

**Minutes of the Ancaster Meadow Boundary Review
Public Meeting
Wednesday, January 7, 2015 – 6:00 p.m.
Ancaster Meadow Elementary School**

Advisory Panel in Attendance:

**Superintendent
Trustee
Ancaster Meadow**

**Sue Dunlop (Chair)
Alex Johnstone (Ward 12)
Principal – Paul Clemens
Vice-Principal – Kristi Keery-Bishop
School Council Co-Chair- Jeannie Whitwell
Home & School Co-Chairs- Reasa Diab, Sandra Wohl
Robert Fex
School Council Chair- Matt Williamson**

**Planning & Accommodation Staff
Regrets:**

Guests:

**Superintendent Michael Prendergast
Trustee Wes Hicks
Principal Priscilla Mochrie
Families of both Ancaster Meadow and Chedoke communities
Teresa Movre**

Recorder:

1. Call to Order (Sue Dunlop)

- Meeting called to order- 6:04 p.m.
- Advisory Panel introductions made

2. Purpose of the Boundary Review

2.1 Boundary Review Policy

- Policy and Directive can be found on the Board website
- Presentation will be available tomorrow on Board website
- Explained basic process

3. Power Point Presentation (Rob Fex)

-Presentation included

- Rationale for the proposed boundary changes
- Current school boundaries
- Enrolment projections
- Feedback from the Boundary Review Advisory Panel
- Explanation of the next steps
- The full Power Point presentation will be posted on the Board website

4. Questions/Comments

1. How do we know the enrolment projections are accurate?

- Accommodation and Planning department uses formulas to predict enrolment
- Many variables
- All students do not feed into one School Board
- Anticipating 65% of students in a survey will attend an HWDSB school

**Minutes of the Ancaster Meadow Boundary Review
Public Meeting
Wednesday, January 7, 2015 – 6:00 p.m.
Ancaster Meadow Elementary School**

- Attempt to design a school that accommodates present and future enrolment- as history shows student enrolment will level out
2. *Portables use is not ideal- especially when it's very cold.*
3. *What is the timeline before the boundary is finalized?*
- Trustees will review recommendations as soon as February
 - A decision to follow shortly
4. *Enrolment at Ancaster Meadow is over capacity. Did the Board ask too late for this new school?*
- Constraints how we get funding from Ministry
 - 72 school Board's across the province submit for funding for numerous projects
 - Limited to 10 per Board.
 - Ministry decides priority.
5. *Will both schools operate over 100% capacity?*
- Schools can operate over capacity at a certain level
 - If the ministry doesn't provide funds for the new school we, will look at other sources of funding
6. *Why can't we build a bigger school?*
- Ministry- approved funding at the time of the application
 - We are hopeful we will receive additional funding
 - If a school is built too big, this can result in empty seats throughout the Board
 - We use long term projections to avoid empty seats as area matures
7. *Boundary issue- one side of street is considered in catchment - one isn't?*
- It's unfortunate, but the boundary must go somewhere
 - Blue and Red- Ancaster Meadow Boundary- splitting boundary- major arteries, keep as balanced as possible
 - Use geographic features- LINC, where the student population is projected
8. *What is the probability we will receive additional funding from the Ministry?*
- A number of factors
 - Capital funding- may be a possibility
 - Cannot predict the decision
 - E.g. Winona- asked for additional spaces- Ministry said ok build- but wouldn't fund it

**Minutes of the Ancaster Meadow Boundary Review
Public Meeting
Wednesday, January 7, 2015 – 6:00 p.m.
Ancaster Meadow Elementary School**

9. *Is there an option to approach the builder of Tiffany for funding to build part of the school – e.g. a gym?*

- This idea can be discussed- but highly unusual.

10. *How will the redirection to new school boundary effect Chedoke?*

- Once the boundary is finalized we, will redirect new families (potentially this school year) to Chedoke until the new school is open
- Redirection will begin once Trustees approve boundary
- Anticipating approximately 20 students this school year and an additional 100 students the following school year
- Chedoke can accommodate approximately an additional 140-150 students

11. *What is the likelihood this boundary will change?*

- Will look at public feedback- suggestions for consideration would include safe routes to schools and major roadways to cross

12. *Will both schools feed into Ancaster High?*

- Yes- Ancaster High will be able to accommodate both schools
- Secondary Program Strategy

13. *What is the process to hire teachers for the new school?*

- Some Ancaster Meadow staff may choose to move to the new school
- Collective agreement and hiring timelines are followed

5. Next Steps

- The Advisory Panel will meet next week to review completed comment sheets
- Submit report to Trustees

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Ancaster Meadow Boundary Review 2014-2015

1. What do you see as the benefit and/or challenges of opening a new school?

Benefits

- New a school- new homes /population growth
- Positive change x4
- Better use of both facilities=better education
- Less overcrowding x2
- Better attention to kids x2

Challenges

- No mention of re-direction when purchased the home
- Few families on Stonehenge should be able to stay
- Dilorio Circle & the top of Cloverleaf (past Stonehenge traffic circle)-
This is not a part of Tiffany Hills
- Will school be ready
- Bus routes
- Parking- needs a drop off location
- Start time
- Building size- too small x 2
- When will we hear if the building can be bigger x 2
- Resources- computers, books, etc.- will these be available at new school
- Process for transitioning kids to new school
- Keep the community informed- so they can be more involved
- More Information to help us influence the ministry decision on the expansion

2. In addition to the information presented today, are there any other comments or concerns we should be aware of?

- Before and after school care- Will existing AM students guaranteed child care
- If the new school does not offer before/aftercare- can they remain at AM-Guarantee
- Umbrella daycare at new school? Provisions made for new families
- Increased crossing guards at Chedoke
- Timelines communicated to public- (Bellmoore 5 months late, Winona- 1 school year late)
- Grandfathering of younger siblings
- No more delays
- Missing friendships