

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB)

West Accommodation Review Committee Meeting

Education Centre Board Room

January 25, 2011

Working Meeting #13

Minutes

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members

Chair – Superintendent Sharon Stephanian

Voting Members –Christopher Austin, Deborah Beedie, Rosemary Bellefeuille, Phyllis Chasty, Bea Howell, Lori King, Deborah Knoll, Heather MacDonald, Sharon Ricci, Boris Williams

Non-Voting Members –Jessica Brennan, Krys Croxall, Alex Johnstone, John Laverty, Maria Rikic-McCarthy, Laurie Swackhammer

Regrets

Voting Members – Em Del Sordo, Allyssa Horning, Judy Shen

Non-Voting Members – Gudrun Anderson, Paul Barwinski, Judith Bishop, Michelle DesRochers, Lloyd Ferguson, Rick Hart, Judy Langsner, Brian Lenart, Virginia McCulloch, Brian McHattie, Russ Powers, Dan Thomson , Anne Waldie

Resource Staff

Daniel Del Bianco, Robert Fex, Jim Wibberley

Recording Secretary

Tracy McKillop

1.0 Call to Order

Superintendent Sharon Stephanian welcomed everyone to the thirteenth and final working group meeting.

2.0 Agenda <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/arc/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/West-ARC-Agenda-January-25-2012.pdf>

2.1 Additions and Deletions – None were noted.

2.2 Approval of the Agenda – The agenda was approved by consensus.

Dan gave an update on the South ARC public meeting. There were a lot of questions and concerns from the Community. Heather MacDonald also attended the South ARC meeting and shared her perspectives of the meeting and felt that at times there was some aggression toward the South ARC members.

Allyssa Horning attended as a student of Barton Secondary and was well spoken in her comments to the ARC Committee and Deborah Knoll asked some good questions about the students at Sir Allan MacNab.

Daniel shared that all of the reports will be presented to the Board of Trustees on February 13, 2012.

Delegations will be heard on the following nights:

March 27, 2012 – North ARC

April 2, 2012 – West ARC

April 10, 2012 – South ARC

3.0 Minutes of the Meeting of January 12, 2012

3.1 Errors or Omissions – There were no changes made to the minutes.

3.2 Approval of the Minutes – The minutes were approved by consensus.

3.3. Business Arising from the Minutes

Mr. Del Bianco spoke of transition planning. Deborah Knoll asked for clarification on the wording of transition planning at a previous meeting and it was decided that the Committee would discuss this, as well as questions, from the Committee with the entire group.

There was no other business arising.

4.0 Minutes of the Meeting of January 17, 2012

4.1 Errors or Omissions – There was a minor change made to the minutes.

4.2 Approval of the Minutes – The amended minutes were approved by consensus.

4.3. Business Arising from the Minutes

4.3.1. Debrief of the Public Meeting

Dan spoke of some comments that the public made and would like to include this under additional considerations when the report is discussed.

Trustee Brennan questioned the fact that Councillor Lloyd Ferguson spoke at the public meeting when he is a member of the West ARC. Her understanding was that members of the ARC spoke as a whole and the public forum was for public input only. Jim Wibberley shared that a Committee member as well as any individual is entitled to speak at the Public meeting. This has happened at other ARC meetings as

well. Trustee Brennan shared that had she known that in advance she would have spoken at the Public Meeting.

5.0 West ARC Final Report

Dan thanked everyone for their input and would like to discuss the report with the entire group section by section. He will make the amendments that the Committee feels needs changing.

5.1 Review of Draft Final Report

Mr. Del Bianco went through the report section by section with the Committee and some changes were made to the report.

2.6 Community Input to be reworded at the bottom of page 10 to read “All input from the Community was provided to the Committee for their consideration.”

Trustee Brennan would like the areas that the Councillors, Trustees and Superintendents represent. She also asked if we could add the number of individuals who observed at the working group meetings as well.

There was discussion on the wording under the School Information Profile (SIP) category.

There was a motion to leave the wording the same under 2.4.1. There was consensus on this motion.

Trustee Brennan indicated that it is mandated under the Board of Education that these are the values that are considered under SIPs.

Mr. Wibberley felt that #9 on page 11 should be relocated to “additional considerations” since this was not shared at the public meeting as a recommendation. The Committee discussed whether or not they should leave it as #9 or move it to “additional considerations.” There was concern because this recommendation was not voted on by the Committee and the possibility that an appeal could be launched due to the Policy not being followed.

Heather MacDonald moved that statement #9 be moved from 3.0 and be placed under Section 4.0 - Additional Considerations. There was not consensus on this motion. A vote took place – 7 in favour and 3 opposed so the motion carried.

A motion was put on the floor to have a footnote added on the bottom of page 11 to direct people to the Section 4.0 “additional considerations.” There was consensus on this motion.

There was discussion on adding the “wish list” items that the Committee had previously discussed and voted on be included in the report. Mr. Del Bianco indicated that these would be added under the Facilities Management section. The Committee was in agreement.

There was discussion on changing what was on page 11 – the eight recommendations. Mr. Wibberley was very clear that he felt that these recommendations should not be changed since these were presented at the public meeting.

