



DUFFERIN PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Approved Minutes Accommodation Review Committee

BRAMALEA NORTH REVIEW AREA

Meeting #3 - Tuesday, November 20, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.

Notre Dame Secondary School Room 120

Present: A. Tucciarone, Chairperson, Acting Superintendent of Schools, Brampton Central
B. Bjarnason, Manager of Planning
S. Cox, Planner, DPCDSB
S. Boulanger, Principal, Mother Mary Ward
D. Carvalho, Mother Mary Ward, OECTA
C. Klugman, Principal, St. Marguerite Bourgeoys
V. Merulla, Principal, Lester B. Pearson
M. Gibson, School Council Chairperson, Mother Mary Ward
A. Carbone, School Council Chairperson, St. Marguerite Bourgeoys
D. Dolan, St. Marguerite Bourgeoys/OECTA
R. Armogina, School Council Chairperson, Lester B. Pearson

Regrets: P. Kenyon, Principal, St. Anthony, S. Sewerynek, School Council Chairperson, St. Anthony

Staff: Ann Di Iorio, Recorder – Administrative Assistant, Superintendent of Planning
(BramNorthApprovedminmtg3)

ROUTINE MATTERS

Alex Tucciarone called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. **Opening Prayer & Introduction**

Alex Tucciarone led the opening prayer.

Alex thanked committee members for attending the meeting.

Regrets received: P. Kenyon, Principal, St. Anthony, S. Sewerynek, School Council Chairperson, St. Anthony

2. **Minutes – Tuesday, October 30, 2007 meeting**

Alex Tucciarone

The minutes were approved.

Moved by: Carol Klugman

Seconded by: Vita Merulla

Beth Bjarnason advised the committee that the approved minutes would be posted on the Dufferin-Peel website www.dpcdsb.org under the Planning Department. This site is accessible for Trustees and public knowledge.

3. **Discussion of School Accommodation Alternatives/selection of alternatives for presentation at Public meeting- Committee**

Committee – Comments

Handouts containing information regarding the Pupil Accommodation Review process and a copy of the Notice of Public Meeting were handed out. This information is to assist staff in responding to inquiries from staff and the public.

Alex Tucciarone re-capped with the committee the choices that were narrowed down at the last ARC meeting held on October 30, 2007. The committee tentatively selected five options including a new named, Option #11. A meeting will be held on December 13, 2007 with the Our Lady of Providence community regarding the enrolments at Our Lady of Providence.

Beth Bjarnason advised the committee that the object of the meeting was to review the five Options again and together make a decision on any changes/additions/deletions.

Comments

Mother Mary Ward – Steeve Boulanger, Mary Gibson, Daphne Carvalho

A few parents visited the office wanting to know what they could do to change the options. A parent council meeting is to be held on Wednesday, November 23, 2007. Steeve Boulanger advised the committee that the Accommodation Review process information was posted on the link of the school website. He advised parents to get organized, get informed, read about the Accommodation Review Process and come prepared to the first Public Meeting.

Alex Tucciarone enquired if staff reactions were the same. Daphne Carvalho answered that yes, the staff reactions were about the same.

St. Marguerite Bourgeoys – Carol Klugman, Allison Carbone, Dave Dolan

A parent council meeting was to be held on Wednesday, November 23, 2007. There were some expansion concerns; meaning that if the school was to be expanded would it affect the current play area. Alison Carbone contacted the City of Brampton and enquired as to the future use of the larger area behind the school, backing on to the park. The city advised that the area is currently used as a city park and there were not future plans for change. The comment that some parents are in “disbelief” that the school may close was made.

Beth Bjarnason advised the committee that she would look into the background and changes to the boundary in the past in preparation for the first Public Meeting.

