



DUFFERIN PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Approved Minutes
Dixie Shorefront
Accommodation Review Committee
Public Meeting #4

Thursday, May 22, 2008
St. Paul Secondary School
At 7:00 p.m.

Present:

J. Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations
T. Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Department
E. Irvine, Planner, City of Mississauga
ARC Committee Members - Queen of Heaven
St. Dominic
St. Edmund
St. James
St. Timothy

Staff:

J. Tzventarny, Planner, Planning Department
R. Bonifacio, Recorder- Secretary, Planning Department

Absent:

E. McGuire, Chairperson, Superintendent of Schools

ROUTINE MATTERS

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

1. Introduction & Welcome & Opening Prayer

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations called this the 4th Public Meeting to order, he advised that regrets were received from Elizabeth McGuire Chairperson, Superintendent of Schools, and that he would be chairing this meeting.

John Melito, introduced himself as Superintendent of Planning and Operations, thanked all for attending the meeting. He introduced the staff Thane Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Department, Joshua Tzventarny, Planner, Planning Department and welcomed the ARC members. Invited attendees to join him in the opening prayer. John reviewed tonight's agenda, advised attendees that the power-point presentation for tonight's meeting was available on the DPCDSB website.

2. ARC Process & Criteria

Thane Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Department

The main objective of this the 4th Public Meeting is consultation. The ARC committee members met to review refine/reduce the number of options based on the information, feed back and discussions to date.

Reviewed - ARC Process and Criteria

- Complies with the Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines
- Process outlining steps necessary to consolidate schools
- Three stages in Board's Policy:
 - Stage 1 – Identification
 - Stage 2 – Review and Analysis
 - Stage 3 - Implementation

Additional Factors

- School may be considered as a 'receiving school';
- Reorganization by way of a boundary adjustment;
- Redirection of a specialty program (i.e. Extended French, Gifted Program);
- School is included in geographic boundary.

All complied data and all the Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines regarding all three ARC review areas are posted on the Board's website at <http://www.dpcdsb.org/CEC/About+Us/Departments/PLN/School+Closures+Review.htm>

3. **Mandate of the ARC**

Thane Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Department

- To present the preferred accommodation options on behalf of the ARC
- To gather feedback from the community on the options presented
- Work towards selecting a preferred option that is in the best interest of the students that will be presented to the Board of Trustees.
- The Board of Trustees will make the final decision.

ARC Membership

The Board is required to appoint the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC):

- Superintendent of Schools - Chair
- School Board Staff
- Principals
- School Council Chairs
- Teacher Representatives
- Parish Representatives
- Municipal Representatives

What Has the ARC Done?

- Reviewed and customized School Valuation Framework
- Reviewed accommodation options
- Evaluated accommodation options on a school community basis
- Made recommendations for modifications and/or alternate accommodation options

Why are we Here?

- To present the preferred accommodation options on behalf of the ARC
- To gather feedback from the community on the options presented
- Work towards selecting a preferred option that is in the best interest of the students

4. **Public Meeting #3 Review**

Thane Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Department

Gave brief overview of Community Meeting #3

- Public Meeting #3 held on May 6, 2008 at St. Paul Secondary School
- Accommodation Options
 - Enrolments
 - Transportation
 - Financial
- Questions from the community

The ARC committee members met to review refine/reduce the number of options based on the information, feed back and discussions to date after holding the following meetings:

- **ARC Meeting #1** – October 4, 2007
- **ARC Meeting #2** – October 25, 2007
- **ARC Meeting #3** – November 21, 2007
- **ARC Meeting #4** – February 27, 2008
- **ARC Meeting #5** – April 30, 2008
- **ARC Meeting #6** – May 12, 2008

- **Public Meeting #1** – February 5, 2008
- **Public Meeting #2** – April 1, 2008
- **Public Meeting #3** – May 6, 2008

All ARC meetings were held at local community schools and all meeting minutes are posted on the Board's website at www.dpccsb.org

5. Accommodation Options

Thane Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Department

ARC's Final Recommendation

The ARC recommends to the Director of Education that, in the best interest of the students one of the following consolidation options be chosen:

