

**Notes for Gatestone and Shannen Koostachin Boundary Review  
Advisory Panel Meeting #1  
November 14, 2023  
Gatestone Elementary School**

**Attendance**

**Present**

Chair: Gerry Smith, Superintendent of Student Achievement, FOS 1  
Trustee: Kathy Archer  
Gatestone Principal: Dianne Barlow  
Gatestone VP: Kristy Lucker  
Two representatives from Gatestone School Council (Paul Uzarowski and Jennifer Sarkis)  
Shannen Koostachin Principal: Tricia Nelson  
Shannen Koostachin VP: Louise van der Put  
Two representatives from Shannen Koostachin School Council (Kylie Gallagher and Saima Mirza)  
Ellen Warling- Manager Accommodation and Planning, HWDSB  
David Anderson- Senior Facilities Manager, HWDSB  
Ian Hopkins- Planner, Accommodation and Planning, HWDSB  
Karolina Grochowska- EA to Superintendent Smith, HWDSB

**Regrets**

Matthew Gerard- Associate Director, HWDSB

**Meeting Start Time:** 6:00 PM

**Land Acknowledgement-** Kristy Lucker

**Introductions and Outline of Boundary Review Process**

Superintendent Gerry Smith welcomed all advisory panel members and resource staff. Round table introductions were made.

Superintendent Gerry Smith began the presentation by reviewing the agenda and outlined the advisory panel meeting format. Superintendent Smith then discussed what a boundary review is, the boundary review guiding principles, Long-Term Facilities Master Plan Guiding Principles, boundary review policy and procedure and boundary review timelines.

Senior Manager David Anderson spoke to what the Long-Term Facilities Master Plan is: The Long-Term Facilities Master Plan is a fluid document which is updated annually, the document outlines the Board's long term capital plan, maintenance plan and accommodation strategy. The document provides a framework for decision making for the Facility Services department.

Ian Hopkins then presented the area/boundary history for Shannen Koostachin and Gatestone, historic, current and projected enrolments and area residential development.

Ian Hopkins then reviewed the proposed boundary change, enrolment impacts, transportation impacts and the proposed boundary change implementation.

After the presentation, the group moved into the round table discussion.

## Round Table Discussion

### Q and A

#### **Q: Are the boundary review updates available on the schools' website?**

A: Gatestone website: <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/gatestone/boundary-review-updates/>

A: Shannen Koostachin website: <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/shannenkoostachin/boundary-review-updates/>.

#### **Q: How can community members ask questions/feedback about the boundary review?**

A: By attending the public meeting that is scheduled for Dec. 5, 2023, by providing feedback online through EngageHWDSB, by reaching out to the school principals, Superintendent of Student Achievement, Trustee or emailing our generic mailbox.

A: Multiple ways people can provide feedback. They can drop pins on a map, leave a comment, ask questions, leave their ideas, email us directly: <https://www.engagehwdsb.ca/gatestone-and-shannen-koostachin-boundary-review>.

#### **Q: Can the boundary be changed?**

A: Boundaries are modified through the boundary review process, any additional changes in the future would require another boundary review.

#### **Q: Where is the property for the new school in Binbrook located?**

A: Fletcher Rd/Binbrook Rd.

#### **Q: How will families be informed about the boundary review?**

A: The families will be informed via SchoolMessenger.

On October 30, 2023, information about the boundary was posted on the Gatestone school website.

#### **Q: Adding additional parking at existing school?**

A: Due to limited funding and many complications, we won't be able to add additional parking at existing school

#### **Q: Are the OOC students included in the projections?**

A: Yes, OOC students are included in the projections.

**Q: How about OOC for younger siblings?**

A: Younger siblings of OOC catchment students will be able to attend Gatestone.

**Q: Is it possible to add a portapak unit at Shannen Koostachin?**

A: TBD

**Q: Transportation- adding more buses, additional bus routes, delays, hiring bus drivers, heavy traffic, safety concerns, parking concerns, dropping of students to daycare, adding flashing crosswalks, city bus etc.**

A: TBD- we need to connect with transportation regarding these concerns. Gatestone and Shannen Koostachin participating in the Daily School Route under review.

**Q: Where will the additional portables at Gatestone be installed?**

A: The proposed boundary change would add 2-3 portables to Gatestone for the 2024 school year. In the past the portables at Gatestone were located on the north side of the property next to the asphalt play area.

**Q: Before and After School Care with Umbrella? Will they offer more spaces for the new families? Umbrella is at full capacity with a waiting list as of now.**

A: TBD. Staff will reach out to the operator to make them aware of the change and provide answers.

**Q: Will the school bell time for Shannen Koostachin/Gatestone change?**

A: Most likely no but staff will confirm with transportation,

**Q: Will there be an open house day to welcome new families?**

A: after a boundary change is approved by Trustees a transition committee is formed to ensure a smooth transition for students to their new school community. Through the transition committee, welcoming activities are planned.

**Q: Will we offer translation services at the public meeting? Top 5 languages at Shannen Koostachin are: Arabic, Urdu, Punjabi, Gujarati. The top 5 languages for translation at Gatestone are: Serbian, Arabic, Urdu, Hindi, and Spanish.**

A: Yes, translation services will be available.



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**Dates:**

Public Meeting scheduled for **December 5, 2023, from 6 pm to 8:30 pm** at Gatestone school (gym)

Advisory Panel Meeting scheduled for **December 12, 2023, at 6 pm** at Gatestone school (library)

Online Feedback: <https://www.engagehwdsb.ca/gatestone-and-shannon-koostachin-boundary-review>

**Meeting End Time:** around 7:45 pm. Participants were thanked for attending.