

Enrolment Projection Methodology

Enrolment projection calculations are comprised of two main components - the historic school community data and new residential development student data. Enrolment projection software (Paradigm STGI - SPS Plus) allows staff to analyze historical enrolment trends and examine yield rates (by dwelling type) of residential development when projecting enrolments. The software analyzes and summarizes the grade by grade, year by year, progression of students. Each school and community exhibits different trends or movements which are used to create retention rates for each grade at each school. The retention rates capture any gains or losses in enrolment that a school may experience as students move from one grade to another. Retention rate methodology is a common practice in Ontario School Boards.

New residential development forecasts allow planning staff the ability to estimate the number of students generated by new development. Planning staff apply historical student yields (by unit type) to municipally approved development to project the estimated numbers of students generated by housing units. The yields are broken down by housing types which include single-detached, semi-detached, townhome and apartment. Each community has its own unique yield. Historical yields are determined using Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) data and historical student data. The MPAC data indicates the count and unit type of homes in the community and staff then compare the number of existing students living in the houses. By comparing the two sets of data, a student yield for new residential homes can be determined and applied to the residential forecast.

Student enrolments are revised annually to reflect current actual student counts, and calculation variables are re-examined for adjustments that may be required. Enrolment projections are compared against historical enrolments, population forecasts, Census and birth data to validate that population information is trending in a similar manner.

Any approved Board decision such as school closures, program or boundary changes are annually incorporated into the student enrolment projections. There are several other school specific assumptions captured in the projections as well. These assumptions can include programing (e.g. French Immersion), Board policy (e.g. Out of Catchment) or Ministry initiatives (e.g. full-day kindergarten). Multiple forms of current data are incorporated into enrolment projections but annual enrolment projections can be impacted by unexpected circumstances. Events such as economic recession/growth, increased immigration and real estate booms are challenging to anticipate and capture in enrolment projections. When these events impact school enrolment, staff review the short and long-term effects on accommodation and enrolment projections.

Enrolment projections can be created for a variety of time frames; one year, five-year or ten-year projections are typical time frames used by the Planning, Accommodation & Rentals Division. An added feature of the projection software also allows staff to create scenarios during accommodation and/or boundary reviews to show the effect of school closures or boundary changes on student enrolment.

Student Yields

HWDSB’s student yield analysis for projected new residential development provides the actual student yields for a specified geography using the housing data from MPAC and the Board’s student data. The MPAC and student data are both geocoded (digitally referenced on a map) which allows for matching to be done on each individual property to determine the units that have HWDSB students. From this, yield factors are calculated based on dwelling types (single family homes, semidetached, townhomes, and apartments) to determine and become comprised within projected student enrolments.

Residential development yields will vary based on community and are calculated accordingly. The following graphic illustrates the Board- wide average student yields for elementary and secondary – they represent a single-family home yield and a townhome yield. As per the current Board-wide yield, 4 new single-family homes would yield approximately 1 HWDSB elementary aged student (4×0.26) and approximately 5 townhome units for 1 student (5.3×0.20). Yields for secondary school students are considerably lower, equating to .10 students per new single-family home and .06 students per new townhome.



Student Apportionment

HWDSB’s apportionment of students compared to our co-terminus Board is illustrated in the table below by elementary and secondary panel. HWDSB’s elementary apportionment has been steady at approximately 65% over the past 5 school years. HWDSB’s secondary apportionment has averaged approximately 57% over the past 5 years. Please note that the enrolment figured below are average daily enrolment.

Elementary Apportionment						Secondary Apportionment					
Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board						Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board					
2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Avg	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Avg
35,989	36,606	35,288	36,088	36,998	36,194	13,521	13,300	13,398	13,693	14,093	13,601
65.6%	65.6%	64.9%	65.4%	65.9%	65.4%	57.2%	56.4%	56.5%	57.3%	57.6%	56.7%
Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board						Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board					
2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Avg	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Avg
18,860	19,202	19,118	19,106	19,182	19,094	10,111	10,287	10,305	10,219	10,364	10,257
34.4%	34.4%	35.1%	34.6%	34.1%	34.6%	42.8%	43.6%	43.5%	42.7%	42.4%	43.3%

Apportionment enrolment data from 2023-24 Grants for Student Needs Technical Paper.

