



**County of Brant (Elementary) Attendance Boundary Review**  
**Wednesday, June 18, 2025 - 5:30 pm**  
**Microsoft Teams Meeting**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

<b>Blessed Sacrament School:</b>	Erin Smith, Lisa Henrique
<b>Holy Family School:</b>	Not Available
<b>Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School:</b>	Emily Gardiner, Haley Stallman

**RESOURCE PERSONNEL PRESENT:**

<b>Administration:</b>	Michael Lawlor, Mike McDonald, Phil Wilson Jack Ammendolia
<b>Principals / Vice-Principals:</b>	Jennifer McLaren-Gibbons, Rachel DeDominicis
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	Katherine Reddicliffe

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**1. Land Acknowledgement**

Superintendent Wilson gave thanks and acknowledged the land that we are gathered on today.

**2. Opening Prayer**

Superintendent Lawlor opened the meeting with prayer.

**3. Committee Members**

Director McDonald explained that in the upcoming months we will co-learn and collaborate, as we initiate the process for the boundaries and the new school. He proceeded to ask the members to introduce themselves and the school community they are representing on the committee.

**4. Presentation**

**4.1 Committee Mandate**

The main objectives are to work collaboratively as a consultant, board staff and committee. Once options are created, feedback will be requested to be brought forth by the committee members. Acting as a conduit, it is encouraged that parents approach the parent representative or principal with ideas and then it can be relayed back to the committee.

Mr. Ammendolia reviewed the mandate of the committee, specifically:

- To work collaboratively with consultants, board staff and committee members. To examine the options presented by reviewing the projections and data.
- To provide feedback on the initial options.
- To assist in narrowing down the options which would be presented at the public meeting.
- Parent representatives to be the voice of their school keeping in mind the entire student population, all programs and all grade levels.

**4.2 Attendance Boundary 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.



#### **4.3 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 delivery.

#### **4.4 Why a Review?**

Mr. Ammendolia highlighted that the high utilization in Brant and especially Paris, Brantford Southwest, Brantford Downtown South and Brantford Garden Avenue need to be addressed. The Board has been granted funding for two new elementary schools to be built. Collectively reviewed, this can balance out the existing utilization concerns.

#### **4.5 Intended Outcomes and Key Considerations**

Mr. Ammendolia noted that some of the intended outcomes of the review are to explore options and adjustments to the existing boundaries to better balance enrolment. Additionally, to create a boundary for the new elementary schools to be built. These changes are intended to improve overall student outcomes.

Key considerations may work on paper, but there will be many factors that need to be reviewed as well. Some of these items include transportation, walking distance to school, property size, parking requirements, benchmarks, policies and procedures from both the Ministry of Education (MOE) and BHNCDSB. Site and area-specific staffing requirements and space needs will need to be reviewed. Transitional provisions and legacy agreements, and associated impacts. These additional items will provide further insight into what is occurring at each of the facilities.

Historical, current and projected enrolments with facility utilizations were compared by area.

#### **4.6 Student Distribution**

Mr. Ammendolia reviewed current student distribution by area. He briefly touched on current attendance boundaries and the anticipated residential growth in the areas. We are looking at finding a sustainable solution.

The table highlighted the on-the-ground capacity per school and the current enrolments, utilization and number of portables.

#### **4.7 Attendance Boundaries**

Brant County map highlighted the current boundaries and location of the elementary school within those boundaries.

#### **4.8 Next Steps and Questions**

- Development and presentation of alternative attendance boundary scenarios for Committee Meeting #2.
- The public consultation will occur in fall/winter 2025.
- Presentation of the final options to the Trustees for approval in the spring 2026.
- If Committee members have any questions, comments, concerns, feedback, etc., please forward an email message to [brantcounty@bhncdsb.ca](mailto:brantcounty@bhncdsb.ca)
- All presentations, agendas, minutes, etc. will be posted on the Board's website at <https://www1.bhncdsb.ca/county-of-brant/>



**Questions**

New Builds

Question – Where are the new schools going to be built?

Answer – Currently land has not been secured. The Board is currently in the process of purchasing the land. Potential location is near the area off Powerline.

New School Openings

Question – When are the schools going to be open?

Answer – The projected occupancy date is summer of 2027. Planning for students to begin classes September 2027.

Attendance Boundary Review Clarification

Question – Does the Boundary Review include French Immersion?

Answer – Attendance boundary reviews due include all students in all programs. The focus is reviewing the boundaries. Often, the programming is discussed but the goal is not for programs to be the main initiative or driving force for the boundary.

**5. Future Meetings**

- Fall of 2025

**6. Adjournment**

The Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm

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