

**The East Hamilton/Lower Stoney Creek Boundary
Review Advisory Panel #2
Tuesday, November 5, 2024
Orchard Park Secondary School**

Present:

Chair: Paul Denomme, Superintendent of Equity and Student Achievement, Family of Schools 1

Matthew Gerard- Associate Director

Trustee: Todd White

David Anderson- Senior Facilities Manager

Ellen Warling- Manager, Planning, Accommodation and Rentals

Ian Hopkins- Senior Planner, Accommodation and Planning

Sally Landon- Research and Analytics Manager

Karolina Grochowska- EA to Superintendent Denomme

Sherry Roswell- Hamilton Wentworth Student Transportation Services

Collegiate: Principal: Lisa Barzetti

Eastdale- Principal: Stephen Yull, Vice-Principal: Laura Murray, and Karen Gervais

Lake Avenue- Vice-Principal: Wendy Tyrrell

South Meadow: Principal: Jennifer Harvey

Winona: Principal: Charon Buck

Representative from Collegiate School Council: Kelsey Clohecy and Kenny Cheng

Representative from Eastdale School Council: Brianna Dunn and April Chiro

Representative from Lake Avenue School Council: no representatives.

Representative from South Meadow School Council: Cheryl Martinez, Juliana Mrkobrada

Representative from Winona School Council: Nitu Jhuty and Ateeka Khan

Regrets:

Simon Goodacre, Superintendent of Equity and Student Achievement, Family of Schools 3

Jeremy Koop- Research Officer

Lake Avenue- Principal: Kelly Mccrory

Winona: Vice-Principal: Saira Waseem, and Belal Ahmad

South Meadow: Vice-Principal: Nasim Assadian

Meeting Start Time: 6:00 PM

Land Acknowledgement- Superintendent Denomme

The Superintendent welcomed everyone.

The Superintendent started the presentation by outlining the meeting goals which included reviewing feedback, information requests, evaluating criteria, initial options and the public meeting review.

Sally Landon from the Research and Analytics department provided an overview of the public's feedback posted to the Engage website. The main areas of concern included dividing siblings, splitting friendships, moving again, transportation, after care, having only French Immersion school, or choosing the neighborhood for the boundary review. Additionally, Sally explained how to provide comments and feedback. Trustee White emphasized the importance of public feedback, encouraging people to ask questions, providing comments and suggesting different options aid the decision-making process.

Ian Hopkins- Senior Planner from Accommodation and Planning department discussed information requests from the last meeting, which included a student enrolment density map, School Crossing Guards, and traffic safety, providing all the necessary details and contact information. Then Superintendent Denomme asked the school administrators and representatives to discuss the seven draft evaluation criteria among themselves. The purpose of it was to determine what works and work doesn't, and if there are any additions to the list.

Below is the outcome of this evaluation:

Draft Evaluation Criteria-revised

1. School enrolment does not exceed building and maximum temporary accommodation capacity.
2. Reliance on temporary accommodation is balanced and feasible.
3. Limit the number of disruptions/schools moves affected students and families.
4. There should be balance of French and English program enrolments to foster a successful learning experience for every student based upon program HWDSB's elementary program strategy.
5. Minimize students' time on school (consideration for site capacity to accommodate additional bus runs, increased walkability and drop offs).
6. Availability of Before and After School child care.

After that, we asked the participants to discuss and review the four options for common answers in individual groups, and then as a whole group, using the evaluation criteria matrix rubrics for options 1-4.

HWDSB

- Option 1- FI Grades 6-8 moves from Eastdale to Collegiate in September 2025 and the transportation impacts.
- Option 2- FI Grade 5-8 moves from Eastdale to Collegiate in September 2025 and the transportation impacts.
- Option 3- Move portion of Eastdale English boundary to Collegiate in 2025 and the transportation impacts.
- Option 4- Move a portion of Eastdale English boundary to Collegiate in 2025 and the transportation impacts.

Every group had a chance to express their opinion on which option would be the preferable for the boundary review and ask questions and seek clarification on wording. In summary, option number three was overall preferred option among all the participants.

Ellen Warling from Planning, Accommodation and Rentals department talked about the public meeting preparation on November 19, 2024, at Orchard Park and the role of the Advisory Panel Members. The Superintendent closed the meeting by outlining the next steps thanking everyone for participating.

Meeting ended at 8:05 PM.

Q&A

Q: Why are we reducing Gr. 1 French Immersion at Eastdale?

A: Reducing the number of seats in grade 1 French Immersion is a strategy to reduce enrolment at Eastdale to ensure both French and English programs can be accommodated within the building and 12 portables on site.

Q: Where do the grade 1 French Immersion students come from?

A: Over the past 3 years grade 1 FI at Eastdale has on average has been comprised:

- Eastdale 47.5%
- Winona 13%
- Lake 11.5%
- Collegiate 10.5%
- South Meadow 10%
- Other schools and out of board – 7.5%

Q: Is Sir Isaac Brock an option for French Immersion?

A: The Sir Isaac Brock facility is no longer an elementary school; the facility has been repurposed as an Adult Learning Centre. The preferred model for delivery of French Immersion is dual track French and

HWDSB

English school which promotes community integration, diversity and program collaboration. Enrolment between French Immersion and English track should ensure that the balance supports ideal program

delivery and fosters a successful learning experience for every student based upon HWDSB's elementary program strategy as per HWDSB's Long-Term Facility Plan Guiding Principle 9d.

Q: Can we move French Immersion to Collegiate?

A: The option can be compiled and circulated to the advisory panel for review.

Q: Can we keep French Immersion French Immersion together?

A: Options 3 and 4 do not split the FI program.

Q: Out of Catchment students?

A: All schools included in the boundary review are closed to out of catchment.

C: Looking for clarification on minimizing student's time on school buses-promoting active and sustainable routes to school and availability of Before and After School child care.

Q: Will there be family splits?

A: Sibling exception rules can be put in place under certain circumstances.