



South ARC

Secondary Accommodation Review

Barton – Hill Park – Mountain – Sherwood – Sir Allan MacNab

Report To: Director of Education
Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board

Report From: South Secondary Accommodation Review Committee

Submitted On: Friday, February 3, 2012

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1.0 Executive Summary

At the March 22, 2010 Board meeting, the Hamilton-Wentworth School Board Trustees approved a recommendation to initiate an accommodation review for the south cluster of secondary schools which includes Barton, Hill Park, Mountain, Sherwood and Sir Allan MacNab. The mandate of the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) was to produce a report to the Board which addressed a number of different criteria including accommodation, facility condition, program, transportation, funding and implementation. The South ARC, comprised of parents, students, community representatives, principals, teachers, trustees and non-teaching staff began its work on January 4, 2011.

Over the course of seventeen (17) working group meetings and four (4) public meetings the South ARC developed and has recommended four (4) options for Trustee consideration. In finalizing their options, the South ARC chose not to prioritize the following recommendations.

Concept B:

- The closure of Sherwood and Sir Allan MacNab in June 2015.
- Construction of a new secondary school, located south/east of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway with a target opening date of September 2015.
- Mountain will remain open with the existing program intact.

Concept C:

- Closure of Hill Park, Mountain and Sherwood in June 2015.
- Construction of a new secondary school, located south/east of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway with a target opening date of September 2015.
- The Mountain program would be relocated to the new school.

Concept D:

- Closure of Barton, Mountain and Sir Allan MacNab in June 2015.
- Construction of a new secondary school, located south/east of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway with a target opening date of September 2015.
- The Mountain program would be relocated to the new school.

Concept E:

- Closure of Mountain, Sherwood and Sir Allan MacNab in June 2015.
- Construction of a new secondary school, located south/east of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway with a target opening date of September 2015.
- The Mountain program would be relocated to the new school.

*Please Note: To further enhance **Options B, D and E**, the South ARC would like Trustees to engage the Westmount school community about the possibility of relocating the self-paced, self-directed program to an alternate school located in the south cluster. The impact of relocating the self-paced, self-directed program to another school in Options B, D and E can be found in **Appendices ##**.*

This report provides the supporting analysis for the recommendations and details the work completed by the South ARC throughout the entire process.

2.0 Accommodation Review Process

In June 2009, the Ministry of Education revised its “Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline” which outlines the necessary steps to follow when school closures are being considered. In accordance with the guideline, the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board revised its Pupil Accommodation Review Policy (No. 12.0, **Appendix ##**), in December 2009.

The Pupil Accommodation Review Policy states that the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board is committed to providing viable learning programs in quality facilities in a fiscally responsible manner. Various factors may result in the need to consolidate, close or relocate one or more schools in order to align pupil accommodation with resident enrolment. These factors include: changes in demographics and/or student enrolment, mobility rates and/or migration patterns, government policies or initiatives, curriculum or program demands, operating costs, and the physical limitations of buildings.

2.1 Purpose of the Accommodation Review

School Boards in Ontario are responsible for providing schools for their students and for operating and maintaining their schools as effectively and efficiently as possible to support student achievement. The purpose of the Board’s Pupil Accommodation Review Policy is to provide direction regarding public accommodation reviews undertaken to determine the future of a school or group of schools.

The ARC serves as an advisory body to the Board of Trustees of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board. The mandate of the South ARC, as outlined in the Terms of Reference (**Appendix ##**), is to produce a report to the Board that encompasses the following:

(a) Accommodation: Develop recommendations to maximize the utilization (enrolment as a percentage of Ministry “on-the-ground capacity”) of Board facilities in the review area with a target of 100% utilization for a future ten-year period achieved through accommodation changes including, but not limited to, school closures, new school construction, permanent additions, (i.e., bricks and mortar structure), non-permanent additions (i.e., portables or portapaks), and partial decommissions (i.e., the demolition or shut-down of part of a building).

(b) Facility Condition: Develop recommendations for capital improvements (i.e., repairs, renovations or major capital projects such as new construction) into existing facilities and sites along with a funding strategy to pay for those improvements.

(c) Program: Develop recommendations around the strategic locations of Secondary School programs, including, but not limited to, Regular, Vocational, Programs of Choice, Specialist High Skills Majors, French Immersion, Community and Continuing Education, Special Education, Alternative Education, Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils, Gateway, Care Treatment and Correctional Programs.

- Take into consideration the “Secondary Education of the Future” report

(d) Transportation: Develop recommendations that address the implications of other recommendations on pupil transportation.

(e) Funding: Develop a funding strategy to address any capital works that are contemplated in the recommendations above.

(f) Implementation: Develop recommendations for implementation timeframes for any of the above recommended changes.

(g) Scope: The ARC's work (i.e., discussion and recommendations) applies only to the following schools: Barton, Hill Park, Mountain, Sherwood and Sir Allan MacNab.

(h) Timeline: The ARC will complete its work and submit its report to the Director of Education by Friday, February 3, 2012.

To fulfill this mandate a number of key criteria should be considered by the ARC. These *Reference Criteria* include the following:

(a) Facility Utilization: Facility Utilization is defined as enrolment as a percentage of "on-the-ground" capacity. The goal is to maximize the use of Board-owned facilities over the long-term.

(b) Permanent and Non-permanent Accommodation: Permanent accommodation refers to "bricks and mortar" while non-permanent construction includes structures such as portables and portapaks. The goal is to minimize the use of non-permanent accommodation as a long-term strategy while recognizing that it may be a good short-term solution.

(c) Program Offerings: The ARC must consider program offerings, each with their own specific requirements, at each location. Program offerings include, but are not limited to: Regular, Programs of Choice, French Immersion, Special Education, Care Treatment and Correctional Programs and Alternative Education, etc.

(d) Quality Teaching and Learning Environments: The ARC should consider the program environments and how they are conducive to learning. This includes spaces such as Science Labs, gymnasiums, other specialty rooms, etc.

(e) Transportation: The ARC should consider the Board's existing Transportation Policy and how it may be impacted or limit by the proposed Accommodation Scenarios.

(f) Partnerships: As a requirement of the Policy and Ministry guidelines, the ARC should also consider opportunities for partnerships.

(g) Equity: The ARC should consider the Board’s Equity Policy, specifically as it relates to accessibility, both in terms of the physical school access as well as transportation and program environments.

2.2 Composition of the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC)

The Board’s policy stipulates that ARC membership will consist of the following persons:

- **Chair - One Member of Executive Council** (who will not have any “voting” status);

Voting Members Include the Following:

- **One Principal** who is not directly associated with any of the schools in the Review Area *(to be chosen by the respective Principals’ Association)*;
- **One Teacher** who is not directly associated with any of the schools in the Review Area *(to be chosen by the respective Teacher Union Executive)*
- **Two Student Leaders** from outside the review area;
- **Two “Public School Supporter” Community Leaders** *(Community Leaders must not be directly associated with any of the schools in the Review Area. Community Leaders are to be appointed by the Parent Involvement Committee)*;
- **Two Parent Representatives** from each of the schools directly affected by the accommodation review *(to be appointed by School Council)*.

