

PUBLIC Meeting #1 – Meeting Notes

Port Credit S.S.

June 2, 2016 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Agenda Item	Notes / Minutes
Welcome	<p>Janet McDougald, Chair of the Board and Trustee for Wards 1&7, welcomed everyone to the first public meeting in the Public Accommodation Review process. She acknowledged that the process will result in changes for the communities and noted that the recommendations made by staff are in the best interests of students. Chair McDougald expressed her appreciation for those who chose to attend this meeting so that the ARC members can share information about the process and the work of the committee and address some of the misinformation that has been circulating. She stated that this meeting is an opportunity for the public to provide real input into the process and that any comments, suggestions, questions, criticisms and agreements are welcome.</p> <p>Chair McDougald introduced Trustee Sue Lawton and Trustee Robert Crocker, who, along with herself, sit as the trustee representatives on the Accommodation Review Committee and she identified the schools under review that they each represented. She also introduced Vice-Chair of the Board Suzanne Nurse and advised that Trustee Brad MacDonald, who represents Lorne Park S.S. was unable to attend.</p>
Opening Remarks	<p>Scott Moreash, Associate Director of Instructional Support Services, thanked those present for giving their time, noting that this first public meeting is one of several opportunities to provide input and to share thoughts from your community. Associate Director Moreash conducted a brief “who is in the room” exercise.</p>
Overview of PAR process	<p>Jane Mason, Chair of the Accommodation Review Committee, welcomed everyone and listed the five schools included in this ARC process. To begin, Jane Mason responded to some rumours circulating in the community by confirming that the Peel District School Board has no plans to move the Vocational and ASD programs to Lorne Park Secondary School. She stressed that the Peel Board will support recommendations made in the best interest of students and that Peel’s goal is to revitalize communities and find solutions to meet needs of students.</p> <p>Jane Mason noted that the agenda reflects the Ministry orientation meeting requirements with respect to the information to be shared at the PAR’s first public meeting and she explained the plan for sharing information and gathering input this evening.</p> <p>Referencing slides, Jane Mason outlined the eight steps in the PAR Process, the definition of an Accommodation Review Committee, an introduction of the ARC members, and an overview of the information</p>

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	<p>covered at the ARC orientation session. Jane Mason also highlighted the ARC's Terms of Reference, specifically, the Mandate, Roles and Responsibilities, and the ARC Procedures. She noted that this information is all posted on the Peel board's PAR website at www.peelschools.org/PAR where anyone can subscribe to receive automatic PAR updates. Jane Mason also explained the timelines, indicating that the process takes about five months, will include two public meetings and that the last step will be the development of a transition plan for the closing and receiving schools.</p> <p>Jane Mason reiterated that the ARC members can recommend alternate options and that they will be included in the Community Consultation section of the final report to the Board, but that it is up to staff whether or not to act on those recommendations.</p> <p>Those present were encouraged to use the paper and pens provided at each table to write out any comments, feedback, questions or alternate options during the presentations and to stick them to the large pages posted on the wall. Jane Mason advised that the feedback would be collected and compiled by the Communications staff and shared with the group following the "Gallery Walk".</p>
<p>A brief history...</p>	<p>Suzanne Blakeman, Senior Planner and Anthony Edwards, Superintendent of Education provided a brief history of the events leading up to this Accommodation Review Process. Suzanne Blakeman advised that a staff working group has been discussing and analyzing the challenge of the continuing decline in enrolment in South Mississauga for several years and it is clear that there are too few students spread among too many schools. She pointed out that low enrolment makes timetabling difficult and limits course selection choice for students. Suzanne Blakeman displayed a graph illustrating that in September 2016, there will be 2,554 excess pupil places in the five schools under review and that, even taking into consideration an anticipated growth in enrolment over the next five years, the area is projected to be continue to be significantly below capacity, with an excess of 1360 pupil places in 2022. These facts resulted in the working group's proposal to close a school. Suzanne Blakeman advised that the Board approved the Initial Staff Report on April 12, 2016 and approved the commencement of an ARC for five schools: Glenforest S.S., Gordon Graydon Memorial S.S., Lorne Park S.S., TL Kennedy S.S. and The Woodlands S.S. She reviewed the timelines and recommendations included in the staff report and displayed a slide demonstrating the potential impact the Pupil Accommodation Review would have on enrolment and capacity in the area.</p> <p>Superintendent Edwards explained the reasons why Gordon Graydon Memorial S.S. is recommended as the school to be closed, noting that there is no regular program student enrolment at the school; entire programs</p>