On the Ground Capacity

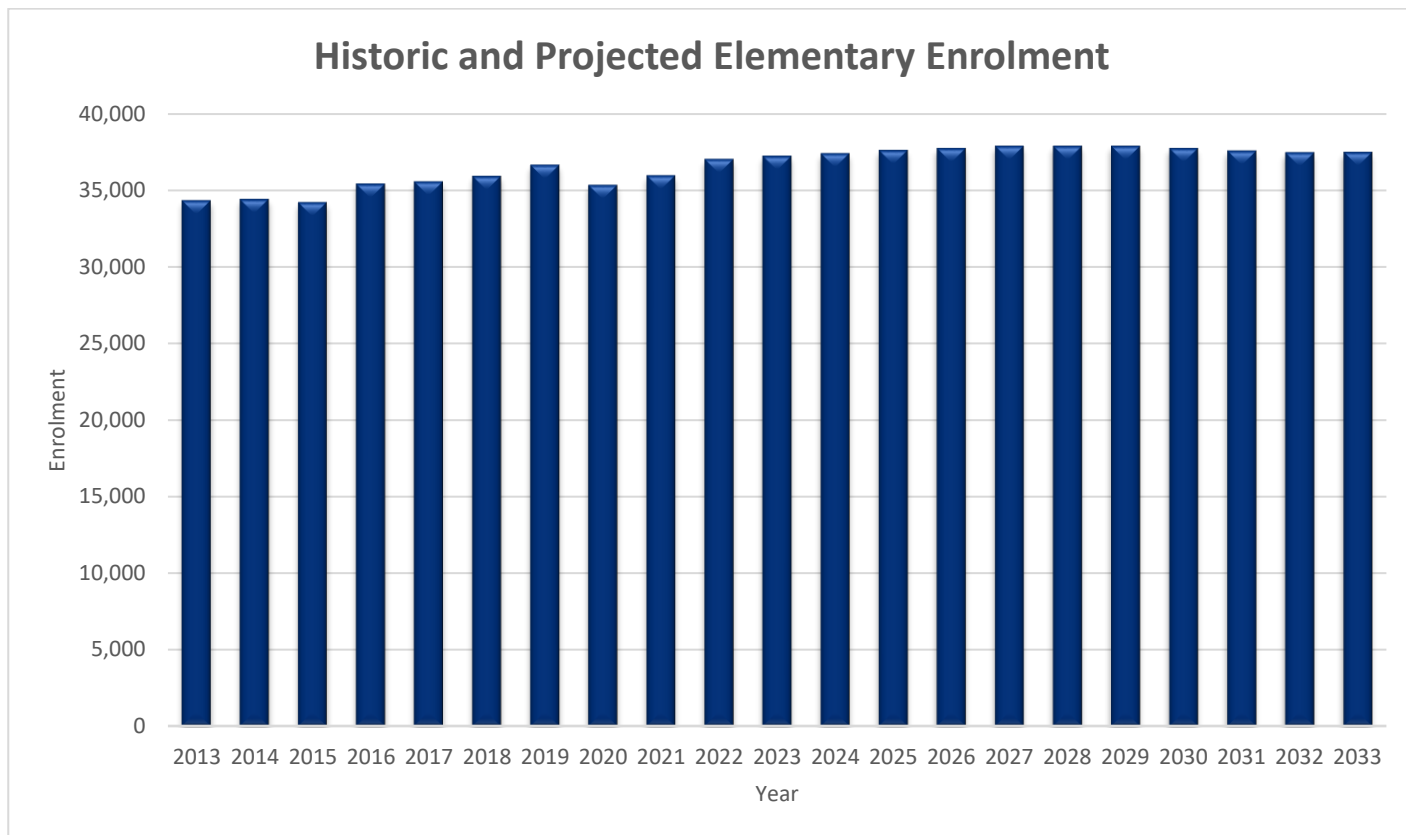
On the Ground Capacity (OTG) is the number that the Ministry of Education uses to quantify the number of students a school can accommodate. The OTG represents number of students the permanent structure of a school building can accommodate, by instructional space, and as per room loadings set by the Ministry of Education. The various types of rooms have a different loading and they differ between elementary and secondary panels. The total of the rooms in a school, and their assigned capacities are added together to calculate its OTG. Loading examples of classroom types for elementary and secondary panels are shown below. Please note this does not include changes based on the Ministry of Education’s March 2019 announcement of potentially increased secondary class size caps.

Instructional Space	Elementary Loading	Secondary Loading
Kindergarten	26	-
Classroom	23	21
Special Education	9	9
Resource Room	12	12

School OTGs are recorded in a Ministry database that tracks information for all schools in Ontario. The database, entitled Education Capital Information System (ECIS), indicates a capacity for each school based on the number and type of instructional spaces it has (see above table).