Non-voting Members include the Following:

- **Any Superintendent of Education** whose direct responsibilities include a school in the Review Area;
- **The Trustee(s)** whose ward includes a school in the Review Area;
- **The Ward Councillor(s)** whose ward includes a school in the Review Area;
- **One Principal** from each of the schools directly affected by the accommodation review;
- **One Teacher** from each of the schools directly affected by the accommodation review *(to be chosen by teaching peers)*;
- **One Non-Teaching Staff Representative** from each of the schools directly affected by the accommodation review *(to be chosen by non-teaching staff members at each of the schools)*.

In accordance with the above composition guidelines the table below represents the South Secondary Accommodation Review Committee membership list:

Name	Affiliation	Representing
Scott Sincerbox, Superintendent of Human Resources		Chair
VOTING MEMBERS		
John Whitwell	Hamilton-Wentworth DSB	One Principal Representative
Declined	Hamilton-Wentworth DSB	One Teacher Representative
Derek Hambly Alexandra Ewing	Hamilton-Wentworth DSB	Two Student Leader Representatives
Susan Pretula	Hamilton-Wentworth DSB	Two Public School Community Leader Representatives
Alexandra Butty Bill Barrett	Barton	Two Parent Representatives
Kim General Cheryl Poot	Hill Park	Two Parent Representatives
Anne Pollard Beverly Bressette	Mountain	Two Parent Representatives
Ken Durkacz Jackie Brown	Sherwood	Two Parent Representatives
Al Pierce Margaret Eagle	Sir Allan MacNab	Two Parent Representative
NON-VOTING MEMBERS		
Manny Figueiredo Mag Gardner Peter Joshua	Hamilton-Wentworth DSB	Area Superintendents of Education
Laura Peddle Lillian Orban Wes Hicks	Hamilton-Wentworth DSB	Area Trustees
Scott Duvall Terry Whitehead Tom Jackson	City of Hamilton	Area Ward Councillors
Deb Jukes	Barton	Principal
Angela Ferguson	Hill Park	Principal
Wanda Bielak	Mountain	Principal
Randy Gallant	Sherwood	Principal
Ted Koczner	Sir Allan MacNab	Principal
Brian Greig	Barton	Teacher
Kevin Robinson	Hill Park	Teacher
John Miholics	Mountain	Teacher
Gary Deveau	Sherwood	Teacher
Paul Vukosa	Sir Allan MacNab	Teacher
Declined	Barton	Non-Teaching Staff Representative
Renee Majic	Hill Park	Non-Teaching Staff Representative
Joanna Maull	Mountain	Non-Teaching Staff Representative
Declined	Sherwood	Non-Teaching Staff Representative
Donna Clappison	Sir Allan MacNab	Non-Teaching Staff Representative

2.3 Meetings of the Accommodation Review Committee

In preparation for the four (4) public meetings, the ARC was also involved in seventeen (17) working group meetings. These working group meetings were designed to facilitate the exchange of ideas, comments and/or

concerns between ARC members on the topics which were to be presented at the public meetings. Although working group meetings were centred on ARC members' discussion, the public was invited to attend as observers. As outlined in the Terms of Reference, the ARC held four public meetings in order to receive input from the community as follows:

a) **Public Meeting #1 (February 15, 2011, Hill Park Secondary School) – Appendix ##**

Members of the Public that Signed In: 97

At the first public meeting, resource staff outlined the ARC's mandate, provided an overview of the accommodation review process, reviewed the data contained within the School Information Profiles (SIP) and presented the proposed accommodation option created by Board staff. After the presentations by resource staff, the ARC Chair facilitated a question/answer session with members of the public to seek input on the information presented. In preparation for Public Meeting #1, the ARC held the following working group meetings:

- Working Group Meeting #1 (January 4, 2011) – Appendix ##
- Working Group Meeting #2 (January 25, 2011) - Appendix ##

b) **Public Meeting #2 (April 26, 2011, Sherwood Secondary School) – Appendix ##**

Members of the Public that Signed In: 130

At the second public meeting, resource staff provided an overview of the accommodation review process and work of the committee. After the presentations, the ARC Chair facilitated a question/answer session with members of the public to ask questions and makes comments on the review process and work of the committee. In preparation for Public Meeting #2, the ARC held the following working group meetings at which input from Public Meeting #1 was also considered.

- Working Group Meeting #3 (March 8, 2011) – Appendix ##
- Working Group Meeting #4 (April 5, 2011) – Appendix ##

c) **Public Meeting #3 (October 27, 2011, Hill Park Secondary School) – Appendix ##**

Members of the Public that Signed In: 53

At the third public meeting, resource staff provided an overview of the accommodation review process. Members of the ARC reviewed the work that they had completed to date, presented their six (6) proposed accommodation options and discussed the next steps of the committee. After the presentations, the ARC

Chair facilitated a question/answer session with members of the public to seek input on the information presented. In preparation for Public Meeting #3, the ARC held the following working group meetings at which input from Public Meeting #2 was also considered.

- Working Group Meeting #5 (May 17, 2011) – Appendix ##
- Working Group Meeting #6 (June 7, 2011) – Appendix ##
- Working Group Meeting #7 (September 6, 2011) – Appendix ##
- Working Group Meeting #8 (September 15, 2011) – Appendix ##
 - o Included a joint meeting with the North ARC to review possible common areas of interest.
- Working Group Meeting #9 (September 27, 2011) – Appendix ##
- Working Group Meeting #10 (October 18, 2011) – Appendix ##

d) **Public Meeting #4 (January 19, 2012, Barton Secondary School) – Appendix ##**

Members of the Public that Signed In: 98

At the fourth public meeting, resource staff provided an overview of the accommodation review process while ARC members presented their final recommendations. The presentation all of the elements that will be contained in the final ARC report (to be presented to the Director of Education on February 3, 2012). After the presentations, the ARC Chair facilitated a question/answer session with members of the public to seek input on the ARC's final recommendations. In preparation for Public Meeting #4, the ARC held the following working group meetings at which input from Public Meeting #3 was also considered.

- Working Group Meeting #11 (November 8, 2011) – Appendix ##
- Working Group Meeting #12 (November 23, 2011) – Appendix ##
- Working Group Meeting #13 (November 29, 2011) – Appendix ##
- Working Group Meeting #14 (December 7, 2011) – Appendix ##
- Working Group Meeting #15 (December 14, 2011) – Appendix ##
- Working Group Meeting #16 (January 11, 2012) – Appendix ##

One final Working Group Meeting (#17) was held on January 26, 2012 to review community input from Public Meeting #4 prior to finalizing the ARC recommendations and report.

