



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK Catholic District School Board

Minutes

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

Accommodations Committee Thursday, December 1, 2022 – 3:00 p.m. Boardroom / Microsoft Teams

Trustees:

Present: Dan Dignard (Chair), Dennis Blake, Bill Chopp, Rick Petrella, Mark Watson

Senior Administration and Staff:

Mike McDonald (Director of Education & Secretary), Scott Keys (Superintendent of Business & Treasurer), Kevin Greco, Phil Wilson (Superintendents of Education), Lou Citino (Manager of Facility Services)

Guests:

Jack Ammendolia, Managing Partner, Watson & Associates Economists Ltd.

1. Opening Business

1.1 Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Committee Chair Dignard.

1.2 Attendance

Attendance was noted as above.

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Accommodations Committee approves the Agenda of December 1, 2022.

Carried

1.4 Declaration of Interest: Nil.

1.5 Approval of the Minutes:

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Mark Watson

THAT the Accommodations Committee approves the Minutes of November 1, 2021.

Carried

1.6 Business Arising from the Minutes: Nil.

2. Staff Reports & Information Items:

2.1 Enrolment and Accommodations Update and School Attendance Boundary Reviews

Scott Keys, Superintendent of Business & Treasurer introduced Jack Ammendolia, Managing Partner, Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. who provided an update on enrolment, the Board's projected enrolment, accommodation pressures and the need for school attendance boundary reviews for the Committee.



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Mr Ammendolia provided general information regarding the 2021 Census, enrolment projections and the utilization of permanent space in our schools and how these combined factors indicate the need for elementary and secondary school boundary reviews. He also provided an update regarding the Board's education development charges (EDC).

Highlights from Mr. Ammendolia's presentation include:

- Between 2016-21, population growth maintained a 5% increase.
- Canada continues to rely heavily on international migration for population growth.
- Growth over the last five years has begun to move away from the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA).
- The Board's demographics trends indicate that the total population grew by 6.9% from 2016-2021.
- The Board's projected elementary school enrolment will increase from 7,725 students in 2022-23 to 9,468 students in 2031-32 and approximately 50% of our elementary schools are currently operating at over capacity, with limited to zero space for portable classrooms.
- The Board's projected secondary school enrolment will increase from 3,391 students in 2022-23 to 4,807 students in 2031-32 and approximately 66% of our secondary schools will be operating at over capacity by 2024-25.
- City of Brantford and Brant County anticipated residential growth areas include St. George, Paris, Tutela Heights and Powerline Road.
- French Immersion programs have increased enrolment pressures at the schools where the program is offered.
- Attendance boundary reviews were suggested so that current school boundaries could be examined to determine how the boundaries might be changed in order to alleviate enrolment pressures at schools while optimizing enrolment at surrounding schools with surplus spaces.
- Possible attendance boundaries could include southwest Brantford in January 2023, the City of Brantford in the Spring 2023, Paris and Brant County in the Fall 2023 and the new Caledonia elementary school area and the new Brantford secondary school areas in 2023-24.
- The EDC By-Law in Brantford/Brant County will expire in October 2023. The process to develop a new EDC By-Law must begin in January 2023 so that it can be completed by June 2023 and forwarded and approved by the Ministry of Education before October 15, 2023.
- Currently, there is not enough growth to substantiate an EDC By-Law in Norfolk and Haldimand Counties.

The Committee asked that in future presentations if an additional slide could be included, which indicated projected elementary enrolment by region, i.e., City of Brantford, Brant County, Haldimand County and Norfolk County.

Trustee Chopp inquired that when the Ministry examines the Board's enrolment, do they include St. Mary Catholic Learning Centre in the data. Mr. Ammendolia comments that these numbers are included in the model. Trustee Chopp also question whether the development in the former Canadian Tire location on Colborne Street in Brantford was included in the projections for Holy Cross/St. Peter Schools. Mr. Ammendolia will investigate the type of dwellings proposed in the development report back to the Committee.



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A brief discussion regarding the fact that other school board have altered their French Immersion Program so that students attend the Program beginning in Grade 1 rather than beginning in Junior Kindergarten.

Trustee Dignard asked that timelines be developed should the Board decide to complete boundary reviews. Trustee Blake inquired if boundary reviews in different areas of the Board could be completed at the same time. Superintendent Keys noted that the Board could have attendance reviews operating simultaneously, however, he cautioned that this approach would overextend the Board's resources and the proper dedication and attention to each review could not be guaranteed.

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Accommodation Committee recommends that the Committee of the Whole refers the Enrolment and Accommodations Update report to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Rick Petrella

THAT the Accommodation Committee recommends that the Committee of the Whole refers the School Attendance Boundary Review Report to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval of the following attendance boundary reviews:

- Southwest Brantford (Elementary) in January 2023.
- City of Brantford (Elementary) in Spring 2023.
- County of Brant (Elementary) in Fall 2023.
- Haldimand County (Elementary) and Board-wide Secondary in 2023-24.

Carried

3. Business of the In-Camera Session – n/a

4. Report on the In-Camera Session – n/a

5. Future Meetings

Chair Dignard noted that the next Accommodations Committee Meeting will be scheduled at the Call of the Chair.

6. Adjournment

Moved by: Rick Petrella

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Accommodations Committee adjourns the meeting of December 1, 2022.

Carried

Next Meeting: Call of the Chair.