



Our Task:

At the January 15, 2013, regular meeting of the Board, Trustees approved the following recommendation regarding the Belle River Family of Schools:

1. THAT THE SUPERINTENDENT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCOMMODATIONS FACILITATES A BOUNDARY STUDY TO ADDRESS CAPACITY ISSUES WITHIN THE BELLE RIVER FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

Present: Bill Toews, Wes Arthur, Kathleen Westlake, Kim Beneteau, Belle River DHS; Larry Anderson, Deb Grady, Monica Hennessy, Joe Vizard, Belle River PS; Janet Hannigan, Kelly Bugeja, Kim DeMers, Laura Armstrong, Centennial Central; Marg Hwozdecky, Tara Hodgson, Leigh Netherton, Lakeshore Discovery School

Regrets: Sharon Pyke, Dustin O'Neil

Chairperson: Terry Lyons, Superintendent of Education

Recorder: Lynne Hornby

1. Call to Order and welcome

The meeting was called to order at 4:50 p.m. by Superintendent Lyons.

2. Review of minutes of April 15 meeting

The minutes of the April 15 meeting have been circulated to the committee via e-mail. There being no changes, they will be filed to be shared with Trustees at a later date. Copies were provided to the committee.

3. Business arising from the minutes

None

4. Finalize Guiding Principles

The committee discussed the ideas they had developed in an effort to establish Guiding Principles. The guiding principles will assist the committee in making recommendations as they move forward.

- Improve utilization rates
- Maintain a high school in Belle River
- ~~Balance capacity~~—Same as improving utilization rates
- Recognize the importance of community schools
- ~~Maintain the viability of Centennial Central~~—Removed, determined that a broader focus was the wish of the committee
- Maintain or decrease busing time
- ~~Protecting Preserve opportunities and grade school experience~~
Reworded below as
- Preserve, and where possible improve, the overall educational experience of all affected students

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- ~~If grade 7 and 8s move, they all move (keep them together)-Removed may not be possible~~
 - Minimize student transitions as much as possible

The finalized Guiding Principles determined by consensus of the committee are:

The Belle River Family of Schools Boundary Committee will strive to:

- Improve utilization rates
- Maintain a high school in Belle River
- Recognize the importance of community schools
- Maintain or decrease busing time
- Preserve, and where possible improve, the overall educational experience of all affected students
- Minimize student transitions as much as possible

5. Discussion: evaluation and shortlisting of brainstorm ideas

The committee determined that each idea would be explored with a view to either:

- Eliminate
- Keep
- Or for further consideration

Please note that all decisions were made by consensus of the committee.

1. ~~Belle River PS and Lakeshore Discovery become dual track~~

~~Adjust Lakeshore Discovery eastern boundary at Renaud
(affects approx. 376 students)~~

~~Adjust Belle River PS eastern boundary to Cty Road 31 (French line)~~

~~Adjust Belle River PS southern boundary to 401 as a natural boundary
(Affects Centennial Central boundary)~~

Not a solution in isolation

DISMISSED –The committee agreed that Belle River PS cannot accommodate this many students.

2. Grade 7 and 8 students (i.e. current grade 5 & 6 i.e. 94 students) from Belle River PS and Lakeshore Discovery (195) total of 289 relocate to the high school (French and English)

Not a solution in isolation

FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION- This does not provide enough relief for Lakeshore Discovery School.

3. ~~Use portapaks at Lakeshore Discovery rather than portables~~

DISMISSED – The committee determined that this is cost prohibitive and unlikely to be approved given there are empty student spaces.

4. Belle River PS becomes dual track

Adjust Belle River PS western boundary to Rourke line (236 students, 196 of which are F.I.)

Adjust Belle River PS eastern boundary to Cty Road 31(French line)(25 students)

Relocate grades 7 and 8 students from Lakeshore Discovery to Belle River DHS (195 students)

Not a solution in isolation. Involves adjusting three boundaries

KEEP

5. Relocate all grade 7 and 8 students (Belle River PS (94) Lakeshore Discovery (195) and Centennial Central (46) to Belle River DHS (761 secondary students) = 1096

Not a solution in isolation.

FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

6. ~~Relocate all grade 8 students (Belle River PS, Lakeshore Discovery and Centennial Central) to Belle River DHS~~

Not a solution in isolation.

Belle River PS (47) Centennial (22) Lakeshore Discovery (100) = 169

DISMISS – The committee concurred that this splits intermediate division; doesn't provide enough relief at LDS.

7. Adjust Lakeshore Discovery eastern boundary to Renaud line (English only) 244 students
Adjust Centennial Central western boundary - North of 401 and French line 26 students

Not a solution in isolation.

FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

8. ~~Lakeshore Discovery becomes French Immersion school only~~

~~Belle River PS is the English track school~~

~~Students are relocated accordingly~~

~~Adjust Centennial Central boundary~~

DISMISSED – The committee agreed that this is not feasible; capacity issues at Belle River PS, increased busing costs.

9. ~~Lakeshore Discovery, Belle River PS and Centennial Central become dual track~~

DISMISSED – The committee decided this is cost prohibitive and raises concerns about the viability of programming.

10. ~~Lakeshore Discovery and Centennial Central become dual track, boundaries adjusted~~

~~Belle River PS remains English~~

DISMISSED – The committee determined that the French Immersion program would not be viable with current enrolment projections. Centennial would have 150 empty spaces. Optimum number of students for opening up a French Immersion program is 400.

11. ~~Lakeshore Discovery becomes English track only~~

~~Belle River PS becomes French Immersion track only~~

~~Students relocated accordingly~~

DISMISSED – The committee agreed this is not feasible; Lakeshore Discovery remains over capacity, possibility of increased busing costs.

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12. Relocate current grades 4,5,6 (actually would be 6, 7 and 8) English and French of Lakeshore Discovery to Belle River DHS (approx. 295 students)
Boundary adjustment between Belle River PS and Centennial Central as appropriate.
DISMISS – The committee did not want to split divisions and this splits junior division.

6. Requests for Information and Questions:

How are sites chosen for implementation of Full Day Kindergarten (FDK)?

There is a strategic plan developed with the coterminous board as to how FDK will be implemented over the five year phase in period.

There are significant costs involved in opening up French immersion sites, e.g. approximately \$100,000 is spent to set up a dual track library.

Requests for data projections/maps:

1. Belle River PS becomes dual track with (separate English and French numbers to run projections)

2. Grades 7 and 8 from all elementary feeders to secondary school (current grade 5 and 6 students)

Grades 7 and 8 from each school individually to secondary school and all grades 7 and 8 to secondary school (current grades 5 and 6)

3. BRPS stays single track;

Adjust Lakeshore Discovery eastern boundary to Renaud line (English only) 244 students

Adjust Centennial Central western boundary - North of 401 and French line 26 students

Adjust Centennial boundary accordingly at natural boundary or as numbers allow

Only options for Lakeshore Discovery for boundary adjustment are Rourke and Renaud and Traditional Trail

Data for each one

Adjust English boundary

Possible boundary changes for Centennial

Data by street ?

7. Future meeting dates

May 13th at 4 p.m. committee meeting at the Essex Civic Centre, 360 Fairview Avenue West, Essex, at 4:30 p.m. in room D

Discussion took place as to who would be part of the presentation committee; no decisions

May 22 at 7 p.m. community meeting at Belle River DHS

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.