

SCHOOL TRANSITION COMMITTEE MEETING #3
(Dr. J. Seaton / Beverly Central / Queen's Rangers)

Tuesday May 14, 2019
5:30 pm

Dr. John Seaton School
1279 Seaton Road, Sheffield

In Attendance:

Trustee – Paul Tut, Ward 13
Superintendent – Jane Macpherson
Manager, Capital Projects – Nadeen Shehaiber
Executive Assistant, Recorder – Michele Lambie
Principal, Dr. Seaton/Beverly Central – Paul Clemens
Temporary Principal, Queen's Rangers – Michelle Rodney Bartalos
Vice-Principal, Beverly Central – Barb McVittie
School Council Rep, Dr. Seaton – Susan Moelker
Community Rep, Dr. Seaton – Amanda VanderHarst
Teacher Rep, Dr. Seaton – Serina Andrade
Community Rep, Beverly Central – Lisa Brenn
School Council Rep, Beverly Central – Melissa Slote
Non-Teacher Rep, Beverly Central – Kailee Wolnowski
Teacher Rep, Beverly Central – Tamara Baggio
Teacher Rep, Queen's Rangers – Jamie Davy
School Council Rep, Queen's Rangers – Barb Firman
Parent Rep, Queen's Rangers – Mary Anne Somerville
Community Rep, Queen's Rangers – Sarah Thomas

Regrets:

Trustee –Chair of the Board, Trustee Wards 11 & 12 Alex Johnstone
Principal, Queen's Rangers – Tammy McLaughlin
Non-Teacher Rep, Dr. Seaton – Tracy Fairhall
Student Rep, Dr. Seaton – Cameron Andree

5:34 pm Start Up

1. Welcome and Introductions:

- Superintendent Jane Macpherson thanked the Committee for their commitment and contributions through these initial stages of our transition process
- Tonight will be our final Transition meeting for this school year, and will recommence in the fall 2019
- Jane Macpherson welcomed Trustee Paul Tut, and conveyed Chair/Trustee Alex Johnstone's regrets of being unable to attend tonight's meeting
- Ms. Macpherson introduced Nadeen Shehaiber, Manager, Capital Projects who was invited to share construction updates
- Minutes from these Transition Committee meetings will be posted on the Board's website

2. School Closing and Celebration dates:

Principals confirmed their School Closing and Celebration dates:

- Dr. Seaton – Closing Ceremony on June 10th at 1:25 pm
- Beverly Central – Closing Celebration *TBD* (June 20th at 1:30 pm, or June 20th at 1:30 pm)
- Queen's Rangers – Closing Ceremony on June 25th at 2:45 pm

3. Updates:

Board Decision – New School Name

- On May 13, 2019, the Board of Trustees final decision and announcement of the new school name "Rockton Elementary School". Consequently, Dr. J. Seaton and Beverly Central will be referred to as 'campuses' under the official name of Rockton Elementary

Facilities – Construction Update letter to the school communities

A Construction Update letter (May 14/19) was included in the agenda package and was shared with the Transition Committee:

- In June 2014, the Board of Trustees approved the closure of Beverly Central and Dr. John Seaton and the construction of a new school on the Beverly Community Centre site (Rockton Elementary School), to ensure efficient use of space and resources
- Rockton Elementary School is being constructed on the City of Hamilton property, off Hwy. 8 in Rockton and is part of a joint community project with the city of Hamilton
- The school will be designed to accommodate 485 students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 in an approximately 40,000 square foot space
- Construction of the new school started in summer 2017. However, building delays were a result of the extreme cold winter months that froze the ground, preventing the construction company from placing the footings that are required for pouring the

foundation. Once the ground was thawed enough, construction resumed and will be continuing until the school is complete

- Initial target date of the students and staff occupancy into Rockton Elementary was January 2020, but with the pause in construction, the timeline for the school to be finished has been moved into spring 2020. This delay means that students will remain at either Dr. Seaton or Beverly Central campuses for the entire 2019-2020 school year and will move into Rockton Elementary in September 2020

Facilities: Nadeen Shehaiber, Manager, Capital Projects - Q&A

Q1. Will there be air conditioning in the new school?

A1. Yes, there will be air conditioning.

Q2. Can the historic brass bells from Dr. Seaton, Beverly Central and Queen's Rangers be incorporated in the building of the new school?

