# Sherwood Secondary School Public Information Session #2 February 22, 2022

#### Land Acknowledgement

The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board acknowledges our presence on ancestral Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Confederacy land as determined by the Dish with One Spoon treaty.

The intent of this agreement is for all nations sharing this territory to do so responsibly, respectfully and sustainably in perpetuity.

We respect the longstanding relationships with the local Indigenous communities, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River.









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- Introductions and Greetings
- Review of this Process
- Review of History and Options

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- Themes Raised in Questions
- Summary
- Next Steps

#### Introductions and Greetings

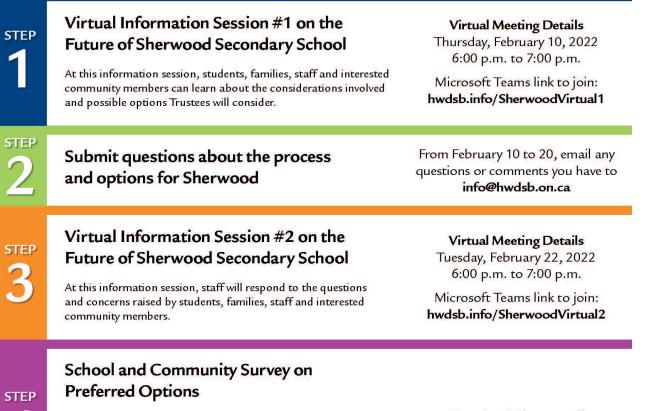
- Principal Wendall Gillis
- Vice Principals Dian Alexandre, Stephanie McNeill

• Superintendent of Student Achievement – Colin Pinkney

- Associate Director, Learning Services Sue Dunlop
- Senior Manager, Facilities Management David Anderson

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#### **Process for Community Feedback**



From February 23 to March 7, we will conduct a public survey on the community's preferred options for Sherwood's future.

**Ouestions?** Please email info@hwdsb.on.ca

This will help inform a final Trustee decision expected in March 2022, for action before September 2022.

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- The Ministry of Education's Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR) Guidelines identify exemptions to the PAR requirements.
- An exemption applies in this situation because the Barton and Sherwood sites are in the same catchment area.
- No public engagement is required but HWDSB felt community input was needed before this important decision is made.
- This feedback, through the results of the survey on preferred options, will help the Board make a final decision.



- This public engagement process will allow the public to provide feedback on the options being considered.
- The public will be able to provide feedback by completing the survey. The survey is not a vote. The survey provides information to Trustees as to the preferences of the public.
- The information session format was designed to provide community members with information that will help them make an informed decision on the preferred options.

- The information sessions are being held virtually via MS Teams.
  - There were over 250 attendees at the first information session. COVID restrictions would make in-person gatherings very difficult.
- We welcomed question submissions from Feb. 10-20. Taking individual questions at each session would not be a good use of time when almost 700 questions or comments were submitted.
- Answers to the most common questions will be provided today, by theme. More information will be posted online and shared with Trustees to assist their decision.



- No tours or pictures have been provided of the current schools.
  - Improvements will be made to both schools to bring in line with provincial benchmarks for school facilities.
  - Floor plans have been provided to give a sense of the layout and the space.
- Resources from the meetings and engagement process are posted at: <u>www.hwdsb.on.ca/sherwood/future-of-sherwood/</u>





Delegations

- A special board meeting will be held **Tuesday, March 22**, at 5:30 p.m.
- The purpose is to provide equitable access to delegation opportunities.
- Due to the anticipated volume of requests, delegations will have up to 5 minutes per request.
- Delegates interested will need to reapply for this specific date.
- Requests to speak must be submitted by email to Heather Miller (<u>hmiller@hwdsb.on.ca</u>) by noon Friday, March 18, and must address a topic in the agenda.
- Learn more at <u>www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/trustees/presenting-to-trustees/</u>



- It has been asked why Barton has not been declared surplus.
  - Barton was being used as a temporary holding school for Nora F. Henderson until October 2020.
  - At that time, a report was provided by staff related to the 3 options for Sherwood. It was decided that HWDSB would try one more time for funding to build a new school on the Sherwood site. If the Board was not successful, the public would be engaged, and a final decision would be made.
  - Therefore, the Barton site is required for either option 2 or 3 and the site cannot be declared surplus while there could be a need for it.

- Sherwood was one of the secondary schools that remained open as part of the secondary accommodation review in 2012
- Renewal needs were identified at Sherwood and the Board started asking for funding to build a replacement school on the same property
- In addition, as part of the Board capital plan, many significant renovations and secondary facility benchmark work has been completed in the 13 secondary schools remaining open.
  - Secondary facility benchmark work was approved by the Board to perform upgrades to school spaces to ensure that there is equity of access to program spaces at all secondary schools.
- When a feasibility study was completed at Sherwood to estimate the costs and timing of the benchmark work, it was determined that significant time was needed to complete the work with no staff/students in the building given the type of asbestos abatement required. The work could not be completed.

