

HWDSB

**East Hamilton & Lower Stoney Creek FI Boundary Review
Public Meeting
Thursday October 26, 2017
6:00 pm**

**Glendale Secondary School
145 Rainbow Drive, Hamilton**

Attendance:

HWDSB Resource Staff – Jeff Gillies, Sue Dunlop, Paul Denomme, Ellen Warling, Robert Fex, Ian Hopkins, Rob Faulkner

Trustees – Todd White, Jeff Beattie, Ray Mulholland

Public – 51, **Advisory Panel** - 7

Recording Secretary – Kristen Hebner

Start-Up Time: 6:10 pm

Welcome

Introduction of Planning staff, Superintendents, Trustees, BR Advisory Panel and thanks to team for support and dedication.

Meeting Goals

- Discuss boundary review (BR) process, French Immersion (FI) Guiding Principles, Board Resolutions, Schools in Lower Stoney Creek (LSC) and East Hamilton, Options for FI schools.
- Later in the meeting, attendees will have the opportunity to view option maps and provide comments on Post-It notes.

[See Meeting Presentation](#)

THINK-A-THON

Jeff Gillies asked attendees to visit wall maps to review options and make comments with sticky notes at each station – the following Questions & Answers occurred prior to the exercise:

Question & Answer:

Q: Why does a boundary line exist south of Glen campus?

A: This was determined as a result of the recent East Hamilton/LSC PAR in 2016.

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Q: What is the transportation policy?

A: Determined by distances and walking boundaries, HSR for Gr. 7-8.

Q: Why is new school on Glen site not being considered for new FI program?

A: Board resolution states that program will be relocated.

Q: Why was this resolution made?

A: This is not a part of today's agenda and to review concern with Trustees.

Q: Why were other options not considered?

A: Attendees' opinions/suggestions are encouraged to be shared during think-a-thon activity.

Q: How was advisory panel formed and why isn't there a representative from AM Cunningham?

A: No final decision will be made at this time. Transition committee will be formed after Trustees make final decision.

Q: What do timelines look like?

A: Timelines vary and are dependent on many factors such as construction, planning, etc.

Think-a-thon: Commenced at 6:52 pm

Q&A/Wrap-up/Next Steps:

Sue Dunlop explains that trustees are very open and willing to listen to what public/parents have to say, and that they are welcome them to voice concerns. Ideas and/or concerns that are thought of at a later date can be sent to: boundaryreview@hwdsb.on.ca

Question & Answer

Q: How quickly will transitions begin after trustees have approved?

A: Very quickly.

Q: Will Glen Brae close this year?

A: Decision has not yet been made.

Q: Will all transitions take place immediately?

A: It is possible for different school transitions to happen at different times.

Q: Has there been consideration for AM Cunningham FI 1-8?

A: The facility is not big enough. There would have to be a substantial addition and the HWDSB does not have funding from Ministry. It is a complicated and long process that may involve a PAR.

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Q: Has the FI 6-8 transition been finalized at WH Ballard?

A: No, but if a school does not have space, the program cannot be housed at the facility.

Q: Not giving information to see what other schools could accommodate FI in the area?

A: The maps presented indicate schools that have space and those that do not. The green schools display facilities that have space.

Q: Memorial City?

A: Does not have room – high capacity.

Q: Why are RT schools more widely offered as single tract in comparison to FI single tract?

A: FI is an optional program.

Q: What does this mean for FI resources?

A: Resources are determined by classroom and as transitions occur.

Q: For families with multiple students in different grades, how would transitions work?

A: Potential for all scenarios to occur.

Q: How quickly will Board decision be communicated to parents?

A: The Board Meeting is available via live streaming and is open to the public. Information resulting from meeting will be available online by following next day.

Q: Will there be out-of-catchment exceptions for FI families with children in JK/SK?

A: No. FI and RT students in the same family must attend their home school – this includes JK/SK.

Q: Will this be the only feedback meeting?

A: Transitions will be public and communicated within each impacted school.

Q: Current multiple-student families concerned with transitions. This will be easier for new families entering into the program, but not for families at existing transitioning FI schools. Would like to know decisions as soon as they are made.

A: Decisions have not yet been finalized. Options are still under review and unknowns continue to exist.

Adjournment: 8:00 pm