



**County of Brant (Elementary) Boundary Review**  
**Tuesday, October 10, 2023**  
**5:30 pm**  
**In Person Meeting**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

<b>Blessed Sacrament School:</b>	Lisa Henrique, Kailey Keresturi, Erin Smith
<b>Holy Family Catholic Elementary School:</b>	Allison Langille, Rachael Morton, Shelley Vlasic
<b>Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School:</b>	Julie Rosbrugh, Jessica Ryan
<b>St. Theresa School:</b>	Alix Consorti, Amanda Sanderson

**RESOURCE PERSONNEL:**

<b>Administration:</b>	Scott Keys, Phil Wilson, Jack Ammendolia
<b>Principals / Vice-Principals:</b>	Bill Acres, Jennifer Davidson, Kerrie Chartrand, Kim Spencer, Mark Finochio

**Regrets:** Erin Smith, Kailey Keresturi, Lisa Henrique, Lorrie Temple

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**1. Land Acknowledgement**

Bill Acres gave thanks and acknowledged the land that we are gathered on today.

**2. Opening Prayer**

Kim Spencer opened the meeting with prayer.

**Committee Members**

Superintendent Keys asked Committee members to introduce themselves.

**3. Presentation**

**3.1 Current Situation**

Jack Ammendolia reviewed the mandate of the Committee, specifically:

- To acknowledge awareness regarding 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.
- The goal for tonight's meeting was to review all the options presented and think of the possibility of removing the least feasible one. Tonight, reviewing the current situation and not the future projections on numbers.

Mr. Ammendolia noted that, in Brant County, all schools have experienced high enrollments and utilizations, relative to the schools' capacities. Schools are rapidly reaching their maximum allotted portables, parking, washrooms ratios according to municipalities.

Mr. Ammendolia reviewed current demographics and the school's historical enrolments and utilizations. He briefly touched on current attendance boundaries and the anticipated residential growth areas in the County.



When reviewing projections, the data indicates that the Board will need capital (new school(s) and has submitted business cases to the Ministry of Education to receive approval for a new school(s). Nevertheless, if the Board is approved, it will take approximately 4 years before a school would be completed. The Committee must determine what can be done now in the current situation.

Superintendent Keys noted that the Committee will not make any decisions to move boundaries, etc. Trustees will make the decision based on information, scenarios, recommendations, etc. provided to them. He also reiterated that this process does not contemplate closing any schools and will not be considered in any scenario.

### 3.2 **Opinions Considered**

Mr. Ammendolia noted that if students returned to their home boundary schools, there would be little impact on the current situation. Many options were considered:

- Move the French Immersion program at Sacred Heart (Paris) CES to St. Leo CES.
- Move Grade 3-6 French Immersion students at Sacred Heart (Paris) to St. Leo CES.
- Move all 7/8 students out of Sacred Heart (Paris) CES and Holy Family CES to Assumption College.

Additionally, options regarding the French Immersion program in the County of Brant were reviewed:

- Move the French Immersion program at Sacred Heart (Paris) CES to Madonna Della Libera CES.
- Move Grade 3-6 French Immersion students at Sacred Heart (Paris) CES to Madonna Della Libera CES.
- Move all 7/8 students out of Sacred Heart (Paris) CES and Holy Family CES to St. John's College.

The last grouping of options was specifically about boundaries:

- Options 1A, 1B, 1C and 1D focused on the elementary school catchment areas being modified.
- Option 2 still focused on catchment areas being modified but also included the grades 7/8 moving to the secondary school.
- Option 3 offered a variety of changes including Our Lady of Providence becoming a dual-track French Immersion facility, 7/8s attending the secondary school.
- Option 4, 4A, 4B presented the most changes regarding the French Immersion program.

### 3.3 **Possible Scenarios**

Mr. Ammendolia noted that each of the options presented provide a ripple effect. Currently the public-school board system in the area is experiencing this exact same growth situation. Therefore, there is little concern that students will leave the catholic system to move to the public.

Discussions took place after each option with the pros and cons listed.

Due to a few unknowns i.e., Ministry approval of a new school being built, future developments, multiple families in one dwelling, rental units, and influx of people at different stages; the board of



trustees may be required to decide now and then again in 2 years revisit with another boundary review. It really depends on how aggressive an approach is required now to deal with the current situation.

### 3.4 **Next Steps**

Mr. Ammendolia noted that:

- The Public Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the gymnasium at Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School (Paris).
- A survey will be sent to the Committee members about input prior to the Public Meeting.
- After the public meeting if parent's have questions or would like to provide feedback, they will be able to email [brantcounty@bhncdsb.ca](mailto:brantcounty@bhncdsb.ca)
- Presentation and minutes will be posted on the Board website.
- Mr. Ammendolia thanked the Committee for their feedback.

Mr. Ammendolia encouraged and recommended that discussions continue to occur about the impacts of each of these scenarios. Many factors need to be considered and looked into. This may not be one answer, but something that will occur in multiple phases over the next few years. Specific items to keep in mind include:

- Enforce boundary crossing (return students to home schools)
- Legacy agreements
- Staffing requirements/needs
- School space audits/temporary spaces

### 3.5 **Questions & Answers**

- Using the grandfathering method, in some scenarios students who are already within schools or boundaries could remain where they are. Could look at future enrollments with a deadline date set for the next school year.
- Details about holding zones – holding students at schools with existing surplus space. Feedback from new residence may not be mixed.
- Superintendent Keys stressed the board is continuously looking to be invited into the conversations regarding schools & locations when land is being developed. In the past, the boards have not been invited to these meetings, but working towards changing this dynamic.

## 5. **Future Meetings**

- Public Meeting #1 – October 18, 2023 at 6pm (In-Person at Sacred Heart [Paris])
- Board of Trustees Meeting – December 2023

## 6. **Adjournment**

The Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

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**Next Meeting:** Public Meeting #1 – October 18, 2023  
Board of Trustees Meeting – December 2023