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#### **Question Theme: Funding**

- Funding Sources Available:
  - Capital Priorities
    - This is how the Board gets funding for new schools and additions
    - 100% funded by the Ministry based on individual business case submissions, when requested
    - Funding has been requested 8 times for a new build on the Sherwood site
  - School Renewal Allocation
    - This is how the Board gets funding for renewal work at all schools
    - This funding cannot be used for new schools or additions
    - Approximately \$8 million annual allocation

#### **Question Theme: Funding**

- Funding Sources Available:
  - School Condition Improvement (SCI)
    - This is how the Board gets funding to revitalize and renew building components like foundations, roofs, windows, plumbing, HVAC and electrical for all schools
    - This funding cannot be used for new schools or additions
    - Approximately \$18-20 million annual allocation
  - Proceeds of Disposition (POD)
    - The Board receives this money when it sells surplus properties
    - POD is not intended to be allocated to a specific project upon sale
    - Ministry Regulation requires Boards to spend POD on SCI related projects.
    - Boards can request an exemption to the Regulation from the Ministry but the exemptions are carefully considered
    - HWDSB has approximately \$35 million in POD in the August 31, 2021 financial statements

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# **HWDSB** Question Theme: Property Sale Process

- The future of either site is yet to be determined. Trustees may decide to declare the alternate location surplus once Sherwood students are in their permanent home.
- Once declared surplus, the Board may decide to sell the property and the Board must follow Regulation 444/98 and the Board's property disposition policy
- Future use of either site is difficult to predict, and estimates related to the future land value of either property are not available or part of the decision in front of Trustees at this time. It is estimated that the amount per acre will be approximately the same for both properties.



- We received a question about whether donations could be raised to help pay for capital improvements.
- Donations for capital projects are not supported at publicly funded school boards.
- This work is paid for through school renewal funding.

- Approximately \$2.5 million of renewal/SCI work has been completed at Sherwood over the past 10 years, including the following:
  - Windows and doors
  - Stucco repairs
  - Gymnasium floor replacement
  - Boiler upgrade
  - LED lighting upgrades
  - Barrier free parking spaces
  - Hot water heat exchangers
  - Learning Commons flooring
- An average of \$6.1 million of renewal/SCI work has been completed at the remaining secondary schools, over the past 10 years.

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	Sherwood Site	Barton Site
Total Renewal Work Required (per FCI data)	\$28.3 million	\$20 million
Total Renewal Work Required (High and Urgent)	\$11.6 million	\$5.1 million
Renewal Work Proposed	\$6 million	\$3.5 million
Benchmark Work	\$9 million	\$4.5 million

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Note:

\$422 million in total renewal needs across HWDSB

\$246 million in High and Urgent renewal needs across HWDSB

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- It is important to note that not all high and urgent renewal work is completed at all schools.
  - The high and urgent renewal needs of all the schools in the Board total \$246 million. The Board receives approximately \$28 million per year to address these needs plus any others that come up
  - The Board must prioritize renewal work
  - Items such as HVAC or water distribution systems are included in the high and urgent needs but replacement only typically happens locally where work is occurring. Other site underground services may also be identified as a need, but not a priority for renewal

- Sherwood Asbestos Abatement
  - The asbestos at Sherwood includes sprayed fireproofing on the underside of the floor or roof structure above. The asbestos removal process (abatement) involved is a manual (scraping) method which requires a type 3 enclosure.
  - The layout/HVAC system at Sherwood does not allow part of the school to be safely isolated while the work is being completed so students/staff have to be out of the building.
    - In other locations abatement and isolation of HVAC systems may be possible.
  - This is the main reason why the cost and the time required to do the renewal/benchmark work is more at Sherwood than at other schools



**Question Theme: Timing** 

- Renovations and renewal work at Barton could begin immediately following the Trustee decision in March 2022. Construction is expected to take 14 – 18 months to complete.
- Renovations and renewal work at Sherwood would begin once students and staff are out of the building in June 2022. Construction is expected to take 18 – 24 months to complete.

#### **Question Theme: Capacity**

	Sherwood Site	Barton Site
On the Ground (OTG) Capacity	1,374	1,092
Current Enrolment	1,253	-
Highest Projected Enrolment in the next 5 years	1,389	1,389
Additional Accommodation Need	_	8 classrooms*

\*Portables or permanent additions to be funded by the Ministry.

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- Projected enrolment is reviewed and adjusted on an annual basis. The highest projected enrolment in the next 5 years is 1,389.
- Many secondary schools operate at 110% of capacity without portables.
- It is expected that portables or an addition will be required at the peak enrolment on the Barton site.
  - The Ministry would fund this separately. Therefore, the costs would be covered by additional Ministry funding.

