

Thursday, February 6, 2020  
6:00 p.m.  
Westdale Secondary School

**Attendance:**

**HWDSB Resource Staff** - Susan Dunlop, Paul Denomme

**Trustees** - Christine Bingham

**Recording Secretary** - Pat Stones

**Parent Representatives** - Emma Sharp (Westdale), Shelley Clemence (AM Cunningham)

**Regrets** - Kathy Archer, Michelle Visca, Carole Paikin-Miller, Maria Felix Miller, Beth Woof, Sandra Constable, Lisa Urban, Joshua Connor, Jenn George, Dian Alexandre, Robert Fex, Brigitte Berkenbosch

**Members of Public** – Sarah Sirkett (Ryerson, Westdale), Alan Wetherald (Ryerson, Westdale), John Holland (Glen Brae)

**Meeting Start Time:** 6:06 p.m.

**Welcome and Introductions**

- Paul Denomme and Sue Dunlop welcomed everyone and introductions and regrets were made
- Three members of the public were in attendance
- 14 students impacted – every family was contacted about tonight’s meeting

**Background**

- Board of Trustees approved a Secondary French Immersion Boundary Review on September 30, 2019. This was a direct result of the West Hamilton City Pupil Accommodation Review motion in June 2017
- Advisory panel to meet twice: met January 29<sup>th</sup>, and will meet directly following this meeting to review community feedback and prepare a final recommendation to go forward to Board of Trustees for approval

**Secondary French Immersion Boundary Public Meeting**

- Current and proposed Westdale and Sherwood French Immersion Secondary Boundaries were provided on a map
- Secondary boundary was not aligned to elementary at the same time as trustees can only make decision for schools that are within Pupil Accommodation Review. As secondary school was not within boundary, needed to be dealt with separately
- Currently going through transition for FI through PARs in Lower Stoney Creek, East Hamilton
- Transportation was discussed. Currently using HSR bus pass for students in Gr 7-12. School bus for students in Grade 1-6, with parent responsible to get student to closest existing school bus

stop. Exceptions cannot be made to the transportation policy – but trustees do review as necessary. Parents would like to have exceptions made when Grade 6 students are walking far

- In small groups, the following 3 questions were discussed:
  - 1. Which are pros and cons of the new boundaries?**
    - Nice that AMC students will continue on the same tract with their friends
    - Not a lot of cons.
    - Pros:
      - all connections are lower city heading west, better than heading to east mountain
      - AMC students will continue on same tract with friends
  - 2. Are there other options to consider?**
    - Parents would like to keep all their kids together – believe this recommendation does that.
  - 3. What might we consider to support students in transition activities?**
    - If Glen Brae students ask to go to Sherwood, accommodate their request
    - Respect that it is a small group, and students should be able to go to school of their choice
    - 2 day orientation session was offered at Westdale previously – continue that prior to September
    - Every secondary school offers at least one day for Grade 8s – ensure we get FI students to the right school on the right date
    - This is a very small group and very straight forward – parents are glad they are not in the position of other parents, e.g. Ancaster
    - Option sheets – currently figuring out this process in relation to job action. We will ensure students get the appropriate option sheet, and get registered in the right school

## Next Steps

- Advisory panel will meet immediately following this meeting and form a recommendation
- Sue Dunlop and Bob Fex will prepare a recommendation report to present to trustees – February or March for final decision
- Links to HWDSB websites were provided. Will let parents know when this report is going to Board

**Adjournment-** 6:50 p.m. Parents were thanked for attending.



Advisory Committee meeting began at 6:50 p.m.

Minutes from January 29<sup>th</sup> meeting were distributed and approved. Will be posted to HWDSB website.

Recommendation:

Go forward with recommendation as proposed.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:52 pm