Elementary Historic and Projected Enrolment

The following graph illustrates the elementary historical and projected enrolment of Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board from 2012 to 2031. Current and projected enrolments are as of October 31st, 2022.



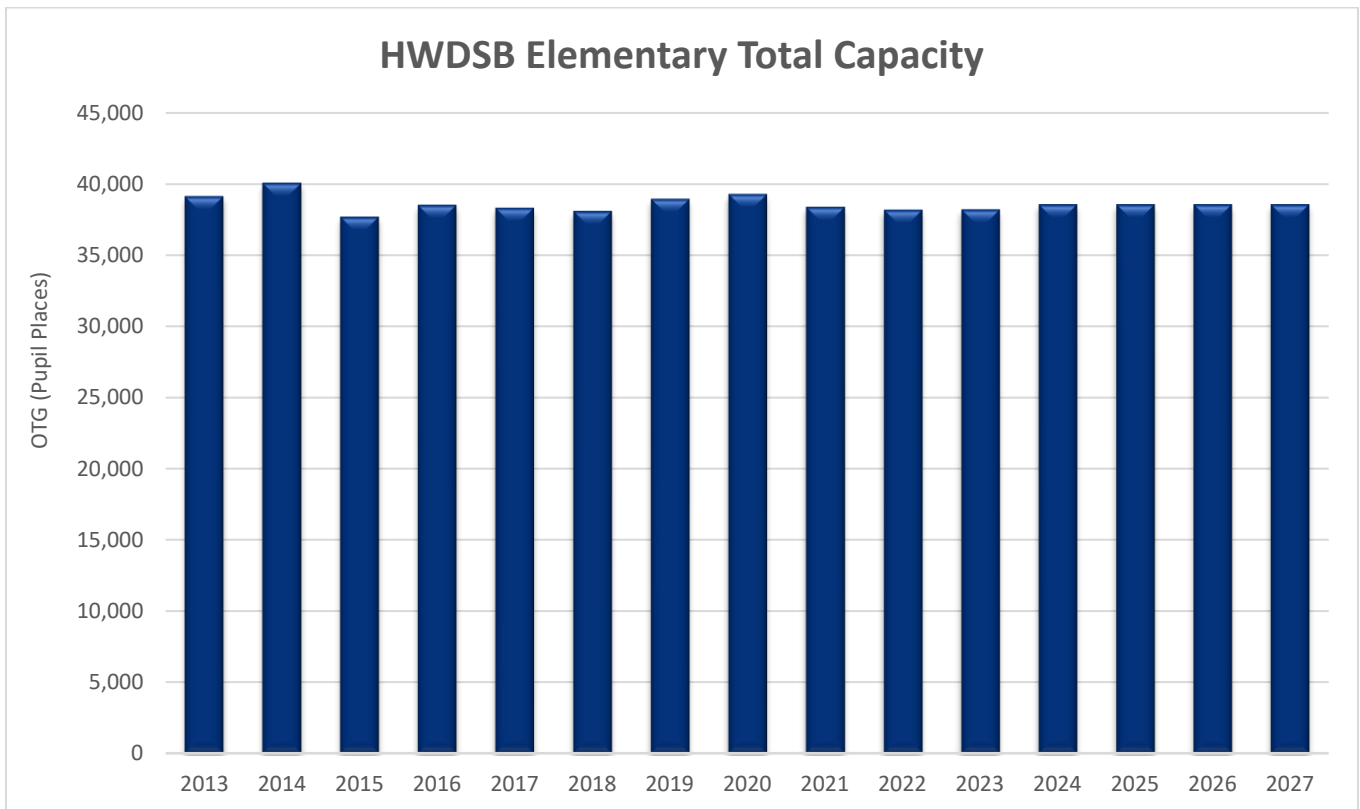
From 2013 to 2015 HWDSB’s elementary enrolment remained relatively stable between 34,000 and 34,500 students. In 2016, HWDSB’s elementary enrolment grew beyond 35,000 for the first time since 2008. In 2020, elementary enrolment reduced to just over 35,000 students. The drop in enrolment can most likely be contributed to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022, elementary enrolment recovered from the impacts of the pandemic and was more in line with previously projected elementary totals. 2022 total elementary enrolment was 37,000 students which exceed pre-pandemic elementary enrolment totals.