# **HWDSB** Question Theme: Program Space

- Both locations can accommodate all programs currently offered at Sherwood.
- Science labs, Learning Commons and gymnasiums will be aligned to the Board's Secondary Benchmark Strategy. Additional renovations will also be completed in the 'shop' areas of either school and will include items such as dust collection and any upgrades required to ensure the spaces meet the program benchmarks

### **HWDSB** Theme: Comparison of School Buildings

- The comments received from the public included comparisons between the two buildings and the public identified a number of spaces that they believed to be pros and cons of one building over another.
- Some of the pros identified related to Sherwood include:
  - Larger gymnasium spaces and workout area
  - Larger auditorium
  - Larger foyer
- Some of the pros identified related to Barton include:
  - Classrooms on the exterior of the building (windows for light and air circulation). Approx. 2/3 of the Sherwood classrooms are located on the interior of the building.

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#### **HWDSB** Theme: Comparison of School Properties

- A number of comparisons were made between the two properties by the public citing the pros of both properties.
- Some of the pros related to Sherwood include:
  - Close to City locations for different extra-curriculars and programs
  - Close to stairs
  - Property is larger
  - Location is away from major intersections
- Some of the pros related to Barton include:
  - The ability to use the Beasley property since there are unfenced areas
  - The school is located near a major bus line
- Both properties will receive upgraded sports fields as part of the secondary facility benchmark work.

#### **HWDSB** Question Theme: Neighbourhood Change

- Some residents wonder how a change in the location of Sherwood may affect their property value.
- Home values are not within our mandate to comment on given the unknown future for either location.
- It would be premature to speculate on what changes would occur at either site if they were no longer used for an HWDSB school building.

# **HWDSB** Question Theme: Other Options

- A number of questions asked about other site considerations such as Hill Park
- Hill Park is not in the same catchment and has not been and will not be considered
- The building is now named Hill Park Learning Centre and houses many programs, including Continuing Education, Alternative Education, the Welcome Centre and the HWDSB Archives



# **HWDSB** Question Theme: French Immersion

- This process is not a process to review HWDSB's French Immersion boundaries or locations
  - An extensive process has taken place to determine the location and the boundaries of French Immersion at HWDSB
    - An additional location for secondary French Immersion would not support a robust French Immersion program for HWDSB and the Board is not considering adding another location at this time
    - The current boundaries support a robust program in both locations

- The walking distance of the Board for Secondary Students is 3.2 km
- The walkability is similar at both locations. A review of the past five years shows that more students have lived within walking distance of the Barton site. The walkability to each location will change each year depending on where the students attending Sherwood live.
- French Immersion transportation is provided in a variety of ways
  - The main determinant is the number of students coming from an area and the fact that the Board policy states that a student shouldn't spend more than 60 minutes on a bus.

#### **Question Theme: Transitions**

- The Board noted a number of concerns about transition, whether there is a permanent or temporary move.
- A transition committee will be set up immediately after the Trustee decision. Membership will include students, administration, superintendent, ward trustee, staff, School Council, Home and School, and a community partner.
- The purpose of the transition committee is to provide input and advice to the superintendent and principals to make any transition as smooth as possible.



- Completing most renewal work and the secondary facility benchmark work is not feasible at the current site while students/staff are in the building.
- There are many factors to consider in deciding where Sherwood Secondary School should be located.
  - These factors should be considered when deciding on the preferred option.
- The public will be surveyed on their preferred option.
  - The survey results will be one of the factors that is considered in determining the best accommodation option for current and future students at Sherwood Secondary School.



Delegations

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#### **Next Steps**

#### School and Community Survey on Preferred Options

From **February 23 to March 7, 2022**, we will conduct a public survey on three options for Sherwood.

1. Keep Sherwood students where they are and do enough repairs and upgrades to maintain building safety.

2. Move students temporarily (approximately two years) to the Barton site at 75 Palmer Road while Sherwood is renovated.

3. Move Sherwood to the Barton site after the Barton building is renovated.

#### How to have your say:

- Complete the online survey at hwdsb.info/SherwoodSurvey
- Email your preference to research@hwdsb.on.ca
- Mail a written submission to Research and Analytics, P.O. Box 2558 Hamilton, ON L8N 3L1.

Thank you for helping us ensure that current and future generations of Sherwood students have access to quality learning and teaching environments to maximize learning and program delivery.

#### Learn more at www.hwdsb.on.ca/sherwood

Questions? Please email info@hwdsb.on.ca or call 905-527-5092.

QR Code to Survey



Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting – March 10, 2022 Survey results will help committee make a final decision.

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