

## **The East Hamilton/Lower Stoney Creek Boundary Review**

### **Public Meeting#1**

**Tuesday, November 19, 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, Planning, Accommodation and Rentals

Sally Landon- Manager, Research and Analytics

Karolina Grochowska- Executive Assistant to Superintendent Denomme

Jeremy Koop- Research Officer, Research and Analytics

Sherry Roswell- General Manager, Hamilton Wentworth Student Transportation Services

Collegiate- Principal: Lisa Barzetti

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

South Meadow- Principal: Jennifer Harvey

Winona- Principal: Charon Buck, Vice-Principal Belal Ahmad

#### **Facilitators :**

- Barbara Robson
- Colleen Uhler
- Firozullah Yazdani
- Jeremy Koop
- Krista Brodersen
- Lauren Morris
- Lisa Kiriakopoulos
- Nicole Thibeault
- Pam Nielsen
- Interpreters: Arabic, Punjabi, Serbian and Urdu

Representative from Collegiate School Council: Kelsey Clohecy and Kenny Cheng  
Representative from Eastdale School Council: Brianna Dunn  
Representative from Lake Avenue School Council: no representatives.  
Representative from South Meadow School Council: Cheryl Martinez, Juliana Mrkobrada  
Representative from Winona School Council: Ateeka Khan

## **Regrets:**

Simon Goodacre, Superintendent of Equity and Student Achievement, Family of Schools 3  
Lake Avenue- Principal: Kelly Mccrory, Vice-Principal: Wendy Tyrrell  
Winona: Vice-Principal: Saira Waseem  
South Meadow: Vice-Principal: Nasim Assadian  
Representative from Eastdale School Council: April Chiro  
Representative from Winona School Council: Nitu Jhuty

**Meeting Start Time:** 6:05 PM

## **Land Acknowledgement-** Superintendent Denomme

The Superintendent welcomed everyone.

The Superintendent started the presentation by outlining the meeting overview and walking through the boundary review process, explaining what a boundary review is and its purpose. A boundary review follows the HWDSB's Boundary Review Policy and Procedures. Further, Superintendent Denomme talked about the role of boundary review advisory panel members and resource staff.

Trustee White welcomed and thanked everyone for their engagement in the boundary review. At this stage, there are a number of options/scenarios being put forward. However, there could be more options in addition to what you have seen as it is a process with many steps. The Review Panel will take the feedback and recommendations from tonight's meeting but ultimately the final decision will be made by the Board of Trustees. Additionally, Trustee White encouraged everyone to participate in the boundary review by providing recommendations and discussing different options/scenarios.

The Superintendent continued by reviewing the advisory panel meetings, public meetings and boundary review timelines.

# HWDSB

Ellen Warling, Manager of Planning, Accommodation and Rentals department, discussed the current boundaries and school information profiles, including the current enrolment and facility details for five schools: Collegiate, Eastdale, Lake Avenue, South Meadow and Winona. In addition, Ellen continued by explaining the six evaluation criteria and the evaluation criteria matrix-status quo.

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.*

Ian Hopkins, the Senior Planner from the Planning and Accommodation department, discussed the initial options for the boundary review as follows:

- *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.*

- ❖ All options include allocating 1 class of Grade 1 French Immersion at Eastdale.

Sally London, the manager 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, before and after school care, having a French Immersion only school, or choosing the neighborhood for the boundary review. Additionally, Sally explained how to provide comments and feedback. Lastly, Sally explained the format for the evening. The public was asked to join a group, each with a facilitator. Groups were asked to discuss two questions, and the facilitators recorded the comments. Resource staff were available to answer questions. There were 30 minutes allocated for discussion. Please see the questions below:

## Questions

*Question #1: The advisory panel used the criteria described in the presentation to evaluate each of the options that were also described in the presentation (photocopies of the evaluate matrix for each option are on the table). Do you agree with this evaluation, and can we talk about the options? What are their advantages and disadvantages?*

*Questions #2: As neighbourhood grow and change, HWDSB sometimes needs to adjust school boundaries to address enrolment pressures. We hear lots of concerns about what this boundary change will mean for your school community. What ideas do you have to help ease the transition?*

Superintendent thanked the public for attending and provided the next steps.

Next steps:

Next advisory Panel meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2024.

Final reports to Finance and Facilities committee on January 28, 2025, then to Board on February 10 or 24 for approval.

Meeting ends: 7:50 PM.