Greater Essex County District School Board Tecumseh Family of Schools Wednesday, February 27 2013 at 5 p.m. Report of a meeting held in the Cafeteria at Tecumseh Vista Academy



#### Our Task:

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

1. THAT THE SUPERINTENDENT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCOMMODATIONS FACILITATES AN ACCOMMODATION REVIEW OF THE TECUMSEH FAMILY OF SCHOOLS TO ADDRESS CAPACITY ISSUES AND THE MODELS OF PROGRAM DELIVERY.

**Present**: Tecumseh Vista Academy, Joan Rankin, Paul Bisson, Simona Baggio, Diana Fratarcangeli (arrived at 6:15 p.m.), Helen Papanastassiou, Doug Marshall, Heather Emery; DM Eagle School, Arlene Bryce Hanson, Rachel Bulmer, Shelly Hodare, Natalie Hatch; Victoria School, Dave Simone, Jody Lamb, Marsha Tterlikkis; and AV Graham School, Amanda Dibbs, Bill Murray, Wayne Samwell, Brenda Fletcher; Community representatives, Daniel Hofgartner, Eileen Fournier

Regrets: Robert Hubbard

Chairperson: Terry Lyons, Superintendent of Education

**Recorder:** Lynne Hornby

### 1. Call to Order and Welcome

Chairperson Samwell called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Updates for information binders were distributed.

We have been advised that a community member regretfully has had to resign from the committee for family reasons.

### 2. Review of minutes/previous considerations

The minutes of the February 21 Organizational meeting have been circulated to the committee vi ae-mail. There being no changes, they are now posted to the Board website under the Student Accommodation icon. L. Hornby explained that this was a quick turnaround time as there have only been three working days between meetings. She also explained that any changes or corrections should be reported to her when the minutes are circulated to the committee as they must be posted to the website in advance of the next committee meeting.

# 3. Review of School Information Profiles as completed to date

Superintendent Lyons noted that the purpose of the School Information Profile is to provide the public with information about each school. There are some significant differences in Tecumseh as the town's four schools have four different grade structures.

The information collected to date for each School Information Profile was reviewed in detail. Each principal highlighted sections as appropriate. Clarifications were made. The Facility Information will be added before the next committee meeting. At that time, the committee must determine how the School Information Profiles will be presented at the second

community meeting and whether or not anything will be added or deleted. Superintendent Lyons stressed that each school's profile must contain the same information.

4. Tentative dates for Committee meetings – will be posted on website Wednesday March 20 at 6 p.m. at DM Eagle School \*\* note time change Wednesday April 17 at 5:30 p.m. at Victoria School – revised day and location Wednesday May 1 at 5:30 p.m. at AV Graham School – revised location Wednesday May 15 at 5:30 p.m. at Tecumseh Vista Wednesday June 5 at 5:30 p.m. at DM Eagle School Wednesday June 12 at 5:30 p.m. at AV Graham School

5. Tentative dates for Community meetings – will be posted on website All the dates for the four community meetings were determined. They will all take place at Tecumseh Vista Academy at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 7
Wednesday April 10
Monday May 27 - revised
Monday June 17

## 6. New Business/Requests for Information

Maps of Belle River DHS and Essex DHS boundaries were requested.

Superintendent Lyons again emphasized that the PARC is not a decision making body. The PARC acts in an advisory capacity to trustees. Trustees are the only decision makers.

He is aware that there is already some miscommunication in the community and he stressed that any decisions will not be made by trustees before the Fall of 2013 and will not be effective until September 2014.

Status quo is not an option. With a \$5.2 million deficit, the Board must make some fundamental changes in its educational delivery or cut programming. No-one wants to see the latter. It is very important to remember that it is the people in the building that make the difference, not the structure itself.

The committee will soon begin to brainstorm ideas for possible solutions to the mandate. No ideas will be dismissed; they will all be explored.

## 7. Questions

Questions and clarifications were addressed while the School Information Profiles were being reviewed.

#### 8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m. at which time those who wished to take a tour of the school did so.