

the programs stay because I don't think that my son would have had the same opportunity at any other high school and he is an amazing person partly because of those programs. I just want to express that concern to you and hope that the Dougall family is still involved in terms of communication. Please make sure the programs stay the same for Century.

Q –A request has been made that there be a Special needs consultant on this process.

R- Dr. Pyke, Superintendent of Special Education will be actively involved in this process but sent her regrets this evening.

Q- I have been involved with public meetings for a study the school board did call the "white paper". Are we going to resurrect that and take a look at any of the recommendations?

R – No I don't think that we will be resurrecting any of the white paper at this time.

## **7. Closing Comments and Adjournment**

Superintendent Lyons reminded the audience of the three more community meetings. He emphasized to the audience that the committee can only make recommendations; trustees will make the final decision.

There being no further questions, the meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

---

## 6. Questions relating to the process

Q- Why were trustees not consulted before the removal of Benson Public School, Dougall Public School and Taylor Public School from the PARC committee?

R – The committee had a lengthy discussion (over one hour) regarding the mandate of the PARC and the viability of those schools in achieving solutions. The committee held ballots and determined to have those three school exempted from the PARC.

Q- Will that ever go back to Trustees?

R- No, that is not a trustee decision, but a decision of the PARC committee.

Q- My daughters currently attend Benson, who is eligible to attend the new school?

R- The decision was made by the Trustees last May. Benson Public School and Taylor Public School will be closed and a new school will be built on the Taylor site. Anyone that lives in those two schools boundaries will be able to attend the new school.

Q- Where will my daughters go to school in September?

R- Your daughters will attend Benson Public School. We are at the point where an architect has been selected and plans are being developed on for the design of the new school. We are hoping for a September 2013 opening.

Q - Can the three schools that have been excluded still participate in the PARC?

R-The three schools have been excluded from the PARC committee can still provide input. Notifications of any discussions affecting Benson Public School, Dougall Public School and Taylor Public School will be sent home with students. Even though they have been excluded from the committee work they haven't been excluded from the process.

Q – Century is part of this study. I didn't see any of the data you had on the other secondary schools i.e. Herman?

R – We selected a few schools for examples to show the cost per pupil. We didn't include everybody.

Q- There are other parents here from the Elementary level. Our son is at Century so he is Secondary. Are Elementary and Secondary going to be separated?

R – At this time there are no decisions made. Forster is a Secondary school as well and is still in the accommodation study. We haven't even started to brainstorm ideas of what solutions there would be to help solve the two given mandates.

C- Century is a very specialized school for hands on students and I would like to bring forward just to ensure that those types of accommodations will be available if they are moved i.e. the kitchen, automotive those types of facilities that are not available at all schools.

C- I completely understand why the school board is looking at all the schools in terms of capacity issues. I just want to share these parents' exact same concerns. As a Century parent having the opportunity to watch my child grow and succeed to make sure those programs and the quality of

#### **4. Review of Process**

Committee Composition (each school will be represented by):

- Two parents/Guardians
- School Principal
- One teaching staff
- One Superintendent – appointed by the Director of Education
- One recording secretary – appointed by the Director of Education
- The committee as a whole will have three participants from the broader general public

PARC Committee Tasks

- Study reports related to enlisted schools
- Review current and future enrolment trends
- Review current renewal needs, utilization rates and operating costs
- Examine school boundaries, school information and school programming
- Propose recommendations for discussion
- Listen to community input
- Liaise with various community groups/partners
- Write and submit a report containing recommendations to the Director of Education
- Present the completed report to Trustees for their consideration at a Public Board Meeting.

One of the reports the committee will look at for each school is the School Information Profile which include:

- Value to the Student
- Value to the School Board
- Value to the Community
- Value to the Local Economy

- A committee is formed with representation from every school participating in the PARC
- The PARC committee has regular meeting to review data and determine recommendations
- Four public meetings
- The committee writes a report and submits the recommendations to the Director of Education
- The committee presents their report at a public meeting
- The Director of Education analyses the committee reports and submits recommendations to Trustees
- Trustees vote and make the final decision

#### **5. Future community meeting dates**

- Monday, April 2, 2012
- Wednesday, May, 2012
- Monday, June 4, 2012

# Greater Essex County District School Board PROGRAM AND ACCOMMODATION REVIEW FORSTER FAMILY AND CENTURY SCHOOLS

Thursday, February 16, 2012 at 7 p.m.

Report of a meeting held in the gym at Brock School



THAT THE SUPERINTENDENT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCOMMODATIONS CONDUCTS A PARC STUDY OF THE FORSTER FAMILY OF SCHOOLS AND INCLUDE CENTURY DUE TO ITS GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION TO:

- i. ADDRESS CAPACITY ISSUES AND AGING INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS WITHIN THE FORSTER FAMILY OF SCHOOLS
- ii. CONTINUE OUR INVESTIGATION FOR A PERMANENT FRENCH IMMERSION SITE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH BOARD DIRECTION FROM THE SOUTH WINDSOR PARC.

**Present:** There were approximately 40 persons in the audience including the committee.

**Regrets:** Sharon Pyke, Superintendent of Special Education and Area Superintendent for Century Secondary School

**Facilitator:** Terry Lyons, Superintendent of Education

**Recorder:** Lisa Scherer, Administrative Assistant to Area Superintendent

## 1. Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Superintendent Lyons.

## 2. Introductions

Warren Kennedy, Director of Education, John Howitt, Area Superintendent, Helga Bailey, Chairperson of the Board, Shelley Harding-Smith, Trustee, Kim McKinley, Trustee, Sarah Gall, PARC Committee Chair. Translators were available as needed.

Superintendent Lyons pointed out that cards were provide for questions for those who were uncomfortable speaking at the microphone.

*A powerpoint presentation of Superintendent Lyons presentation is attached. Highlights are noted below.*

## 3. Background

Every year the Director presents an annual accommodation report. This report is a system analysis of where our system is at and what efficiencies we need to improve on and what we need to do within our Board to make sure that we are effectively using the resources we have. After a lengthy discussion the committee has voted to exclude Benson Public School, Dougall Public School and Taylor Public School from the PARC.

Why the Forster Family was chosen for the PARC:

- Continues to have some of the oldest buildings in the Board
- Has one of the lowest utilization rate in the Board
- Enrolment projections continue to remain low for the next twenty years
- The current situation is not sustainable