The Committee gave Mr. Del Bianco permission to change “Ancaster High” to “Ancaster” throughout the report. There was consensus to make the change.

There were some questions about the enrolment numbers in the report on page 14. Mr. Del Bianco shared that for enrolment numbers you take the October numbers and the following year's March numbers, add them together and divide by two to get the average daily enrolment (ADE) numbers. The March numbers are taken into consideration because enrolment has a tendency to drop in the second semester. Mr. Del Bianco will verify the numbers and add in an explanation of ADE numbers.

There was consensus to add the actual October 2011 numbers into the chart in addition to the 2010 numbers with a footnote at the bottom of the page explaining ADE numbers.

The Committee agreed to add into the report under Facility Condition "in the absence of funding, the Committee's "wish list for upgrades" found on page 7 in the January 12, 2012 minutes be included. They would also like to have the Ministry template referenced as well in the report.

There were some minor changes to the charts where the programs were placed.

There was consensus to add into transportation a reference to see notes under "additional considerations."

Mr. Del Bianco clarified that the statement at the bottom of page 18 was district wide not just for the West ARC cluster. Trustee Brennan asked to have this clarified in the paragraph.

There was some discussion on the Community Partnerships wording at the top of page 19. Deb Knoll made a motion to have the top of page 19 read "...possibility of a partnership will be explored in more detail as the board of Trustees make their final decision where possible. There was consensus to adopt the wording in the motion.

Heather made a motion to have Theatre Ancaster referenced in the report as a potential partner. Mr. Del Bianco indicated that he could include it in the paragraph at the top of page 19. There was consensus to add this to the report and Mr. Del Bianco will create the wording.

Mr. Del Bianco shared that a business case will go forward to the Ministry of Education for all three of the Secondary ARCs in order to present a strong business case. It will detail the cost savings with the closures of the schools and the renewal needs savings as well.

The final report will be submitted to the Director of Education on Friday, February 3, 2012 as well as posted on the web site.

Additional Considerations to be added to the Report:

The Committee discussed adding the statement...in the absence of fundingunder additional consideration. Mr. Wibberley felt that it could be added; however, he felt that some context should be included with it.

Deborah Knoll made a motion to change the wording to "that in the absence of adequate funding for new schools, Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board will consult with the school communities to outline the Boards proposed strategy. There was consensus to accept this motion.

Deborah Beedie made a motion to read "at schools that are being considered in the present ARC process, programs be maintained to support student achievement." There was further discussion to clarify this motion.

There was consensus to extend until finished.

Deborah Knoll had consensus from the group to add the following statement:

The ARC acknowledges that there are traffic concerns on Governors Road. Although it was not within the scope of the ARC, it is expected that the HWDSB will work in cooperation with the City of Hamilton to conduct a traffic study and address any traffic concerns, perhaps through road modifications or schedule changes. Additionally, the board will work with the city to identify new city bus services necessary for the modified population at the Highland site.

Boris made a motion to add the statement “to immediately explore merging school communities to address student needs in Dundas.” There was consensus on this motion.

Heather made a motion to include in the report “that all students who are in school during the ARC timeframe will be provided full support to continue their chosen education pathway. This should include but not be restricted to options related to attending cluster schools, transportation support and options related to time tabling.” There was consensus to accept this motion.

There was consensus to have Mr. Del Bianco add a statement which would include having the FM team consult with the principals, staff and students to support the designing of the new school and determining the needs of the school.

Dan was asked to include a statement that reads “that regardless of the outcome consideration is given to repurpose the space in order to retain the Ancaster theatre and pool.”The language may be tweaked. There was consensus to have this statement added.

There was discussion on the naming of the new school. The Committee was informed that there is a school naming policy in place and this would be considered when a new school is built.

There was a motion to include a statement that current enrolment data be updated at the time of building a new school and the school size reflects the updated enrolment data. There was consensus on this motion.

5.2 Approval of the Final Report

Bea made a motion to accept the West ARC Report as amended. Phyllis seconded the motion. There was consensus to accept the amended West ARC report.

5.3 Presenting to the Board

Mr. Del Bianco shared the process of presenting the report to the Board of Trustees. Deborah Knoll, Heather MacDonald, Bea Howell/Sharon Ricci and Boris Williams volunteered to present the report.

6.0 Correspondence

Trustee Brennan apologized to the Committee for any comments that have been shared publicly.

7.0 Other Business

There was a question on how a Committee member could give feedback on the entire ARC process. Mr. Del Bianco stated that there is no formal process for seeking feedback on the ARC process from Committee members so please direct your feedback through Tracy McKillop.

7.1 Approval of the Minutes of this Meeting

7.2 Minutes of the Meeting of January 17, 2012

7.3 Errors or Omissions – There were some minor changes made to the minutes.

7.4 Approval of the Minutes – The amended minutes were approved by consensus.

7.5 Business Arising from the Minutes - None were noted.

8.0 Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

The Chair gave thanks to all of the Committee members for their hard work and dedication and shared that it is not an easy process. She also thanked the Staff who supported the process for all of their hard work. Jim Wibberley extended thanks on behalf of the entire group to Superintendent Stephanian for a great job in chairing all of the West ARC meetings.