

EXECUTIVE REPORT TO BOARD

TO: BOARD

FROM: Manny Figueiredo, Director of Education

DATE: February 25, 2019

PREPARED BY: Paul Denomme, Superintendent of Student Achievement

RE: Temporary Accommodation - Bellmoore

Action X

Monitoring ☐

Recommended Action:

That the following decision of November 26, 2018 be rescinded:

- a. That Bellmoore School be temporarily changed to a K-6 school until a permanent solution can be found to solve the accommodation pressures.

AND if Part (a) is adopted then:

- b. That any new families within the south boundary be redirected to the new school on the Summit Park Site until a permanent solution can be found to solve the accommodation pressures at Bellmoore.

Rational/Benefits/Considerations:

After community consultation using the Boundary Review process, staff recommend the redirection of new students within the southern boundary to the new school on the Summit Park site (see Appendix A). The recommendation considers the following:

- long term this option balances enrolment at Bellmoore;
- utilizes current facility investments;
- less impact on transportation (compared to the previous redirection of grade 7 & 8 students);
- boundary captures Binbrook's urban area south of Binbrook Rd;
- all existing students attend Bellmoore;
- incoming JK students with older siblings at Bellmoore may attend Bellmoore (sibling rule); and
- all new students are redirected to the new school on the Summit Park site (this includes all housing resale).

It should be noted that enrolment projections with this recommendation are not as predictable as the original motion – they are based on projections by applying the JK enrolment 3-year average and grade to grade retention averages of Bellmoore to the north and south boundaries. If the averages or retention rates vary in the north or south areas, this will likely impact enrolment for the next school year.

Currently there are 10 Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) classes, 37 grade 1-8 classes and 1 Special Education class at Bellmoore for a total of 48 homeroom classes. There is no additional space to expand – if enrolment does

vary for the 2019-2020 school year, staff may not be able to maintain the sibling rule for new JK students to accommodate for this variance.

Bellmoore	JK	SK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	SP-E	Total	Util	Util with Current Portables	Estimated Additional Portables Required (Total)
2018	131	144	115	114	108	104	107	104	99	89	6	1121	175%	106%	-
2019	93	137	116	117	115	106	109	107	103	99	6	1108	173%	103%	0 (19)
2020	94	99	111	118	116	113	110	110	105	102	6	1084	169%	101%	-1 (18)
2021	95	100	81	110	115	114	113	108	109	104	6	1056	165%	98%	-1 (17)
2022	98	96	84	83	110	114	114	113	107	110	6	1035	162%	96%	-1 (16)
2023	99	97	80	84	83	108	114	112	112	107	6	1001	156%	93%	-1 (15)

New School Summit Park Site	JK	SK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	SP-E	Total	Util	Util with Current Portables	Estimated Additional Portables Required (Total)
2019	97	62	53	39	48	47	42	43	40	44	0	515	82%	68%	0 (6)
2020	100	108	62	62	48	54	58	51	50	45	0	637	102%	83%	0 (6)
2021	101	110	96	66	67	53	57	63	56	54	0	724	116%	95%	0 (6)
2022	106	108	101	102	73	76	60	65	72	63	0	826	132%	108%	2 (8)
2023	111	113	99	106	108	81	83	68	72	79	0	922	147%	121%	4 (12)

Background:

Bellmoore has a capacity for 1,077 students, which includes the use of portables. However, enrolment is expected to reach 1,205 students in the 2019/2020 school year. In response to this continued high enrolment, a holding school strategy to accommodate Bellmoore students beyond the school's capacity was created. At the November 26, 2018, Board meeting, Trustees approved: **that Bellmoore School be temporarily changed to a K-6 school until a permanent solution can be found to solve the accommodation pressures.** The report states that the new school on the Summit Park site will be assisting with the accommodation pressures at Bellmoore. Grades 7-8 students from Bellmoore will be attending this new school until a permanent solution is provided for the Binbrook community.

After a community information meeting on December 11, 2018, Trustees motioned and approved: **Be it resolved; that staff apply the boundary review policy to the temporary accommodation strategy at Bellmoore Elementary (and to include other potential impacted schools) and report back to trustees no later than March 2019,** during the Regular Board Meeting on December 17, 2018. An Advisory Panel was established with members from Bellmoore, Janet Lee and Tapleytown's School Councils (Janet Lee and Tapleytown members were included within the panel, as these schools represent the future community of the new school on the Summit Park site). The panel met twice and held one public meeting. There were seven options presented to the community for feedback. These options included: capping, grade re-direction and boundary changes.

Approximately 75 attendees attended the public meeting (based on sign in sheet). A total of 28 Feedback forms, 224 post-it note comments were made on the 7 options and 30 emails were received between Tuesday January 22nd and Tuesday January 29th. Feedback included: comments for and against each of the options, concerns regarding transportation, concerns regarding availability of before and afterschool care for JK/SK at Summit Park location and child minding concerns with the removal of grade 7 and 8's from Bellmoore for

younger siblings. Concerns were also brought forward regarding the representation on the Advisory Panel from the Bellmoore community. Specifically, that not all community voices were being represented or heard.

The Advisory Panel met on February 5, 2019 to review the public feedback. At this time the panel reviewed 9 options (two additional options were developed by staff from the feedback from the public meeting). After reviewing the public feedback using a facilitated protocol the Advisory Panel was able to narrow down their recommendation to three options. These options include:

- Increasing junior kindergarten cap and redirecting all new students to the new school on the Summit Park Site;
- New students within South Boundary redirected to the new school on the Summit Park Site; and
- South West & North Portion of Bellmoore Catchment and Fletcher Road New Development Attend New School on the Summit Park Site.

Staff presented all three of the above options at the final Advisory Panel Meeting. All three options were presented with the implications and considerations each option would create. After discussing these implications and considerations many on the Advisory Panel felt the option of redirecting the South West & North Portion of Bellmoore Catchment to the new school on the Summit Park site.

All information presented throughout the consultation is posted on the Board website:
<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/bellmoore/temporary-accommodation>

Appendix A