Lester B. Pearson – Vita Merulla, Alex Zanette, Richard Armogenia

A Parent Council meeting was held on Monday, November 19, 2007. One parent made a presentation. The majority parents just want to keep the catholic community together and the voice of the community is that they would like to see the closeness of the church remain. If there are changes to be made they would like to see the community move as a whole and not be fragmented. Parents also expressed that having the comfort level of their children's classmates move together was notable. Also, staff should be given an honest invitation to be able to also move as a community. The idea of "renaming" a new school, if one were to be build was suggested or "absorbing" the name of a closed school.

After each area had an opportunity to express their concerns, Stephanie Cox thanked the committee for all of their efforts and their time put into this project. Stephanie reviewed the five options considered at the last meeting held on October 30th, 2007. Beth Bjarnason explained that the Ministry of Education requires and fifteen year forecast (the Long Term Plan) of improvements, although funding is not available for all projects. The Board works with an Economist who prepares the projections. The new Long Term Plan projections are expected by February or March of 2008 and then a revised Long Term Plan will be prepared. ARC can make the recommendations with respect to future capital projects, but there are limited funds and the Board of Trustees will make final decisions. After discussion and consideration by the committee, it was agreed by all that the following three Options be presented at the first Public Meeting.

OPTION "A"

Close Mother Mary Ward and send Areas G and H to St. Anthony. Area I would be sent to Lester B. Pearson, but phased in. Over time, however existing students in Area I would have the option of going to Lester B. Pearson.

OPTION "B"

Close St. Marguerite Borgeouys and Mother Mary Ward. Send all students to St. Anthony and phase out Area B and I to Lester B. Pearson. Over time, existing students from area B and I would have the option of going to Lester P. Pearson.

OPTION "C"

Close Mother Mary Ward and St. Anthony. Send the Mother Mary Ward students to Lester B. Pearson and the St. Anthony students to St. Marguerite Borgeouys. In question to the flex students currently at Our Lady of Providence, a meeting is to be held on December 13, 2007 for discussion.

Discussion/comments

Parents will have an opportunity to have a voice and that could be inputted into the report going forward to the Trustees.

Stephanie Cox advised the committee that she had made an enquiry to the Board's Transportation Department regarding bussing. Now that the options were narrowed down to three, Transportation would be able to look at the areas more closely and have information for Stephanie to present at the first Public Meeting. Transportation would

abide by the Boards current regulations and policies set out already regarding bussing/walking distances.

3. Information for Response to Inquires regarding Public Meetings

B. Bjarnason

Staff will be present at the Public Meetings for any enquiries. Beth advised that the recommendation will be presented to the Board of Trustees and they will make the decisions. Beth advised the committee that the Accommodation Review Process is a government mandate and that the public has been made aware of the process.

4. Discussion regarding Public Meeting

B. Bjarnason

Stephanie Cox will send the three options chosen to the committee, Trustees and Senior Staff by January 15, 2008. All information will be posted on the website by February 1, 2008 for the February 5, 2008 first Public Meeting. Notice of the first Public Meeting has been sent out, given sixty days notice and sent to everyone within 500 feet of the school. These timelines meet with the Ministry requirements.

At the Public Meetings, staff will be seated at the front with microphones and will present first. They will then ask the public to ask questions/comments and staff will respond to the best of their knowledge. Joyce Anderson, the area Trustee has been asked to be present. There will be either a power point presentation or overheads and handouts given at the public meeting including a map of the area.

5. Discussion regarding Future ARC Meetings

Committee

The committee agreed to meet after the first Public Meeting to de-brief. The inclement weather date, Tuesday, February 19, 2007 was decided upon. A template will be brought forward to prepare the report at this meeting.

6. General Questions/Comments

In conclusion Alex Tucciarone advised the committee that there will always be pros and cons for each path, however the report should be reflective of our Board motto of “Children First” and what is best for the Bramalea North Community as a whole. Alex asked the committee to continue and share their questions / concerns with staff and thanked all of them for their efforts and continued support.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Reminders:

1. Public Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 5, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.
Inclement weather date: Tuesday, February 19, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.
2. ARC de-briefing meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 19, 2007- 7:00 p.m.
(if not used for inclement weather date)

✚ Please note: Future meetings will take place at St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School