Detailed minutes of all of the public meetings and working group meetings were recorded, made available to the public via the Board's website and have been attached as appendices to this report.

2.4 Resources Available to the Accommodation Review Committee

Throughout the entire process ARC members relied on a number of resources and data to assist them in developing and assessing potential accommodation options. These resources include the School Information Profiles (**Appendix ##**), the ARC resource binder and the knowledge of resource staff. All of the information contained within the resource binder (including the School Information Profiles) was made available to the public via the ARC website and has been included in the appendices of this report.

2.4.1 School Information Profiles (SIP)

Prior to the commencement of the ARC, the Board, in accordance with the Ministry of Education Guideline developed and approved a School Information Profile. The SIP is a “tool” available to the ARC and designed to provide an overview of each of the schools based on the following considerations:

- o *Value to the student*
- o *Value to the community*
- o *Value to the school board*
- o *Value to the local economy*

The SIP document provided a starting point and the ARC then customized each school information profile to address unique local factors which should be considered during the ARC process. Review of the SIP allowed the ARC members to gain a better understanding of all the schools involved in the process.

2.4.2 Staff Recommendation

As outlined in the Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline (**Appendix ##**), the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board presented an alternative accommodation option which addressed the objectives and Reference Criteria as outlined in the Terms of Reference. The first phase of the staff recommendation proposed the closure of Mountain Secondary School and Sherwood Secondary School in June 2013 with those students being redistributed to the remaining facilities, effective September 2013. The second phase of the staff recommendation was dependant on the availability of funding and included the closure of Barton Secondary School in June 2015 and the construction of a new secondary school south of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway with a target opening date of September 2015 (**Appendix ##**).

2.4.3 School Tours

Tours of the facilities involved in the ARC process were conducted on Saturday, March 26, 2011. A second tour date (September 17, 2011) was added in order to accommodate those Committee members that were unable to attend the original tour date. During these dates, ARC members were provided with the opportunity to participate in guided tours of the schools included in the accommodation review process (Appendix ##). The 30-45 minute tours included a site walk of the outside of the facility as well as a tour of the interior (i.e., gymnasium, classrooms, library, etc.).

2.4.4 Resource Staff

Resource staff were made available at all public and working group meetings to assist the ARC members in deciphering any information in the resource binder and to address any questions regarding Board/Ministry of Education policies and guidelines. Resource staff were also available to respond to requests for additional information from the ARC, as directed by the Chair of the ARC.

2.5 Communication Strategy

Very early on in the process the Board realized the importance of developing an effective communication strategy to ensure that the community was continuously informed throughout the process. Notice of the public meetings was provided to the public through flyers sent home by the schools with the students, the Board's (ARC) website, and advertisements in local community newspapers (Appendix ## and ##). All public meeting notices included the date, time, location, purpose, contact name and number.

2.6 Community Input

Community input was an integral part of the Accommodation Review process. Throughout the entire process the public was encouraged to share their ideas and comments through email, voicemail and through the question/answer period at all of the public meetings. Members of the community were also welcome to attend all working group meetings as observers of the process. All input received from the community either through email or during the public meetings was taken into consideration as the ARC developed its final recommendations.

3.0 South ARC Recommendations

The South Accommodation Review Committee is proposing the following recommendations for the Trustees of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board to consider:

- 1. The South ARC has proposed four (4) alternate accommodation options for Trustees to consider, including:*

Concept B (Map #2):

- *The closure of Sherwood and Sir Allan MacNab in June 2015.*
- *Construction of a new secondary school, located south/east of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway with a target opening date of September 2015.*
- *Mountain will remain open with the existing program intact.*

Concept C (Map #3):

- *Closure of Hill Park, Mountain and Sherwood in June 2015.*
- *Construction of a new secondary school, located south/east of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway with a target opening date of September 2015.*
- *The Mountain program would be relocated to the new school.*

Concept D (Map #4):

- *Closure of Barton, Mountain and Sir Allan MacNab in June 2015.*
- *Construction of a new secondary school, located south/east of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway with a target opening date of September 2015.*
- *The Mountain program would be relocated to the new school.*

Concept E (Map #5):

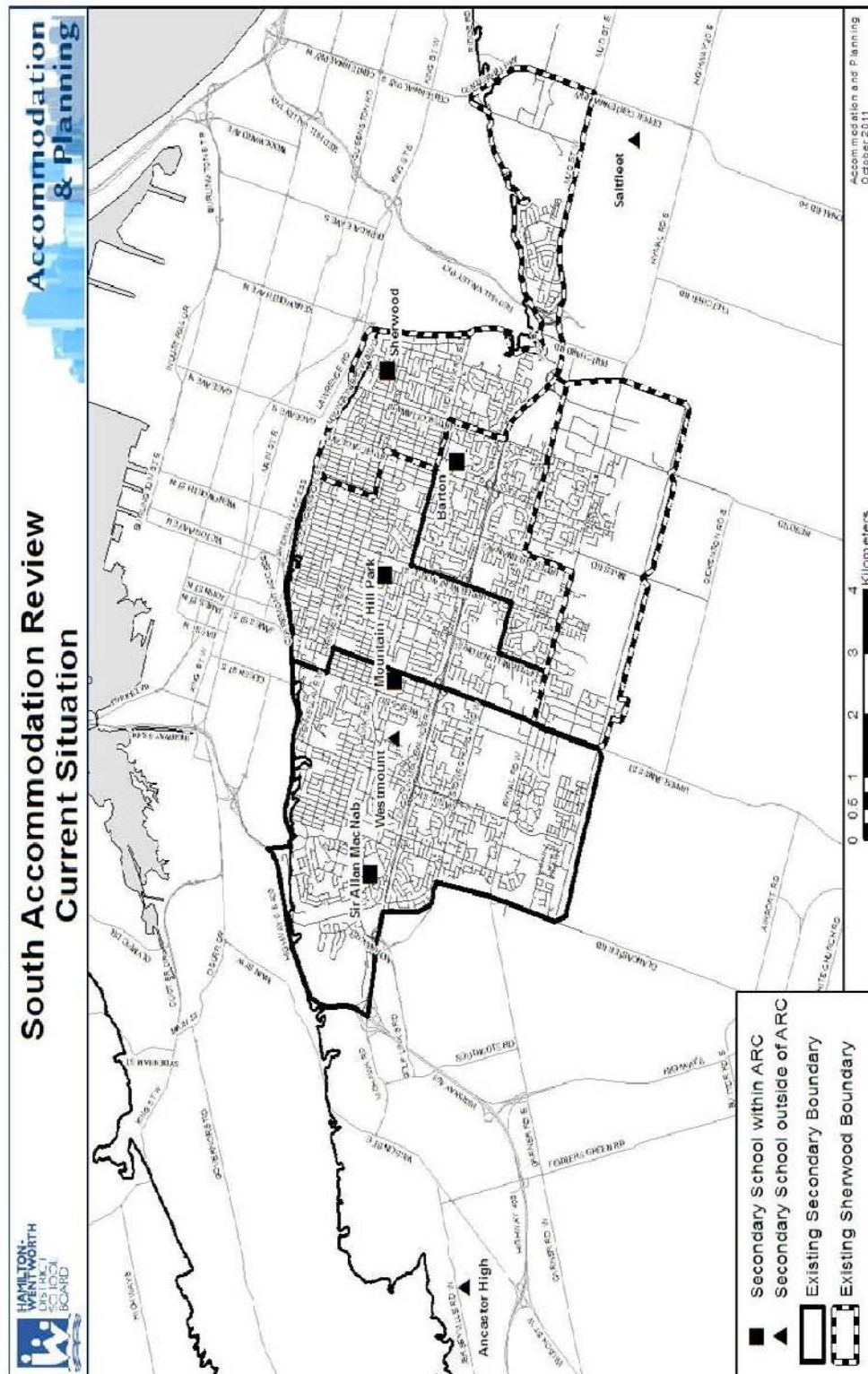
- *Closure of Mountain, Sherwood and Sir Allan MacNab in June 2015.*
- *Construction of a new secondary school, located south/east of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway with a target opening date of September 2015.*
- *The Mountain program would be relocated to the new school.*