A.2. Nadeen Shehaiber has been in consultation with the architect, and is looking for direction from the Transition Committee on how they want the bells displayed, in keeping within a limited budget. To ensure the preservation of the bells, members suggested that they be kept inside the school at the front entrance in a dedicated trophy case. *A take-away item for Nadeen Shehaiber, for further follow-up with Facilities and architect.*

Q3. Can the Board remove the outside brass bells at Queen's Rangers and Beverly Central and store them at the Board now? In order to preserve the condition of the bells that are currently positioned on a crumbling base, and as a preventative measure against vandalism.

A3. *Nadeen Shehaiber will take this away and investigate with Facilities Department.*

Q4. How will the (2) monuments at the new site be moved without damaging them?

A4. Facilities are currently working on a plan to safely move these historic structures.

Q5. Is there a timeline from the Ministry of Transportation?

A5. Facilities are currently applying for permits and approvals, requiring coordination with phone lines services, and do not see any unforeseen problems at this point.

Q6. Will there be (2) washrooms in each of the Kindergarten rooms?

A6. The architect plans have been set. There will be (1) washroom per FDK room.

Q7. How many classrooms are in the new school?

A7. There are 17 classrooms and 3 FDK rooms for a total of 20 rooms; includes Arts and Science rooms. Note that Music and Library are not part of this count as they are defined as 'unloaded' rooms.

Q8. Will there be a Special Needs Class?

A8. There will be no assigned Special Needs Class for next year, as the majority of current students have reached the age to move to another school, and those remaining will be attending a school closer to their homes. A dedicated Special Needs Class is dependent on the needs of the System, and the new building will allow space for future programming should it be deemed necessary.

Q9. In regards to the finishing process of the school section, will there be ongoing construction at the Community site area next year?

A9. At this point it is difficult to predetermine when the Community section will be complete, but the outer 'shell' will be complete; it is dependent on how much of the interior finishing is still required. However, there is a separate access for construction vehicles going in and out of the Community section, with the priority of health and safety for staff and students.

Q10. Is there a timeline for when the play areas will be complete?

A10. Sod will be laid, before the school opening.

Q11. Will there be a permanent fence?

A11. Yes, there will be a permanent chain-link fence. The FDK areas are fully enclosed and have a combination of artificial turf and asphalt.

Q12. Will the outside of the school be ready, prior to student/staff entry in September 2020, as opposed to the construction of Dundas Valley?

A12. Yes. Should there be outside areas that students cannot have access temporarily, this will be managed by the Principal. Dundas Valley was a much larger build, requiring a different type of construction process.

Q13. Will there be sinks in the classrooms?

A13. There are no sinks in Elementary classrooms, only specialty classes that include Music, Art, Spec Ed and FDK rooms.

Q13. Will there be portables?

A13. No. There is enough room for all of the students, including lockers.

4. Topics of discussion brought forth by Transition Committee:

- **Open House:** Dr. Seaton had a great collaboration of the different school communities at their Open House
- **Virtual Tours/Skype:** Videos have already been shared between Dr. Seaton, Queen's Rangers and CH Bray
- **Pen Pals:** Currently, this activity is 'on hold' until there is an opportunity for the different school communities to come together (e.g. Playday), to ensure a more consistent ratio with common grade students
- **Class Profiles:** Key points are currently being shared with school staffs
- **Staff Collaboration:** School staffs continue to have regular communication
- **Sharing Resources:** In the process of creating an inventory of schools' resources; equipment/items that are not used will be sent to the Board
- **Technology:** Discussion on Smart Boards from Queen's Rangers coming to Dr. Seaton, however it is dependent on the expense for installation and wiring requirements
- **Playday:** Currently working on the logistics of the proposed date of June 6th; most challenging is arranging bussing as it is the same day as the Special Olympics and therefore no regular buses are available. Also, CH Bray are having a special evening event on that date. Consequently, may have to change the date which is difficult due to year end trips and graduations. *Principals will take this away for further follow-up with Transportation*

5. Other Items:

- Colours/Branding/Mascot to be determined in the Fall following Board policy and guidelines, and including support from Corporate Communications
- Letter to school communities with the Board of Trustees' announcement of the new school names (May 15th)

6. Next Meeting:

Transition Committee – TBD in September 2019

6:19 pm Closing