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	<p>can be relocated and no boundary changes would be required. He noted that the goal is to find locations for students in programs that will meet the needs of current students while minimizing disruption. He reviewed slides outlining the reasons why other schools in the south-east quadrant were not considered for closure or consolidation.</p> <p>In terms of future considerations, Superintendent Edwards explained that the Initial Staff Report recommends that the Continuing and Adult Education Centre be moved from the Elm Drive location to the Gordon Graydon Memorial S.S. location and that the Continuing and Adult Education site become the location for a new K-8 elementary school in the City Centre area. He added that, if in the future, enrolment trends change, the Gordon Graydon site could be reopened as a secondary school.</p>
<p>The Work of the ARC</p>	<p>Jane Mason indicated that the work of the ARC is complex. She called on ARC members Donna Skells and James Pope to give an overview of the work of the ARC.</p> <p>James Pope, ARC Parent Representative for TL Kennedy S.S., advised that the ARC had met twice and indicated that, with respect to the Initial Staff Report, the ARC supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The closure of a secondary school • The closure of Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School • The repurposing of Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School as the Gordon Graydon Memorial Centre for Continuing and Adult Education • The relocation of the Enhanced Learning program from Glenforest Secondary School to The Woodlands and Lorne Park Secondary Schools • The relocation of the International Business and Technology program from Gordon Graydon Memorial S.S. to TL Kennedy S.S. <p>Donna Skells, ARC Parent Representative for Glenforest S.S., gave an overview of the alternate options that the ARC is proposing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving the timelines outlined in the Initial Staff Report up one year. This would mean the relocation of the Enhanced Learning program starting September 2017 and the relocation of other programs and the closure of Gordon Graydon Memorial S.S. for September 2018.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phasing out the Enhanced Learning program at Glenforest S.S. In September 2017, grade 9 students in the Enhanced Learning program would be redirected to The Woodlands and Lorne Park Secondary Schools. Students in the Enhanced Learning program would be completely phased out of Glenforest S.S. and into their respective schools by September 2020. The relocation of the Graphic and Design Management program to TL Kennedy S.S., effective 2018. <p>Donna Skells also reported that the ARC will continue to discuss the most appropriate placement for the Vocational (VOC) and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) programs, currently at Gordon Graydon Memorial S.S. She pointed out that the ARC recommends that wherever these programs are relocated, appropriate capital improvements will be required to support enrolment and provide a 21st century student experience.</p> <p>James Pope added that the agendas and meeting notes for the ARC meetings are posted on the website at www.peelschools.org/PAR.</p>
<p>Gallery walk</p>	<p>To begin the Galley Walk, Jane Mason indicated that School Information Profiles and demographic maps have been posted around the room for each of the five schools, as well as program maps for Continuing and Adult Education. She explained that the information, prepared by Planning staff in conjunction with the school principals, includes a detailed facility profile, instructional profile and other use profile for each of the schools, as specified in the Ministry guidelines. Superintendent Mason invited everyone to walk around to review the information, adding that the principals and ARC parent representatives would be at the stations to respond to questions. She reminded those present to post any comments/suggestions or questions on the large sheets to be collected and compiled by Communications staff. She indicated that she would respond to the questions following the Gallery Walk.</p>
<p>Summary of questions</p>	<p>Following the Gallery Walk, Jane Mason responded to the questions that had been posted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions from parents and students in the Enhanced Learning program at Glenforest S.S. requesting a phase-out. Response: In September 2016, Grade 9s will go to Glenforest S.S. and continue on in that school. In 2017, Grade 9 students would be directed to Lorne Park or The Woodlands. By September 2020, there would be no ELP at Glenforest S.S.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions about eliminating the ELP program at Lorne Park S.S., so there is only one ELP and that it be located at The Woodlands Response: We want to have demographic options for students as close to home as possible, so this review recommends that there be two sites for the ELP-Lorne Park and The Woodlands. • Questions were raised about the timing of moving the programs. A number of parents would like the move sooner and some would like it to be later. Response: At some point, there has to be a date. Staff wanted to give the community longer, but the ARC is recommending that sooner would be better. • Questions were raised about maintaining the regional programs before and after the transition. Response: The most important part of this process is the implementation plan, and that it will be developed following approval of the Final Staff Report by the Board of Trustees. • What does the Vocational program need in terms of space? Are there any schools with space in place? Response: Board staff will be looking at some of the outstanding VOC programs in the province and the type of space needed for those programs. An independent, third party architect has been hired to review sites and provide information to Board staff and to the ARC. For example, that architect might say that Glenforest needs an addition. Capital improvements are an opportunity for receiving schools to revitalize. • Why is Glenforest being considered when it is over capacity? Response: There is a high density of VOC students living in the Glenforest area. That may reduce busing as many students would be within walking distance. If the school requires modifications, then modifications will be made. • Why was the school closure not communicated before the applications for special programs for this year? Response: The PAR process could not be completed in time for program applications, given the timelines required by the Ministry. • Should all trustees be members of the ARC? Response: There are three Trustees who are attending the ARC meetings as ad hoc members. The trustee representatives on the ARC are Janet McDougald, Sue Lawton and Robert Crocker.