*Please Note: To further enhance **Options B, D and E**, the South ARC would like Trustees to engage the Westmount school community about the possibility of relocating the self-paced, self-directed program to an alternate school located in the south cluster. The impact of relocating the self-paced, self-directed program to another school in Options B, D and E can be found in Appendices ##.*

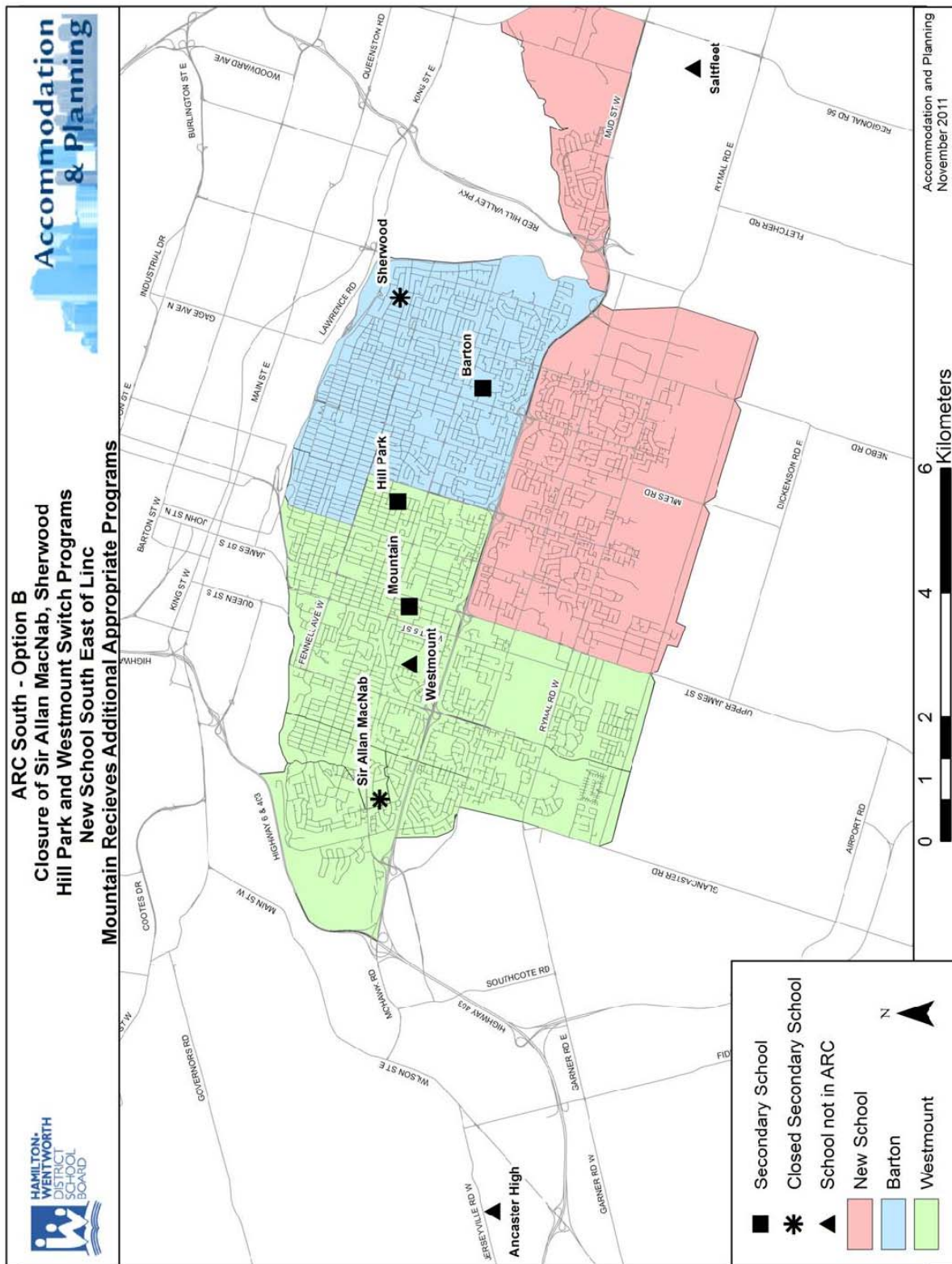
In addition to the alternative accommodation options, the South ARC is also proposing the following as part of its final recommendation.

- 2. That all school remain open until the new school is ready for occupancy in 2015.*
- 3. That any new school will include space for community partnerships where interest and support is evident.*
- 4. That the Facilities Management Department consult with the principal, school councils, school communities and specialists to ensure that the existing facilities meet the program strategy and address the renewal needs as outlined by this ARC Committee.*
- 5. That there be an equitable distribution of athletic programs (health and wellness), of Advance Placement (AP) programs, Programs of Choice (POC) and Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) across the cluster.*
- 6. That there be a Secondary French Immersion (FI) program centrally located within the South ARC cluster.*
- 7. That there be appropriate Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions programs within the South ARC cluster to adequately service the number of students that would require them.*