HWDSB’s elementary enrolment total is projected to grow at a slow yet stable rate for the next ten years. Factors influencing projected enrolment growth include residential development, recent increased immigration and a change in demographics as described in section 1.1. Although the total enrolment is projected to grow, individual school enrolments will fluctuate based on neighbourhood trends and new residential development.

Elementary Capacity

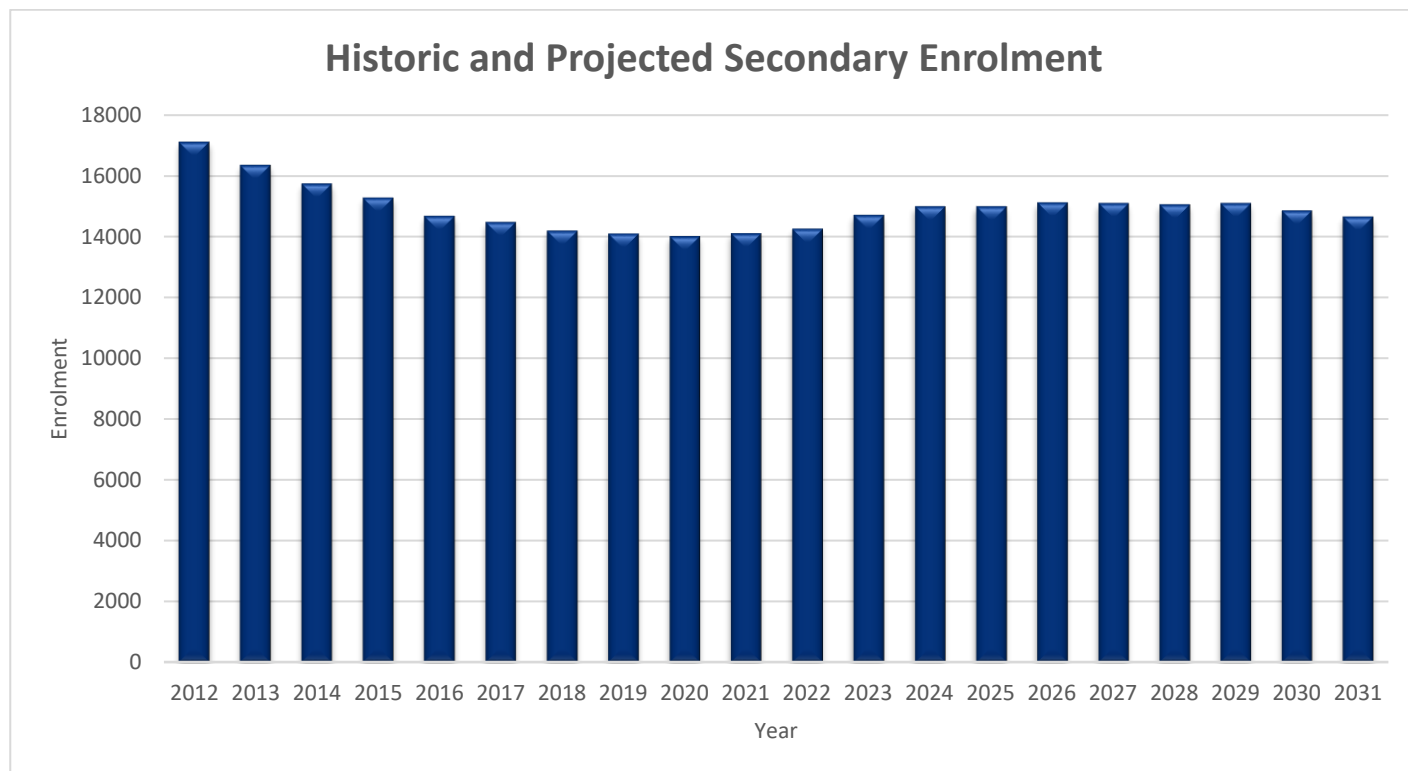
Elementary school capacity has undergone several changes over past decade. From 2010 to 2015 Full Day Kindergarten was implemented. During this period, kindergarten class sizes increased from 20 to 26 which increased the capacity of schools. Since 2011, HWDSB engaged in a series of accommodation reviews which resulted in new schools, school closures and additions. Since 2011, HWDSB has completed 13 elementary school additions, constructed 8 new elementary schools and closed 25 elementary schools. An increase in elementary capacity will occur once the new schools in Upper Stoney Creek and Binbrook are completed.

