

HWDSB

November 15, 2016

Dear Parents, Guardians or Caregivers,

Trustees at Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) have approved a motion to start accommodation reviews for elementary schools in West Hamilton City.

The accommodation reviews mark HWDSB's ongoing commitment to renewing school facilities and working directly with the community to shape education for future generations of students. The schools under review have served us well for decades and we now have an opportunity to revitalize our programs, renew our facilities and maximize our partnerships.

HWDSB was recently awarded \$26 million in funding to revitalize its school facilities as a result of accommodation proposals. This is on top of more than \$100 million of additional Ministry funding over the past five year. The Ministry of Education is in the process of rolling out a \$750 million multi-year funding opportunity for Boards looking to revitalize school communities.

The initial and alternative options in Monday's report are starting points that the community will help shape before any proposals are made to the Ministry. The initial options are:

West Hamilton City
Additions/renovations to Bennetto and Cathy Wever Revitalize Central, Earl Kitchener, Ryerson and Strathcona Close Hess Street

Boundary reviews will take place to accommodate student in remaining schools. Status quo and three additional options can be found online at www.hwdsb.on.ca/reviews.

Our goal is to examine possibilities that might include consolidating school sites, additions and upgrades or possible new school construction. This may also allow for new programs and opportunities for students.

You are crucial to this process and we want you involved every step of the way. We will share information about the review process, invite you to get involved in a variety of ways and remain open to your input, feedback and questions.

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The recently revised review process allows us to directly receive community input. We will work with our community on final proposals and we have an increased focus on facility partnerships, open communication and the aim to align HWDSB with the needs of our community.

You can stay informed on the website www.hwdsb.on.ca/reviews.

We look forward to the opportunities ahead and our bright future in education, together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd White". The signature is stylized and includes a large loop at the end.

Todd White
Chair of the Board

Corporate Communications