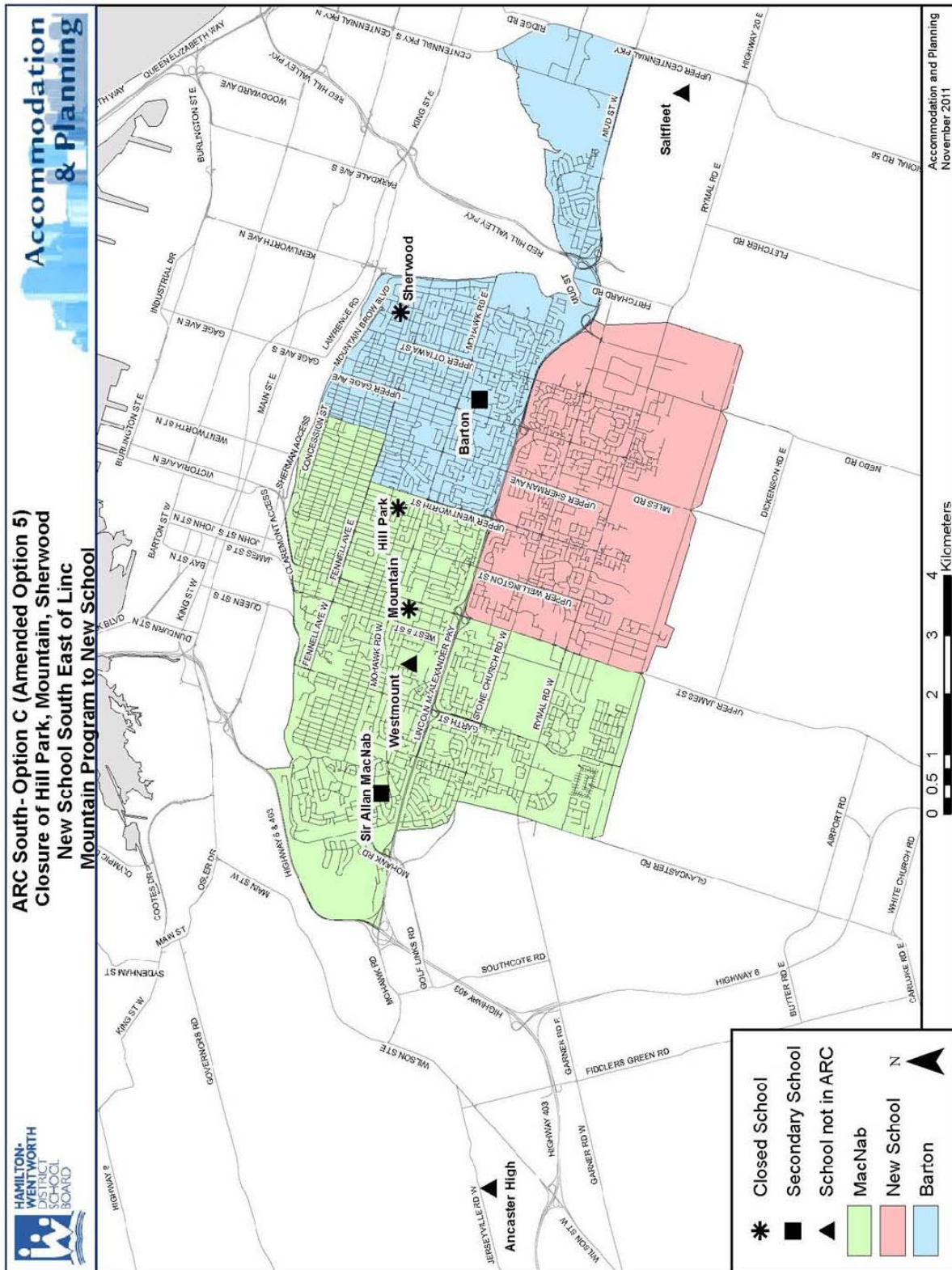
Map #1: Current Situation



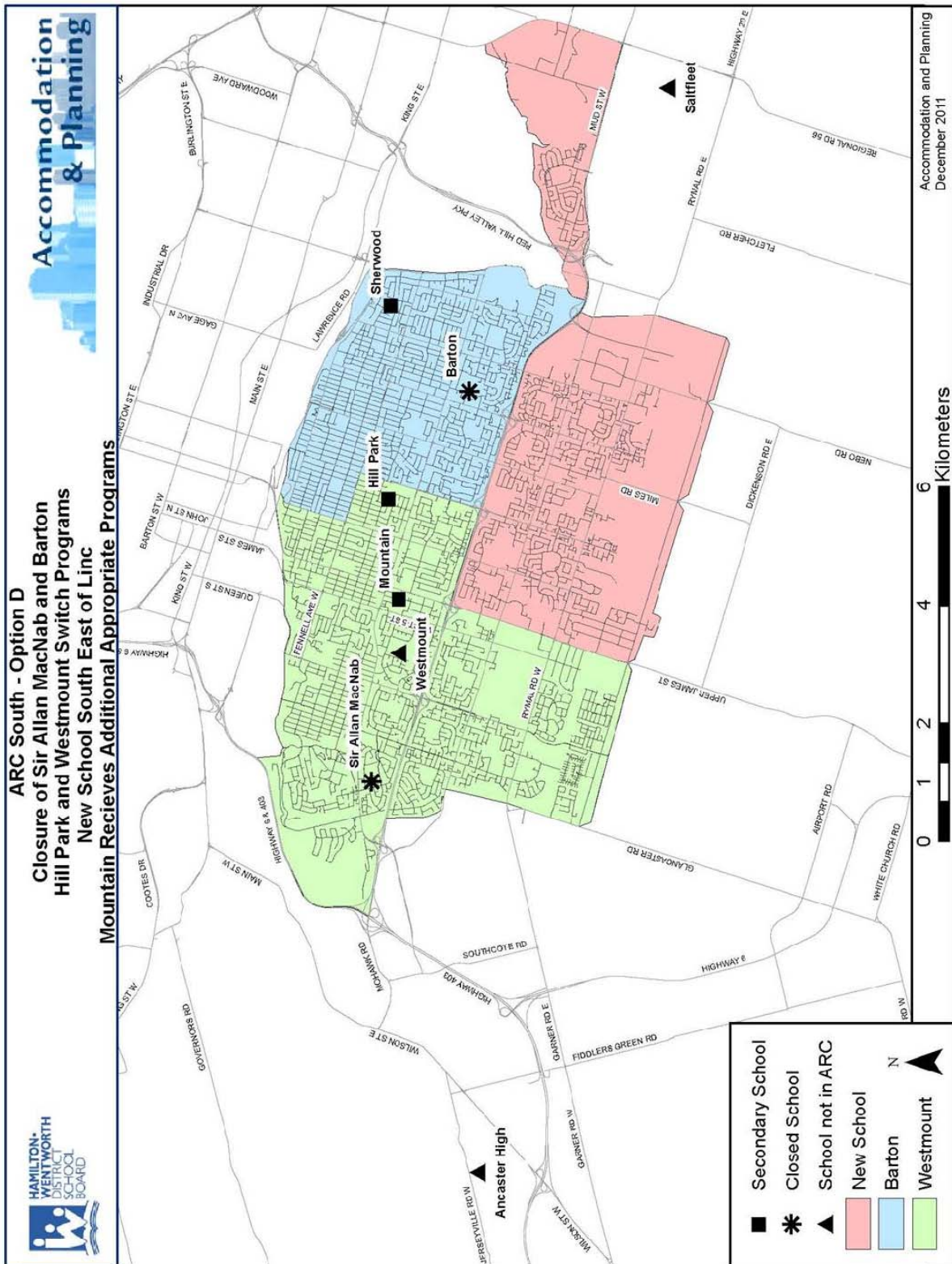
Map #2: South ARC Recommended Option - B (Proposed Boundaries)