Based on the approved closures and school construction, overall capacity of the elementary panel in Hamilton will increase slightly to just over 38,600 pupil places by 2025 due to the construction of the new elementary school in Upper Stoney Creek. Elementary enrolment beyond 2025 is projected to be stable at approximately 37,000 students resulting in a projected 98% Board wide elementary utilization. This calculation only includes approved capital projects with known completion dates and does not include identified future schools in Winona and Waterdown which do not yet have capital funding in place. Binbrook II will be included when land purchase and construction timelines are identified.



Secondary Historic and Projected Enrolment

The following graph demonstrates the secondary historic and projected enrolment of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board from 2012 to 2031. Current and projected enrolments are as of October 31st, 2022.

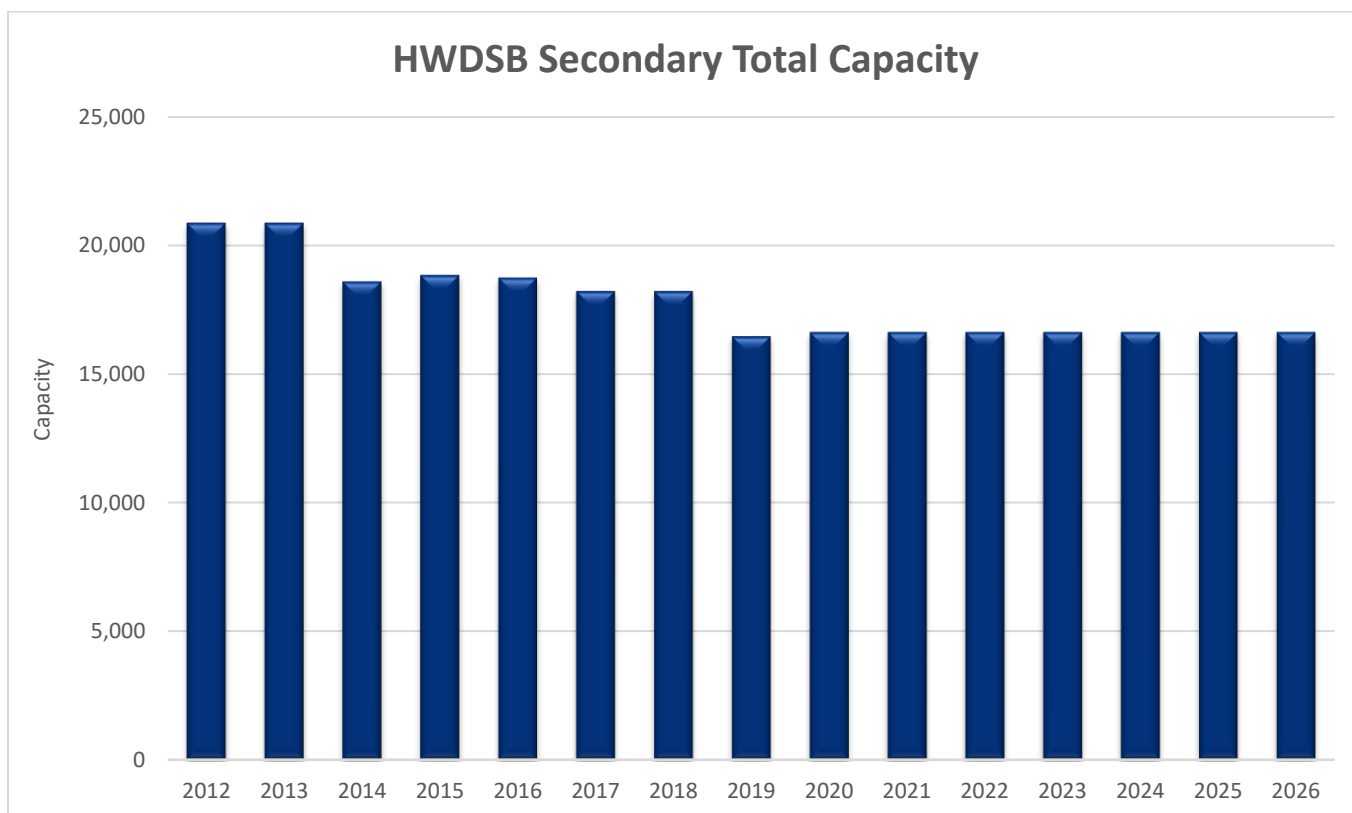


Since 2012, HWDSB secondary enrolment has decreased by nearly 3,000 students. The continued decline in enrolment has stabilized over the past few school years with secondary enrolment totals remaining steady at around 14,000 students. As total secondary enrolment stabilizes, projections show a slight increase into the mid 2020's. The secondary enrolment projections are expected to increase due to the projected larger elementary cohorts, residential development and population growth. By 2026, it is projected that the secondary enrolment will be approximately 15,000 students.

