

Sherwood Secondary School Options for Review Update

Presented to:
Finance and Facilities Committee
October 22, 2020

curiosity

creativity

possibility

Agenda:

- History
- Options
- Factors to Consider
- Review of Options

- On May 23, 2012, the Board approved the following motions:
 - “That the Board approve the closure of Barton, Hill Park and Mountain Secondary Schools upon the opening of a new school located both easterly and south of the Lincoln Alexander Parkway and the relocation of students to their permanent schools no later than September 2015, pending Ministry approval.”
- The recommendation of the Committee was to close Sherwood and leave Barton open
 - Barton and Sherwood are in the same catchment

- On November 4, 2015, the “Hamilton Mountain Secondary School Update” stated:

“According to the secondary revitalization strategy, 2014-15 should have seen science labs, storage, prep rooms and offices revitalized. A significant amount of this work has not been completed due to the extensive asbestos abatement required as part of the renovations. The renovations cannot take place while students are in the school and the summer does not provide enough time to complete the renovations. In addition, with the experience that the Board has with asbestos abatement, the costs related to renewal work will be substantially increased.”

- A number of Sherwood Update reports were presented to Finance and Facilities Committee. The last one on May 19, 2016 included a motion would allocate the estimated cost of the Secondary Facility Benchmarks projects (\$9,012,000) to the business case to the Ministry for a new build.
- <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/meetings/Finance-and-Facilities-Committee-Agenda-1463517372.pdf>
 - This link to the report summarizes all of the reports that went to Finance and Facilities related to Sherwood.

- HWDSB has requested funding 7 times for a new build at Sherwood since 2013.
- Most recent feedback:
 - November 21, 2016 “The Ministry recommends that the board consider existing capacity at other schools in the surrounding area. The Ministry would like to see the impact of the approved projects in this area before considering another project for this area.”
 - March 13, 2018 “This project was not approved for Capital Priorities Grant funding as the expected savings and removal of renewal backlog does not sufficiently support the expected project cost. The ministry would like to assess the local utilization upon the completion of approved Capital Priorities projects (Nora Frances Henderson Secondary School) before considering further project approvals in this area.”

The Board has 3 options:

1. Status Quo – continue to request funding to build a new school on the Sherwood site
2. Temporarily move students to Barton in September 2021, perform renewal work and secondary benchmark work at Sherwood during the year and move students back when work is complete.
3. Perform renewal and secondary benchmark work at Barton in 2020-21 and move students permanently to Barton in 2021

Board Motion:

- Motion does not support a move to Barton permanently
- New motion would be required if this was the direction

Location:

- Sherwood and Barton are in the same catchment
- This means no accommodation review is required to move students between schools

Walkability:

- Based on the current student population:
 - Sherwood is walkable for 605 students
 - Barton is walkable for 725 students

Capacity:

- Sherwood Capacity – 1,374 (1,502 loaded at 23 students per class)
- Barton Capacity – 1,092 (1,191 loaded at 23 students per class)
- Current Enrolment: 1,166
- Highest Projected Enrolment: 1,389 in 5 years

Programs:

- Sherwood is currently home of the French Immersion program for Hamilton Mountain (including Ancaster)

Facility Condition Index (FCI):

- Sherwood FCI – 74%
- Barton FCI – 66%

Costs:

- Sherwood benchmark costs were approximately 50-60% higher than the average benchmark costs
 - As a result of asbestos abatement required
- Barton costs would be average costs
- Assumption would be that the majority of renewal work would also be 50-60% higher at Sherwood than Barton
- Approximately \$15 million to do benchmark and renewal work at Sherwood and \$8 million to do benchmark and renewal work at Barton

Funding:

- Annually:
 - Approximately \$8.3 million in School Renewal Grant (SRG)
 - Approximately \$20 million in School Condition Improvement (SCI) Allocation
- Proceeds of Disposition (POD) to be used for renewal work

Ministry Feedback:

- Met with Ministry on October 7/20
- Ministry cannot comment on future approvals
 - Indicated that Board should look back at 7 previous submissions that were not successful
- Ministry indicated that they look at consolidations and growth when they are reviewing capital priority submissions
 - Renewal grant is for renewal work
- Board has previous feedback from the Ministry that it does not support using a significant amount of the SRG on one school

Considerations:

- Have already requested funding 7 times and it has been denied
- No significant renewal work would be completed at Sherwood during this time
- Would move forward with the sale of Barton

Considerations:

- Significant cost
 - Approximately \$15 million for secondary benchmark and renewal projects
 - Would not remove all asbestos so future work would also be challenging
- In the spirit of the motion
- Enough capacity

Considerations:

- Sherwood and Barton are in the same catchment
- Seems to be the underlying direction from the Ministry
- Does not follow the 2012 Trustee motion
- OTG Capacity of Barton may require portables
 - May be possible to include an addition as a capital priorities project
- More walkable and more accessible for FI transportation
- Costs are significant lower