

Mount Albion School Capital Project Public Information Meeting

Thursday, April 19, 2018

6:00 p.m.

Mount Albion School

MINUTES

Committee Members:

- Jeff Gillies, Superintendent, Student Achievement
- Jeff Beattie, Wards 9 and 10 Trustee
- Angela Giardino, Mount Albion School Principal
- Amie Myszkowski, Capital Projects Supervisor
- Nadeen Shehaiber, Capital Project Manager
- Tanya Shaver, Executive Assistant

Welcome

Jeff Gillies welcomed all and introduced committee members.

On January 29, 2018, the Ministry of Education announced approximately \$6.5 million to fund an addition at Mount Albion Elementary School. These funds will be used to replace the temporary structures currently on site with 10 permanent classrooms as well as 3 new licensed child care rooms. As part of this project, additional funding will be used to align Mount Albion School with the work approved under the HWDSB Elementary Benchmark Strategy.

This meeting will review preliminary plans for the addition/renovation as well as preliminary plans for accommodating students during construction.

Power Point Presentation

The Power Point Presentation from this meeting will be posted on the HWDSB website <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/school-renewal/boundary-reviews/>

Power Point Includes:

- Land Acknowledgement
- Agenda
 - Plans for New Addition to Mount Albion
 - Timelines and Next Steps
- Ministry Funding Approvals
- Benchmark Projects completed to date at Mount Albion:
 - Learning Commons expansion
 - Purpose built Music room
 - Purpose built Science room
 - Purpose built Art room
 - Student washrooms

- Preliminary Timelines
- Enrolment Projections
 - Chart indicates anticipated enrolment to increase
 - Currently school is over capacity
- Design Proposal
 - Space for additional 230 students
 - Ten rooms
 - Three-room child care addition
 - Gym renewal
- Classroom Plan Information
- Child Care Plan Information
- Gymnasium Plan Information
 - 5500 square feet

Safety Protocols and Site Preparations

- Next Steps
 - Regular updates through letters, website, school newsletters, etc.
 - Information Sessions anticipated to start in the fall of 2018

Highlights of Presentation

- Portapak will be removed and 10 classrooms built in this area
 - Gymnasium will be enlarged
 - Beside gym will be childcare
 - Additional parking will be available
- Mount Albion students will not need to be relocated during construction and portable classrooms will be utilized on site until project completion
- Safety and Site Preparations will be in place to include:
 - Communication of construction work starting dates
 - Revised fire exit plan
 - Alternate entrance for portables
 - Construction fencing and gated/locked storage area
 - Traffic management plan when school is occupied
- Currently at design development and early stages of the plan
 - Municipals approvals are next steps

Questions and Comments

- Will there be plans for an elevator?
 - Currently looking into plans for a lift
- Will there be food preparation areas for both the child care as well as school nutrition program?
 - Child care has an individual space for food preparation
 - Plan will be put in place with school staff to determine best area for nutrition program
- What will happen to the current play structure?
 - The current play structure will be removed. The school is planning for a new creative playground at a different location. This is not included within the addition project.
 - Have applied for a Heritage Green Grant

- What will happen to our sports programs when construction starts and gym not available?
 - The gym and stage will be offline throughout the project
 - Physical Education classes will take place outdoors (weather permitting)
 - The school may utilize local sites (i.e. rec centre) to provide extra-curricular activities where feasible

- Are the classrooms going to get bigger?
 - By current building plans will be the standardized 750 square feet

- Which classes will be going into the portables?
 - Three portables are currently on site. Another four portables will be added this Spring/Summer to accommodate four portapack classrooms. An additional two to three portables will be added at this time to accommodate future growth.
 - Principal makes the determination which classes will be in portables.
 - Do best to keep youngest in school building and typically try to have older students in portables
 - Will be part of transition plan

- What about lower soccer area?
 - It has been done in the past, therefore, at this point no plans are in place

- When was the gym built? What about removal of older building materials?
 - Gym built in 1964
 - Environmental specialists will be available when working in the gym removing older building materials
 - Gym change room will be upgraded
 - Buffer wall will be between child care and gym to muffle noise of construction

- Will Mrs. Giardino remain as principal?
 - Consistency of school leaders is acknowledged and if possible the Board strives to maintain consistent leadership throughout projects such as these, however, there are many factors that are considered when assigning school leaders

- Why not a Portapak for transition period?
 - Portables much less expensive
 - Only for short term
 - At least four portables will be placed on the site in advance.
 - Could be coming in as early as June

- What is the timeline?
 - Right now at preliminary design
 - Once going through design it will take 8 – 10 months for approvals
 - Construction period should be approximately 10 – 12 months

- Will there be air conditioning in the newer and older area of the school?
 - Funding allows for air conditioning in the new addition only
- Will there be storage space, etc. in the child care area?
 - Yes, we need to meet Ministry standards and will work with staff
- Will there be an energy audit before construction?
 - The engineers will make the assessment as to what is appropriate as we move forward
 - We have an internal team that works within facilities and we work with them to maximize energy use within the building
- Safety of students during construction is a big concern so can parents see a more detailed plan before construction starts?
 - Safety is a priority. Detailed plans will highlight safety precautions during construction.
- Will the current heating be looked at in the older part of the building?
 - Funding from the ministry is solely for child care, classrooms, gym
- From the design plan it looks as if the windows be removed from Kindergarten area?
 - Windows will remain in the kindergarten class and not affected by new build
- Will new classrooms be designated for Kindergarten?
 - The Ministry has provided funding for ten regular classrooms only that do not include purpose-built Kindergarten classrooms
 - In the future if we find we need kindergarten space, we can apply to the ministry for funding to add purpose-built Kindergarten classrooms
- Will daycare have security as in the main school office?
 - The daycare will have their own monitored access system
- Where will bus drop off be?
 - That will come as we develop the plan further and communicated when known
- How long before construction starts?
 - Currently the plans need to go through regulatory approvals
 - Roughly 8 – 10 months for approvals to be finalized