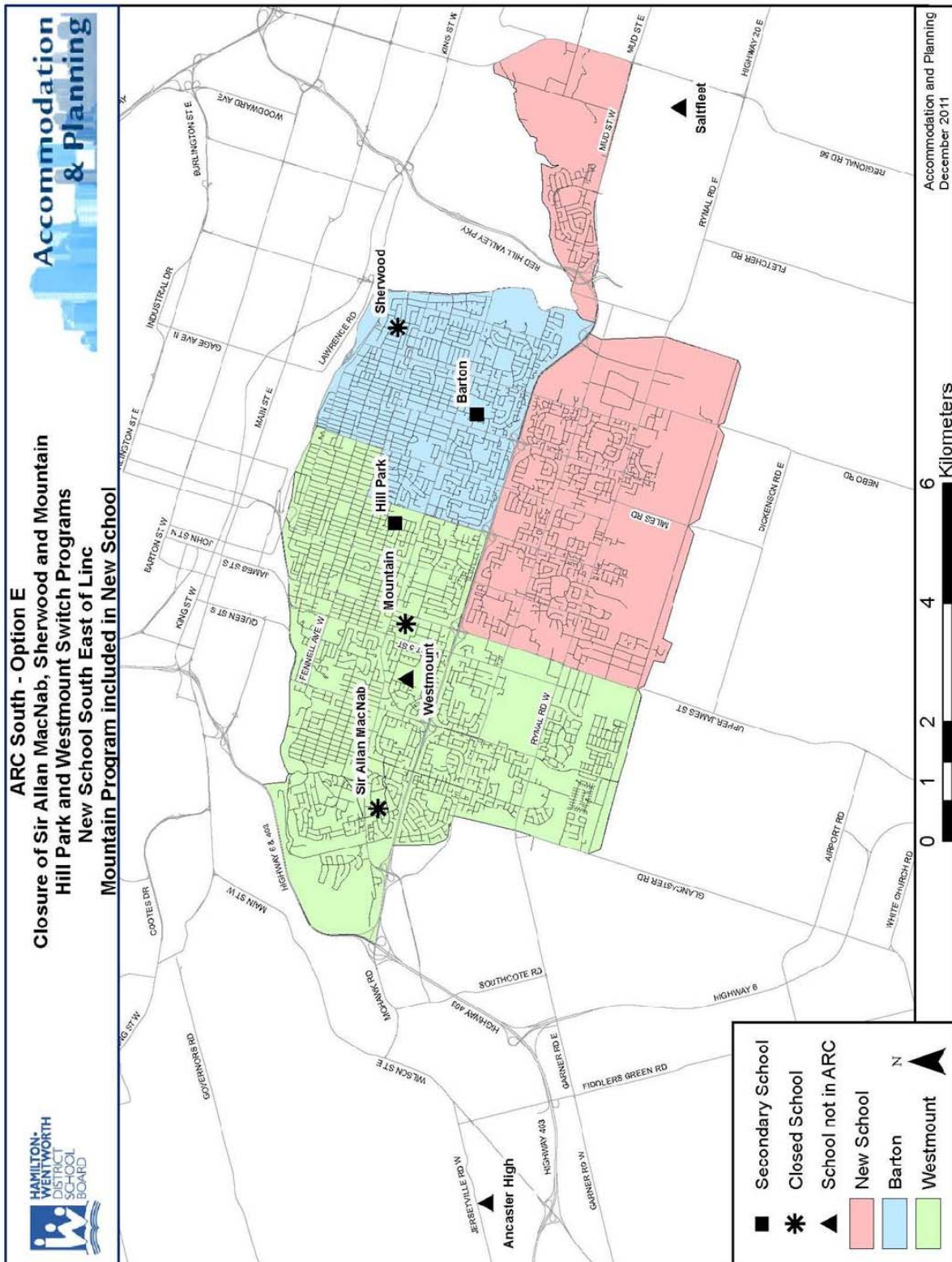
Map #3: South ARC Recommended Option - C (Proposed Boundaries)



Map #4: South ARC Recommended Option - D (Proposed Boundaries)



Map #5: South ARC Recommended Option - E (Proposed Boundaries)



In developing their final recommendations, the South ARC has successfully used the reference criteria to fulfill their mandate based on the following factors:

(a) Accommodation

- One of the fundamental challenges faced by the South ARC was to develop an accommodation strategy which would address the number of surplus pupil places in the cluster both in the short- and long-term in spite of an ongoing decline in secondary enrolment. As of October 2010 there were 3,976 students attending the five schools located within this cluster for an overall utilization rate of 72%. Long-term projections indicate that over the course of the next ten years, enrolment is projected to decline to approximately 3,200 students with the overall utilization at 57% (Table 1). During that same time period the number of surplus pupil spaces is projected to increase from 1,556 to approximately 2,300.

The South ARC has proposed four (4) alternate accommodation recommendations, all of which include school closures in June 2015 and the construction of a new facility, with a target opening date of September 2015. The following tables describe each of the proposed options and summarizes their impact on enrolment/ utilization rates at the time of implementation (2015) and over the long-term. The tables also identify how each of the options impact the overall number of surplus pupil places projected for the South cluster.

Table 1: Historical and Projected Enrolment (Current Situation)

Secondary School	2010 OTG Capacity	2010/ 2011	% Utiliz.	2015/ 2016	% Utiliz.	2020/ 2021	% Utiliz.
Barton	1,092	871	80%	738	68%	723	66%
Hill Park	1,194	857	71%	666	55%	573	47%
Mountain	525	179	34%	182	35%	171	33%
Sherwood	1,308	1,202	92%	1,038	79%	986	75%
Sir Allan MacNab	1,413	867	61%	744	53%	735	52%
Total	5,532	3,976	72%	3,368	61%	3,188	57%
Surplus Pupil Places		(1,556)		(2,164)		(2,344)	

Table 2: Projected Enrolment (South ARC Option - B)

Description: Closure of Sherwood and Sir Allan MacNab and the construction of a new school south/east of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway

Secondary School	2015 OTG Capacity		2015/ 2016	% Utiliz.	2020/ 2021	% Utiliz.
Barton	1,092		1,291	118%	1,209	111%
Hill Park	1,194		994	82%	949	78%
Mountain	525		182	35%	171	33%
Sherwood	-		-	-	-	-
Sir Allan MacNab	-		-	-	-	-
New School	1,000 *		900	90%	858	86%
Total	3,811		3,368	88%	3,188	83%
Surplus Pupil Places			(444)		(624)	

*Note: Proposed capacity, may be subject to change

Table 3: Projected Enrolment (South ARC Option - C)

Description: Closure of Hill Park, Mountain and Sherwood and the construction of a new school south/east of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway. Mountain program to be accommodated in the new school.