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subdivisions are planned in the south and Gordon Graydon Secondary School will grow. Response: That growth is ten years out. If the Lakeview Inspiration project is built in 15 years, we may need it then, which is the reason why the Board is suggesting that the school be repurposed in the interim. • Why was Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School announced as the choice to close before the review? Response: The Ministry guidelines require that the recommendation for closure be included in the Initial Staff Report. • Why are so many programs going to Glenforest? Response: Where possible, the programs will be placed close to where most of the students accessing the program live. • Why wasn't Applewood Heights S.S. included? Response: Applewood Heights S.S. is growing because of the French Immersion program at that school. • Why not TL Kennedy S.S.? Response: A number of regular program students would need to be redirected to multiple secondary schools; capital has been invested in the District Development Disabilities wing; it is centrally located with access to public transportation and long term enrolment growth is projected. • What happens to the Robotics team that includes mainly IBT and GDM students? Response: The staff recommendation was to send IBT and GDM to separate schools. The ARC is recommending that they all be moved together to TL Kennedy to keep the team together. • A hundred student in the Lorne Park area go to the IBT program. Why not offer a High Skills Major in that area at Lorne Park S.S.? Response: This is not under the mandate of the ARC. Parents should speak to Principal Peter Hill. • The Board says it can't support moving VOC and ASD to Lorne Park S.S. and that the staff option is Glenforest S.S.
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	<p>Response: Students in the VOC do not live in that area. Jane Mason added that the ARC is continuing to gather information about the VOC and ASD programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What happens to Fairview P.S. if the new K-8 is built on the Elm Drive site? Response: A new school is required because the schools in the city centre are over capacity. • Could Lorne Park not have sent a representative? Response: The Principal and the parent representative and alternate are here. • How many students are in Continuing and Adult Education? Response: There are 1800 students in Continuing and Adult Education. Not all students attend at the same time. • Will funds be allocated to bring schools closer to 21st century? Response: Scott Moreash indicated that following the architect review there will be enhancements, as required. • Could TL Kennedy S.S. be used for Continuing and Adult Education? Response: Staff have determined that it is not a suitable school to close for the reasons outlined. • Why were other school not considered, e.g. Port Credit? Response: The Port Credit S.S. students live in the Port Credit area and closing it would require redirecting students to other secondary schools. • Could the boundaries be changed back to increase enrolment at Gordon Graydon S.S.? Response: There are still not enough students. Fewer students means fewer course selection options. • Gordon Graydon is a beautiful campus. Response: We agree, and it won't be sold. It will be enjoyed by the continuing and adult education students. • Busing concerns if IBT moves to TL Kennedy?
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	<p>Response: The board doesn't provide busing for IBT students. Those currently using private busing may choose to take public transit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why aren't the feeder schools involved? Response: The students currently in feeder schools are not impacted because the programs will be moved a number of years out. • Can the ARC make recommendations? Response: The ARC can make alternate recommendations, but the staff does not have to act on them. • The ARC is not recommending Lorne Park S.S.? Response: The ARC will continue to look at most appropriate place for the VOC and ADS programs, but Lorne Park S.S. is not in the best interest of the students. For example, if the ARC suggested moving GDM to TL Kennedy and the staff says it fits, then they would include in in the recommendations in the final report. If the ARC suggested moving VOC to Lorne Park S.S., then the staff's answer would be no. In that case, it would not be included in the final recommendations, but it would be included in the Community Consultation section of the final staff report. • How consultative is this process if that decision has been made? Response: The reason we raised it is because someone started a rumour that resulted in several negative comments. <p>Jane Mason also noted that under "Suggestions/Comments", there was support for the change in timelines and for the closure of Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School.</p> <p>Jane Mason committed to posting the questions and comments on the PAR website and indicated that any additional questions can be sent through the PAR site.</p>
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<p>Next Steps</p>	<p>Jane Mason advised that a survey will be posted on the PAR website at www.peelschool.org/PAR next week and noted that subscribers will receive an email. She added that the information gathered through the survey will be provided to the ARC and included in the included in the final report.</p> <p>Jane Mason pointed out that the next public meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 23 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Port Credit Secondary School.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.</p>
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Attendance:

