

## **Minutes**

Catholic Education Centre 322 Fairview Drive Brantford, ON N3T 5M8

# Board-wide Secondary Attendance Boundary Review Monday, June 16, 2025 - 5:30 pm Microsoft Teams Meeting

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** 

**Assumption College School:** Olayinka Imoukhuede, Don Hamilton

Holy Trinity Catholic High School: Tamiah Johnston

St. John's College: Sadeki Simpson, Stacy McHugh

St. Padre Pio Catholic Secondary School: Not Applicable

**RESOURCE PERSONNEL PRESENT:** 

Administration: John Della Fortuna, Kevin Greco, Michael Lawlor, Mike

McDonald, Phil Wilson, Rajini Nelson

Jack Ammendolia

Principals / Vice-Principals: Darren Duff, Humberto Cacilhas, Marek Deska, Michelle

Nepp-Wirag, Mirona Dragicevic, Tara Williams

Recording Secretary: Katherine Reddicliffe

### 1. Land Acknowledgement

Principal Williams gave thanks and acknowledged the land that we are gathered on today.

# 2. Opening Prayer

Superintendent Nelson opened the meeting with prayer.

#### 3. Presentation

#### 3.1 Committee Mandate

Jack Ammendolia reviewed the mandate of the Committee, specifically:

- To create an awareness regarding boundary reviews and to determine / communicate why school boards conduct boundary reviews.
- To provide boundary options based on scenarios, data, and relevant guidelines, both technical data and voices on the ground data, and obtain feedback on the options or scenarios.
- Committee members represent all students in all schools in the review and the larger Board as well.

#### 3.2 Attendance Boundary Review (ABR) Process

Mr. Ammendolia reviewed the framework of the Attendance Boundary Review (ABR) specifically:

- The roles of each of the participants through the process.
- The order in which things occur in the 10-month duration.

#### 3.3 Drivers of Attendance Boundary Reviews

Mr. Ammendolia noted that boundary reviews are conducted to create a balance because of one or more of the following:

- Student enrolment
- New school facilities
- Program reviews

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# 3.4 Why a Review?

Mr. Ammendolia stated that our secondary schools have experienced high enrolments and utilizations relative to the schools' capacities, i.e. Assumption College School is operating at 181% utilization and St. John's College is at 110%. In addition, St. Padre Pio Catholic Secondary School is set to open in September 2027 with boundaries required for the school's enrolment.

### 3.5 Intended Outcomes and Key Considerations

Mr. Ammendolia noted that the intended outcome of the review is to explore options and adjustments to existing attendance boundaries to better balance enrolment within this area of the Board and create a boundary for the new Secondary School. Changes to attendance boundaries are intended to improve school utilization rates, optimize the use of school board resources (spaces), consider transportation impacts and improve overall student outcomes.

#### Key considerations:

- School size, school location relative to existing and future students, travel time, walking distances, transportation, property size, Ministry of Education benchmarks/policies and BHNCDSB policies/procedures.
- Site and area-specific staffing requirements and space needs, parking requirements, etc.
- Transitional provisions, legacy agreements and associated impacts.

The Committee must assist in determining what can be done in the best interests of the students, schools, and the continuously growing communities.

# 3.6 Current Situation

Mr. Ammendolia reviewed current demographics about each of the schools' historical enrolments and utilizations. He briefly touched on current attendance boundaries and the predicted residential growth in the areas. We are looking at finding a sustainable solution.

Slides presented focused on the historical enrolment since 2011, the current enrolment and what is projected for the upcoming decade. The population growth is projected in all secondary schools and the imbalance in utilization continuing to grow if changes are not made.

# 3.7 Existing Attendance Boundaries

Mr. Ammendolia went through the current attendance boundaries and highlighted the large pockets where students live in proximity to their current school. There are numerous factors which will provide limitations during the discussion periods, but we are seeking a plan for the students of today, tomorrow and the future. Bussing of students to/from school is currently occurring and will not change. The routes and length of time may be altered depending on how the boundaries are drawn out. We are looking at finding a sustainable solution.

#### 3.8 Next Steps and Questions

- Develop and present alternative attendance boundary scenarios for discussion at the Committee Meeting #2 in Fall
- Public Meeting to occur in the Fall/Winter
- Prepare and present the final options to Trustees for approval in the Spring of 2026. The
  Trustees will make the final decision based on the information, scenarios, recommendations
  etc. provided to them by the committee.



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- If Committee members have any questions, comments, concerns, feedback, etc., please forward an email message to <a href="mailto:boardwidesecondary@bhncdsb.ca">boardwidesecondary@bhncdsb.ca</a>
- All presentations, agendas, minutes, etc. will be posted on the Board's website at <a href="https://www1.bhncdsb.ca/board-wide-review/">https://www1.bhncdsb.ca/board-wide-review/</a>

# 4. Future Meetings

• Autumn 2025

# 5. Adjournment

The Meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm

Next Meeting: Autumn 2025