



Haldimand County (Elementary) - School Attendance Boundary Review
Wednesday, March 06, 2024 - 5:30 pm
Microsoft Teams Meeting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School:	Angela Hogeveen, Jeanine Silva, Stephanie Robert
St. Mary's School:	Danielle Sadonoja, Joana Dixon
St. Michael's School (Dunnville):	Melissa Anema, Rob Campbell
St. Patrick's School:	Carmeliza Ramsoop, Ian Haynes
St. Stephen's School:	Not Available
Pope Francis Catholic Elementary School:	Not Applicable

RESOURCE PERSONNEL:

Administration:	Scott Keys, Lorrie Temple, Phil Wilson, Jack Ammendolia, Sara Lees
Principals:	Amy Smith, Jeff VanLeuvenhage, Karen Wilkinson, Kerri Lomax, Mary Leonard
Recording Secretary:	Katherine Reddicliffe

REGRETS:

Ian Haynes, Jeanine Silva, Kerri Lomax, Melissa Anema

1. Opening Prayer

Lorrie Temple opened the meeting with prayer.

2. Land Acknowledgement

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

3. Committee Members

Superintendent Keys asked Committee members to introduce themselves and their role on the Committee.

4. Presentation

4.1 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, with relevant 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. There is a bigger picture to keep in mind as well, Haldimand County as a whole.
- Explained that the Trustees make the decisions based on information, scenarios, recommendations, etc. provided to them from the committee.

4.2 Why an Attendance Boundary Review?

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

- Enrolment imbalances.
- The opening of a new school.



- To relieve enrolment pressures because of demographic trends, border-crossing, or grade structures.
- To accommodate program changes, i.e., French Immersion.

He noted that in Haldimand County, all schools have experienced high enrollments and utilizations, relative to the schools' capacities. The reason we are doing this review is because of the new school being built. It is important to note that we must create a new boundary for the new school. Since this is required, we are reviewing the schools in the County.

4.3 Possible Outcomes, Limitations and Considerations

Mr. Ammendolia noted that some of the possible outcomes and 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, portables, washrooms, parking spots. These additional items will provide further insight on what is occurring at each of the facilities.

The Committee must determine what can be done in the best interest of the students, school, and continuously growing community.

4.4 Current Situation: Demographics, Projections, Maps

Mr. Ammendolia reviewed current demographics in Haldimand County and the schools' historical enrolments and utilizations. He briefly touched on current attendance boundaries and the anticipated residential growth areas in the Caledonia. This is not just a Caledonia review; we are looking at finding a long-term sustainable solution.

Presented slides that focused on the dramatic changes which have occurred in the population growth since 2016:

- Utilization Rates – the enrollment of the school compared to what the school was built for (not including portables).
- French Immersion numbers and the growth as families continue to move in the area.
- Boarder Crossing – students who attend the school within their catchment area versus those who attend school considered “out of boundary”. The Board has a policy in effect that must meet certain criteria for exceptions to be made. Saying this, those numbers need to be included in the options.

4.5 Next Steps

- A quick survey will be forwarded to the Committee to obtain feedback and track responses.
- If Committee members have any questions, comments, concerns, feedback, etc., please forward an email message to haldimandcounty@bhncdsb.ca
- All presentations, agendas, minutes, etc. will be posted on the Board's website at <https://www1.bhncdsb.ca/boundary-review-haldimand-county-elementary/>
- The next meeting will include the presentation of options and scenarios, and it is hoped that from those listed some will be presented to the public meeting in April. The Public Meeting will invite parents/guardians of the schools in this ABR to attend and provide generalized feedback.
- Potential Meeting #3 to occur after the Public Meeting, if required.
- Final options will be prepared for the Board of Trustees.

4.6 Questions

Question: When a decision is finally made, when will the changes come into effect?



Answer: Superintendent Keys advised that September 2025 would be the implementation date for the changes.

5. Future Meetings

- Monday, March 18, 2024 – 5:30 pm (Virtual)
- Wednesday, April 10, 2024 – 6:30 pm (Gymnasium, Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School)

6. Adjournment

The Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 18, 2024 – 5:30 pm