Secondary Capacity

From 2004 to 2012, the Board’s total secondary panel capacity remained stable around approximately 20,000 pupil places. Significant changes to secondary capacity have taken place since 2012. Construction of a new wing at Waterdown District High School in 2012. The closures of Hill Park, Parkside and Parkview in 2014 and in 2015, an addition was completed at Saltfleet Secondary School. Mountain Secondary closed in June of 2017, Delta and Sir John A. Macdonald closed in June 2019. To replace these schools, the Ministry of Education approved the construction of Nora Frances Henderson Secondary School, completed in 2020 and Bernie Custis Secondary School completed in 2019. Please see the chart below which depicts secondary capacity since 2012.

With these closures and new construction, the capacity of the secondary panel is approximately 16,600 pupil places. As of October 31, 2022, the secondary enrolment was approximately 14,240 students which equates to approximately 2,400 excess secondary pupil places.



Portables

In 2011, a new approach to portable and portapak management was established at HWDSB. The Portable Allocation Process provides the framework for making use of and reducing the reliance of temporary accommodation. The result of the process has decreased operating expenses, eliminated old portables in need of repair and ensured equitable allocation of temporary classrooms across the system. The process has ensured that schools who have temporary accommodation are utilizing the built space to its maximum capacity before using portables. If the built space is deemed sufficient then the portables are to be moved, locked or demolished depending on their condition.

There are two types of temporary accommodation. There are portables and portapaks. A portable is an individual transportable classroom that is independent from the school. A portapak is grouping of transportable classrooms attached by a corridor. The portapak may or may not be directly attached to the permanent school facility.

There are significant costs associated with the purchase, maintenance and relocation of portables. The purchase price of a portable is approximately \$125,000, while the cost of moving a portable is approximately \$75,000. Annual operating cost of a portable is approximately \$30,000 which includes heating, cooling, electricity, regular cleaning, maintenance and capital costs. The demolition costs for a portable is roughly \$20,000 and is strongly recommended for portables in poor condition which cannot be sold.

Since 2010/11, HWDSB has reduced its portable count from 248 to 170 in 2022/23. Please see the reduction transition in the chart below.

	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23
Portables	143	114	111	106	108	97	105	119	119	123	117	132
Portapaks	90	77	72	56	62	56	56	56	50	50	44	38
Total	233	191	183	162	170	153	161	175	169	173	161	170

Portables will be used to aid in short term accommodation pressures. A school’s enrolment can fluctuate year to year which may cause a need for temporary accommodation. Portables are allocated to schools based on year to year need. Portapaks will only be considered for schools with significant long-term enrolment pressure with no future accommodation relief anticipated. Accommodation relief can be in the form of a boundary change, program change or new construction (school or addition). In the case where these three solutions are not viable, a portapak for schools with long term needs will be considered.

Portable Inventory as of April 2023

Elementary School	Portables	Portapaks
Allan Greenleaf	3	0
AM Cunningham	4	0
Bellmoore	6	10
Billy Green	1	0
Central	4	0
Eastdale	10	0
Flamb. Centre	0	6
Franklin Road	2	0
Guy Brown	3	0
Helen Detwiler	0	6
Huntington Park	0	6
Janet Lee	3	0
Lake Ave	6	0
Lawfield	6	0
Mary Hopkins	6	0
Michaelle Jean	5	0
Mount Albion	3	0
Mount Hope	2	0
Norwood Park	3	0
Parkdale	2	0
Pauline Johnson	4	0
Queensdale	3	0
R.A. Riddell	4	0
Rosedale	3	0
Kanetskare	3	0
Shannen Koostachin	6	0
Sir Wilfrid Laurier	2	0
South Meadow	3	0
Tapleystown	9	0
Templemead	2	0
Tiffany Hills	7	0
Viola Desmond	6	0
Winona	0	6
Yorkview	0	4
Total	121	38

Secondary School	Portables	Portapaks
Saltfleet	3	0
Westmount	8	0
Total	11	0
Total	132	38