OPTION 4 - CLOSE ST. JAMES
Move St. James (All) to St. Dominic

OPTION 6 - CLOSE ST. DOMINIC
Move St. Dominic (All) to St. James

Financial Impact Summary for the Options:

Option 4 Close St. James	Loss of Grant	Savings on Expenditures	Net Savings
Staffing	(\$119,135)	\$221,299	\$102,165
School Operations	(\$59,611)	\$169,406	\$109,795
Transportation	\$0	(\$13,500)	(\$13,500)
Other	(\$2,050)	\$2,000	(\$50)
TOTAL	(\$180,796)	\$379,205	\$198,409

Option 6 Close St. Dominic	Loss of Grant	Savings on Expenditures	Net Savings
Staffing	(\$117,622)	\$212,999	\$95,377
School Operations	(\$59,611)	\$140,930	\$81,319
Transportation	\$0	(\$24,000)	(\$24,000)
Other	(\$2,554)	\$2,000	(\$554)
TOTAL	(\$179,787)	\$331,929	\$152,141

Reviewed pros and cons of each of the site from the school footprint size to items as the Kiss and Ride, existing parking spaces, and parking spaces required for each of the options. Explained cost of placing portable(s) on each site, to the cost of for additional parking spaces. Capital costs for options for each school are shown below:

Capital Costs for Options - St. Dominic - St. James								
	Parking Spaces Existing	Parking Spaces Required (S&V)	Costs for Additional Parking	Kiss and Ride	Portables	Portable Placement Cost	Portable Electrical Service	Total Cost
St. Dominic	42	36	N/A	bus loop	2	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
St. James	20	36	\$80,000.00	bus loop	1	\$15,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$115,000.00

Estimated Capital Cost – see power point slides 20 and 27 for St. Dominic – St. James and how the renewal dollars set out in the School Valuation framework came from the Ministry of Education ReCAPP Reports. An evaluation was done either in person or by Ministry model for each school. Dollar values were assigned to the various parts of each school building and site. Examples would be the life cycle replacement of lights, windows, plumbing, floors etc. The dollar values were set by the Ministry and the potential year for the work/ expenditure were also set by the Ministry as well. The Ministry currently only allows funds to be used for high and urgent projects, and at schools that are not /will not, be considered for closure for the next ten years. Plant Department at this time has the above data as well as had done site visits to each of the schools to identify items that need to be done as high and urgent, the must do items and etc. Plant must then fit them in to the different budget envelopes. There is no guarantee items will be done. This is then reviewed with all the other demands of the other 143 schools in the board, and based on government criteria and funding formula the Plant department will then present needs of all the schools to the Board of Trustees for approval.

6. Next Steps

Thane Munn, Senior Planner, Planning Department

Future Meetings: - ARC Meeting #7, June 16, 2008 @ St. Timothy

- ARC prepares recommendation report to the Board of Trustees – Spring 2008
- Staff prepares recommendation report to the Board of Trustees – Fall 2008
- Board to make decision in Fall 2008
 - *Notice of meeting date will be given 60 days prior to meeting*

The Board is considering a report at the May 27th meeting dealing with the fall meeting dates and delegation rules once decision is made, information will be forwarded to the ARC.

Implementation Timeline

- Follows Board Decision in Fall 2008
- Possible School Closure – June 2009
- Students relocated – September 2009

7. Questions Period

Parents, students and community members had the opportunity to express their concerns and ask questions. Board staff responded to the questions and concerns to the best of their knowledge.

1. St. Dominic – Ratepayer

Comments:

- long time resident, former teacher – 15 years
- History
- no catholic schools in area prior to WWII
 - as farms sold for development, demand for catholic education grew
 - St. Mary could not accommodate growth
 - St. Dominic school held mass in gym until church built
 - Bond with church and school and community

2. St. Dominic - Parent

Comment: went to St. James on the weekend

- St. James backs unto Country Style
- odor from the lake
- portables & parking would mean less green spaces
- would board build new play ground at St. James

Response:

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

Move would not necessarily mean a playground will be built

3. St. Dominic - Parent

Question:

- green spaces taken away for parking
- portables
- is it logical financially to go thorough process for \$180,000.00

Response:

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

Savings are annual, on going savings

4. St. Dominic - Parent

Comments:

- predictions were wrong in past to build addition to St. James
- St. Dominic at 250 students, at capacity
- consider cuts to administration, not close schools

5. St. Dominic – Parent

Question:

- how will staff be dealt with?
- based on seniority
- parents need to know who will be teaching their students

Response:

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

Board has policies for dealing with staffing

6. St. Dominic – Parent

Comment:

- St. Dominic is being overlooked
- Little renovation

7. St. Dominic - Student

Question:

- In case of emergency at St. James is there enough space to evacuate children?

Response:

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

There are protocols in place for all emergency circumstances; every school in the Board has a twin with procedure that would be implemented for emergency situations.

8. St. Dominic - Parent

Question:

- could staff report be different than ARC report
- staff report could propose anything
- ARC process is a farce
- bus prices are unpredictable, could increase exponentially

Response:

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

Can't predict what staff report will contain – not only a planning report – a staff report with input from several departments.

9. St. Dominic - Parent

Comments:

- houses are being sold to move in and growth could occur
- people wouldn't move into area where kids have to walk 40 minutes to school
- keeping school open is an investment in catholic education

Response:

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

Encouraged presenter to bring comments such as these to Board as a delegation

10. St. Dominic - Parent

Comments:

- construction on going in neighbourhood
- declining enrolments doesn't make sense
- St. James in a dangerous area
- move to St. James doesn't make sense

11. St. Dominic - Parent

Question:

- will staff report be available before its presented to the Board?
- many advantages to St. Dominic
- doesn't seem logical, shouldn't be here

Response:

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

Board Public Meetings are being set up for the Fall, all information will be posted on the Board website.

12. St. Dominic – Parent

Comments:

- with declining enrolments, could there be review in the future
- projections could be wrong, enrolments could increase
- not all about building and stats, is about the community and students
- open invitation to St. James students
- how many set of numbers, long term, short term, capital cost 1.3 million

Response:

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

The projections and capital costs, long term, short term and our capital costs are used to look at all the needs of every school in our system as a whole.

13. St. Dominic - Parent

Comment:

- this needs leadership, need big picture perspective
- leadership requires insight
- hard to see St. James as most viable option
- shame on trustees for not attending
- show leadership and the big picture

14. St. Dominic - Parent

Comment:

- came back to area for the school, best education

15. Lynnwood/St. Dominic - Parent

Comment:

- need to consider community as whole, closing 2 schools would be a tragedy
- consider more cooperation

16. Ratepayer

Comments:

- don't look at what you can get out of the process – look at what you can put into it
- disappointed that no single option had been chosen

17. St. Dominic - Parent

Question:

- will you be setting limits to delegations

Response:

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations

Process will be finalized at meeting on May 27th, rules for delegations will be available on the board website. A 60 Day notice will be provided.

18. St. Dominic - Parent

Comment:

- daughter consider buying her house, sending her children to St. Dominic
- 19 year member of school council, the community cares, doesn't want to see St. Dominic closed

Conclusion

John Melito, Superintendent of Planning and Operations thanked all for attending the meeting, he advised the attendees that process doesn't stop here. The ARC will be giving their report as well as staff to the Board. The fall meeting dates and delegation rules (once decision is made at the coming May 27th Board Meeting), information will be forwarded to the ARC and posted on the board website. Questions regarding delegation please call our main board office at 905-890-1221. If any one has any questions/comments that they would like to address to the ARC committee via school Council, or school administration.

Confirmation of next meetings

Future Meetings: - ARC Meeting #7, June 16, 2008 @ St. Timothy

All ARC materials can be viewed on the Board's website: www.dpcdsb.org
Click on "School Closures Review"

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p. m.

Approximately 84 Parents, students and community members were in attendance of the Public Meeting #4

Queen of Heaven	1
St. Dominic	70
St. Edmund	1
St. James	5
St. Timothy	2
Other	<u>5</u>
	84

R. Bonifacio, Recorder- Secretary, Planning Department, DPCDSB