timelines (Pierre Kountouris, Project Supervisor)	<p>Everything in place and the actual demolition of Scott Park can begin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the building is dismantled, the air will be monitored for asbestos dust and other dust particles • About a dozen air monitoring machines will be used • We are working with Public Health as well as the Minister of Labour through the demolition process • This week has been the interior clean out and by Tuesday of next week, the building will start to come down <p>Plans are still on track for the opening scheduled as September 2017</p>
New North Secondary School – Outline of the Work (2015 – 2017)	<p><u>Outline of the Work: 2015-2016</u></p> <p>The Transition Committee must have at least five meetings in 2015-2016. Suggested dates and timelines below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday, September 22, 2015 Westdale • Tuesday, November 24, 2015 Delta • Tuesday, January 2016 Sir John A. MacDonald • Tuesday, March 2016 Westdale • Tuesday, May 2016 Delta <p>One of those five meetings in 2015-2016 will be “public” in the sense we will allow public comment and give the community an opportunity to provide input, suggestions, etc. on any items that will affect the community.</p> <p>If the Committee decides there needs to be more than one community meeting that could be added to the schedule.</p>

	<p><u>Outline of the Work: 2016-2017</u> The Transition Committee will meet monthly in 2016-2017. All meetings open to the public but they can only observe.</p> <p><u>Suggested Working Groups</u> The most efficient and effective way to proceed is to set up Work groups (Work Groups would consist of Committee members and the Committee would need to decide if ad hoc members could be added to the Work Groups). Some of these committees may spilt into sub-committees depending on the scope of the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture and Traditions: What artefacts and traditions from the closing schools will be incorporated into the new school • Transition Activities (including Opening & Closing Ceremonies): What activities will help bring the schools together and help students prepare for the changes? • Transportation and traffic issues related to the new school (although this is not something the Board can control, we can involve City Councillor and make suggestions for City to consider); • Accommodation and Program (providing any recommendations do not exceed the overall funding available to the school or contravene City, Board and/or Ministry requirements) • Other
<p>Roundtable Discussion</p>	<p><u>Highlights (comments and suggestions) of roundtable discussion of Outline of New North Secondary School Work 2015-2017:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One public meeting is not enough. We need at least two. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Where is the best place to hold meetings in terms of who is being affected by this? • What is the nature of this committee? Awareness committee or one that will make recommendations? What is the purpose? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Committee can make recommendations to committee and we will check if this applies to the board. • Parkside / Highland have gone through this can we look at their past experiences so not recreating the wheel. • When will it be named so it is not always the “New” school and instead we can focus not on the closing process but on the future? • Can we have a town hall meeting take place so students can start to hear what is coming? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Make it student friendly for them to share their voice. ◦ Students will not come to “Public” meeting but will attend a meeting designed with them in mind. • Sense of sadness and loss of closing and we need to carefully transition taking these emotions into account. • With Bennetto going to Westdale has consideration been made of the hardship on family re: transportation? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Question was brought up last time and we will revisit in the future. • Culture differences and gang related issues can be difficult when bringing groups together as one. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ When we say “culture” we are talking culture of the school around opening and closing. • Two separate committees are needed between program (what is taught) and accommodation (actual space). • We are not going to be able to take everything from both schools and cram them into one building. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ It will be a combination of the best of each.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we find the information to make sure the technology will be set up for what we need? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ That is why there will be Working groups to focus on the particulars of specific areas. • Transition activities will involve families, etc. They will be encouraged to attend. • How will Extra-curricular activities be accommodated? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Sub committee will be formed. • School is a neighbourhood hub and we are bringing multiple schools together so how can we use this as a catalyst to build a community? • Students resist change and often find it very difficult <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ We need to look at those high-risk students to engage them. ◦ Transition activities should reach out to high-risk kids for their involvement. • Students will be involved in the choosing of colours, etc. Not a board decision. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Naming of the school process will be completed as soon as able as per policy with staff, parents, trustees, students involved as a group decision. • Important to plan ahead for after-school programs. Bring these people in for involvement in discussion. • Suggestion to form a sub-committee for special programs that are currently in place <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Programs linked to the John Howard Society; Students over 21, etc
In Conclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will take this information and build on it to hand back to committee the members before the end of the school year. • Committee members are to begin thinking of which working group you would be interested in for next year. We are asking that everyone will need to choose one or two.
Next Meeting	<p>Will be sending out an email by end of the year to build on the scope of the committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee will meet again on Tuesday, September 22nd at Westdale • Sir Winston Churchill community will become involved. • Share your feedback with Superintendent Joshua.