Secondary School	2015 OTG Capacity		2015/ 2016	% Utiliz.	2020/ 2021	% Utiliz.
Barton	1,092		1,186	109%	1,124	103%
Hill Park	-		-	-	-	-
Mountain	-		-	-	-	-
Sherwood	-		-	-	-	-
Sir Allan MacNab	1,413		1,204	85%	1,099	78%
New School	1,000 *		1,014	101%	964	96%
Total	3,505		3,368	96%	3,188	91%
Surplus Pupil Places			(137)		(318)	

*Note: Proposed capacity, may be subject to change

Table 4: Projected Enrolment (South ARC Option - D)

Description: Closure of Barton and Sir Allan MacNab and the construction of a new school south/east of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway.

Secondary School	2015 OTG Capacity		2015/ 2016	% Utiliz.	2020/ 2021	% Utiliz.
Barton	-		-	-	-	-
Hill Park	1,194		991	82%	946	78%
Mountain	525		182	35%	171	33%
Sherwood	1,308		1,287	98%	1,205	92%
Sir Allan MacNab	-		-	-	-	-
New School	1,000 *		907	91%	865	87%
Total	4,027		3,368	83%	3,188	79%
Surplus Pupil Places			(-660)		(-840)	

*Note: Proposed capacity, may be subject to change

Table 5: Projected Enrolment (South ARC Option - E)

Description: Closure of Mountain, Sherwood and Sir Allan MacNab and the construction of a new school south/east of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway. Mountain program to be accommodated in the new school.

Secondary School	2015 OTG Capacity		2015/ 2016	% Utiliz.	2020/ 2021	% Utiliz.
Barton	1,092		1,102	101%	1,044	96%
Hill Park	1,194		1,176	97%	1,107	91%
Mountain	-		-	-	-	-
Sherwood	-		-	-	-	-
Sir Allan MacNab	-		-	-	-	-
New School	1,000 *		1,089	109%	1,036	104%
Total	3,286		3,368	102%	3,188	96%
Surplus Pupil Places			81		(-99)	

*Note: Proposed capacity, may be subject to change

*Please Note: To further enhance **Options B, D and E**, the South ARC would like Trustees to engage the Westmount school community about the possibility of relocating the self-paced, self-directed program to an alternate school located in the south cluster. The impact of relocating the self-paced, self-directed program to another school in Options B, D and E can be found in **Appendices ##**.*

(b) Facility Condition

- According to the ReCAPP® (Renewal Capital Asset Planning Process) software, the current back-log of renewal needs for the five schools is estimated to be approximately \$48,000,000. Assuming that no additional repair work is undertaken in the interim, this total is projected to increase to approximately \$80,000,000 by 2020 (Table 3).

The South ARC recommendations have the potential to eliminate between \$26,000,000 (Option – D) and \$54,000,000 (Option – C) in future renewal needs depending on the combination of schools proposed for closure (Table 6). The Facility Condition Index (FCI), which is used to rate these schools, is the comparison of the renewal needs of the building relative to the replacement value of the building. The higher the FCI, the poorer the condition of the building.

The future renewal needs for the remaining schools would be addressed through the Board's annual renewal plan developed by the Facilities Management Department. The following tables identify

the current and projected renewal needs of all five schools contained within this accommodation review under both the current situation and each of the South ARC recommendations.

Table 6: Estimated Renewal Needs (Current Situation)

Secondary School	2010	2010 FCI	2020	2020 FCI
Barton	\$8,947,901	36%	\$13,666,882	55%
Hill Park	\$8,039,987	32%	\$12,930,653	45%
Mountain	\$4,475,959	36%	\$8,346,829	61%
Sherwood	\$19,391,447	60%	\$32,319,706	99%
Sir Allan MacNab	\$7,137,119	21%	\$12,726,720	37%
Total	\$47,992,413		\$79,990,790	

Table 7: Estimated Renewal Needs (South ARC Option – B)

Secondary School	2010	2010 FCI	2020	2020 FCI
Barton	\$8,947,901	36%	\$13,666,882	55%
Hill Park	\$8,039,987	32%	\$12,930,653	45%
Mountain	\$4,475,959	36%	\$8,346,829	61%
Sherwood	\$19,391,447	60%	-	-
Sir Allan MacNab	\$7,137,119	21%	-	-
Total	\$47,992,413		\$34,944,364	
Difference vs. Current Situation			(\$45,046,426)	

Table 8: Estimated Renewal Needs (South ARC Option – C)

Secondary School	2010	2010 FCI	2020	2020 FCI
Barton	\$8,947,901	36%	\$13,666,882	55%
Hill Park	\$8,039,987	32%	-	-
Mountain	\$4,475,959	36%	-	-
Sherwood	\$19,391,447	60%	-	-
Sir Allan MacNab	\$7,137,119	21%	\$12,726,720	37%
Total	\$47,992,413		\$26,393,602	
Difference vs. Current Situation			(\$53,597,188)	

Table 9: Estimated Renewal Needs (South ARC Option – D)

Secondary School	2010	2010 FCI	2020	2020 FCI
Barton	\$8,947,901	36%	-	-
Hill Park	\$8,039,987	32%	\$12,930,653	45%
Mountain	\$4,475,959	36%	\$8,346,829	61%
Sherwood	\$19,391,447	60%	\$32,319,706	99%
Sir Allan MacNab	\$7,137,119	21%	-	-
Total	\$47,992,413		\$53,597,188	
Difference vs. Current Situation			(\$26,393,602)	

Table 10: Estimated Renewal Needs (South ARC Option – E)

Secondary School	2010	2010 FCI	2020	2020 FCI
Barton	\$8,947,901	36%	\$13,666,882	55%
Hill Park	\$8,039,987	32%	\$12,930,653	45%
Mountain	\$4,475,959	36%	-	-
Sherwood	\$19,391,447	60%	-	-
Sir Allan MacNab	\$7,137,119	21%	-	-
Total	\$47,992,413		\$26,597,535	
Difference vs. Current Situation			(\$53,393,255)	

(c) Program

- In an attempt to evenly distribute programming across the entire South cluster of schools, the Committee has made the following recommendations regarding program type and placement.
 - o That there be an equitable distribution of athletic programs (health and wellness), of Advanced Placement (AP) programs, Programs of Choice (POC) and Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) across the cluster.
 - o That there be a Secondary French Immersion (FI) program centrally located within the South ARC cluster.

- o That there be appropriate Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions programs within the South ARC cluster to adequately service the number of students that would require them.