ARC Members Present:

Sharleen Bayovo, City of Mississauga Municipal representative
 Robert Crocker, Trustee (ad hoc member)
 Paul DaSilva, Superintendent of Education
 Sonal Desai, Parent Representative, The Woodlands S.S.
 Anthony Edwards, Superintendent of Education
 Paul Freier, Principal, T.L. Kennedy S.S.
 Peter Hill, Principal, Lorne Park S.S.
 Sue Lawton, Trustee (ad hoc member)
 Jane Mason, Chair of the Public Accommodation Review Committee
 Janet McDougald, Trustee, Chair of the Board (ad hoc member)
 Rose Piacentino, Parent Representative, Lorne Park S.S.
 James Pope, Parent representative, T.L. Kennedy S.S.
 Cheri Riddell, Principal, Glenforest S.S.
 Jan Rodman, Parent Representative, Gordon Graydon Memorial S.S.
 Donna Skells, Parent Representative, Glenforest S.S.
 Rosemary Stiglic, Principal, The Woodlands S.S.
 Jeff Schust, Principal, Gordon Graydon Memorial S.S.

Alternate Representatives Present:

Anita Campo, Parent Representative (Alternate), Lorne Park S.S.
 Sharon Gilbert, Parent Representative (Alternate), Gordon Graydon Memorial S.S.
 Betty Jong, Parent Representative (Alternate), T.L. Kennedy S.S.

Additional attendees Present:

Cindy Ryan, Manager, Continuing & Adult Education
 Stacy Wilson, Principal, Continuing & Adult Education

Resource staff in attendance:

Bianca Bielski, Manager, Planning & Accommodation Support Services
 Suzanne Blakeman, Senior Planner, Planning & Accommodation Support Services
 Dana Guterres, Planning Officer, Planning & Accommodation Support Services
 Scott Moreash, Associate Director – Instructional Support Services
 Jaspal Gill, Associate Director, Operational Support Services
 Randy Wright, Controller, Planning & Accommodation Support Services
 Communications Staff: Ryan Reyes, Ryan Strang, Carla Pereira, Kayla Tishcoff

Other Attendees:

83 parents, students and community members signed in.