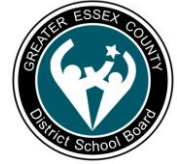


# Greater Essex County District School Board PROGRAM AND ACCOMMODATION REVIEW KINGSVILLE FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

Thursday, February 23, 2012 at 7 p.m.

Report of a meeting held at Ruthven School



THAT THE SUPERINTENDENT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCOMMODATIONS CONDUCTS A PARC STUDY OF THE KINGSVILLE FAMILY OF SCHOOLS TO:

- i. REDUCE THE NUMBER OF EMPTY STUDENT SPACES
- ii. IMPROVE THE UTILIZATION RATES WITHIN THE FAMILY OF SCHOOLS.

There were approximately 56 persons in the audience including the committee.

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

**Recorder:** Lynne Hornby

## 1. Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Superintendent Lyons.

## 2. Introductions

Superintendent Lyons introduced Trustee Burgess, Director of Education, Warren Kennedy and the Area Superintendent, Paul Antaya. The Chair of the committee, Elliott Dunlop and members of the PARC were acknowledged.

*A powerpoint presentation as used, 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. One of the recommendations of the October 2001 Accommodation Report was that we conduct a PARC study of the Kingsville Family of schools. Student programming and student achievement remain a priority for this Board. Our focus is to be more efficient in our buildings and spend more money for student programming.

*A PowerPoint presentation used to share information with the community is attached.*

Why the Kingsville Family was chosen for the PARC:

- This family requires significant renewal needs
- 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

Renewal needs and infrastructure costs will soon have a significant impact on our system as a whole and this family specifically. The family's total elementary utilization rate is 66% (excluding Pelee Island school) and will continue to decline over the next 15 years, given the anticipated enrolment declines. In this family of schools, we are spending 35% of our total costs on empty student spaces, rather than focusing the resources on supporting student achievement. The better the utilization rate, the more cost effective it is per student, thus allowing funding to be directed to student

programming and not be used to maintain empty student spaces. The optimum utilization rate is 85% for maximum funding.

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

The Superintendent went on to discuss the PARC committee composition and responsibilities.

The 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

Each section was outlined and is detailed in the attached powerpoint presentation

Next. Superintendent Lyons reviewed the steps in the PARC process. Once a committee has been formed:

- 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 meeting dates**

Second community meeting is Wednesday April 11 at Kingsville Public

Third community meeting is Wednesday, May 16 at Jack Miner

Fourth community meeting is Thursday, June 7 at Kingsville DHS

**6. Questions relating to the process**

Q. Is St John de Brebeuf's population considered in the enrolment projections?

A. Data from another system is not available to us. The separate Board has not made any decisions at this time.

Q. This family of schools doesn't draw just from the Kingsville area because of its French Immersion program. Those students come from Harrow, Woodslee and Leamington. How will the committee examine French Immersion data.

A. French Immersion enrolments appear to be growing but we do know there are declining birth rates. The Board has a consultant who provides data to us/

Q. When will any changes be implemented?

A. The last community meeting is June 7 and the committee will present its report to the Board after that date, most likely in the Fall of 2012. It is doubtful that any changes will be in place before September 2013. A trustee decision will likely be towards the end of 2012.

Q. Are immigration trends considered in your statistics?

A. Yes, the consultant breaks down all sorts of data. The preliminary data from the most recent census seems to indicate that more people are leaving the area than we had anticipated. Immigration is baseline data and that is how it is projected. Kingsville is becoming a retirement community, those moving in are not of child bearing age. The decline we have seen since 2003 is flattening out. Enrolment is going to plummet.

C. Good luck to the committee.

Q. We can assume there will be changes to the infrastructure – does the timeline mentioned provide enough time for any implementation?

A. Yes it provides plenty of transition time.

Q. Will the kindergarten enrolments affect any of those decisions?

A. Decisions will have been made prior to next year's kindergarten registration.

Q. People are holding off registering their children this year.

A. We can't predict how many families have not yet registered their children for kindergarten

Q. Are some of the aspects examined weighted heavier than others?

A. Pelee Island School is the only school that receives funding due to geographical distances. All the schools will be evaluated in exactly the same manner

Q. There is a rule about children out of district during a PARC:I want to register my kindergarten child out of district at one of the schools.

A. This is not the forum for this question. The implementation of FDK impacts decisions surrounding out of district enrolments. Such out of district requests are currently under review.

**7. Closing Comments and Adjournment**

There being no further questions, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m