(d) Transportation

- The Board's existing Transportation Policy (**Appendix ##**) states that secondary students residing in "all developed urban areas" will be eligible for transportation services when the walking distance exceeds 3.2km. Approximately 74% of the total student population across the entire south cluster presently reside within walking distance to their home school, while 26% are eligible for transportation. The proposed South ARC options would result in the following:
- **Option – B:** Approximately 67% of the total student population in the South cluster residing within walking distance to their home school, thereby increasing the total number of students eligible for transportation to 33%.
- **Option – C:** Approximately 76% of the total student population in the South cluster residing within walking distance to their home school, thereby decreasing the total number of students eligible for transportation to 24%.
- **Option – D:** Approximately 65% of the total student population in the South cluster residing within walking distance to their home school, thereby increasing the total number of students eligible for transportation to 35%.
- **Option – E:** Approximately 76% of the total student population in the South cluster residing within walking distance to their home school, thereby decreasing the total number of students eligible for transportation to 24%.
- In addition, the South ARC believes that if the Board is offering programs of choice board-wide and across the cluster then they need to provide transportation equitably to all students.

There are a number of additional factors, such as the exact location of the new school site, which must be considered prior to determining the full impact that the South ARC recommendations will have on transportation.

(e) Funding

- The following table summarizes the estimated costs and potential funding sources associated with the South ARC recommendations. Depending on the recommendation, the proceeds of disposition from the sale of the school sites proposed for closure could potentially account for 42% (Option – C) to 63% (Option – E) of the total estimated funding required to undertake the project. The balance of funds would be requested from the Ministry of Education through the submission of a business case (Table 9). Should no additional funding become available through the Ministry of Education, the ARC requests that Board staff explore alternate funding strategies (i.e., community partnerships, private-public partnerships, etc.).

To date, the HWDSB has only received one letter of interest from a suitable organization willing to explore the possibility of a potential partnership as it relates to a new secondary school. The possibility of a partnership will be explored in more detail once the Board of Trustees have made their final decision and a suitable site for the new school has been located.

Table 9: South ARC Recommended Funding Strategy

	Estimated Costs	Option - B	Option - C	Option - D	Option - E
1.	New Construction (1,000 Pupil Place School)	\$25,415,442	\$25,415,442	\$25,415,442	\$25,415,442
2.	Land Acquisition (15 acre site @ \$400,000/acre)	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000
3.	Program Strategy	\$950,000	\$385,000	\$1,600,000	\$700,000
4.	Other (i.e. parkland dedication, moving costs, etc.)	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
5.	Sub Total (Line 1 through 4)	\$32,465,442	\$31,900,442	\$33,115,442	\$32,215,442
	Potential Funding Sources	Option - B	Option - C	Option - D	Option - E
6.	Proceeds of Disposition (@ \$400,000/acre)	\$(17,344,000)	\$(13,464,000)	\$(18,104,000)	\$(20,372,000)
7.	Ministry of Education (New School)	\$(25,415,442)	\$(25,415,442)	\$(25,415,442)	\$(25,415,442)
8.	Sub Total (Line 6 +7)	\$(42,759,442)	\$(38,879,442)	\$(43,519,442)	\$(45,787,442)
	Potential Cost to the Board (Line 5 – 8)	\$(10,294,000)	\$(6,979,000)	\$(10,404,000)	\$(13,572,000)

(f) Implementation

- All of the South ARC recommendations propose a June 2015 timeframe for school closures and a target opening date of September 2015 for the new school. The Committee has also recommended that in order to minimize disruption, no student should move until such time as construction of the new school is complete.

(g) Scope

- The schools identified in the Terms of Reference include: Barton - Hill Park – Mountain – Sherwood
- Sir Allan MacNab

(h) Timeline

- The final ARC report was submitted to the Director of Education on Friday, February 3, 2012.

4.0 Additional Considerations

As part of their recommended option, the South Accommodation Review Committee members request the Board of Trustees take the following considerations into account when making its final decision.

1. Mountain Program

Throughout the entire ARC process, the one issue that resonated most with Committee members was the safe environment and programming offered at Mountain Secondary School. To that end the South ARC has recommended (in options which include the closure of Mountain Secondary School) the creation of a post-ARC committee comprised of school council members, students, parents, staff and community members to inform direction around the transition, program, facilities and supports for the success of the Mountain students.

2. Westmount Secondary School

While outside of the South ARC *Terms of Reference*, the Committee members believe that Westmount Secondary School played a major role in their decision making process as approximately 82% of the school population resides within the South cluster. As a result, to further enhance Options B, D and E, the South ARC would like Trustees to engage the Westmount school community about the possibility of relocating the self-paced, self-directed program to an alternate school located in the south cluster. The impact of relocating the self-paced, self-directed program to another school in Options B, D and E can be found in **Appendices ##**.

3. Location of the New School

The South ARC has recommended that the new school be constructed on a site to be located south/east of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway. Although the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board does not currently own a site in this location, the South ARC believes that this is the ideal location and that constructing on one of the existing Board owned sites (Appendix ##) would not keep the school central to its proposed boundary.

4. *That no decision on school closures be made until a location for the new school site can be determined.*

(PROPOSED – based on input from Public Meeting #4)

5. *That in the absence of funding, the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board will meet with the school communities to outline the Boards proposed strategy. (PROPOSED – based on input from Public Meeting*

#4)

5.0 Summary

In March 2010, Trustees of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board initiated an Accommodation Review process which included Barton, Hill Park, Mountain, Sherwood and Sir Allan MacNab secondary schools. The Accommodation Review was initiated by Trustees to address the long-term viability of this group of schools. Over the course of the past decade, enrolment in the area has steadily declined as the surrounding communities mature while the renewal requirements at each of the facilities continue to escalate.

An Accommodation Review Committee, consisting of parents, principals, teachers, students, trustees, community representatives and non-teaching staff, began their work in January 2011 to develop an accommodation strategy for the five (5) schools identified within the Terms of Reference. Over the course of seventeen (17) Working Group Meetings, four (4) Public Meetings, school tours, community input through email, voicemail and public meetings, as well as countless hours spent reviewing background information the South ARC developed a number of possible accommodation options. Through further consultation and feedback from the community, the South ARC chose to recommend four alternate accommodation options, each of which involved the closure of some combination of schools in June 2015 and the construction of a new school with a target opening date of September 2015. The Committee originally considered several alternate options throughout the process and believes that their final recommendations best address the criteria established by

the ARC in addition to the criteria identified as part of the ARC mandate through the following:

- Considering the needs of all students across the South cluster of schools through the equal distribution of program, supports and infrastructure;
- Minimizing disruption to students and staff;
- Locating schools strategically in the South cluster to allow for equal access by all students;
- Eliminating the surplus pupil places and increasing the overall utilization rate at all of the schools;
- Incorporating input from public meetings and community presentations;
- Eliminating future renewal need schools from the Board's inventory

While the decision to close schools is never an easy process, the South ARC believes that the proposed accommodation strategies as outlined in this report provide a number of alternatives to address the long-term needs of all students residing in the South cluster.

6.0 List of Appendices