



ACCOMMODATION REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Location: Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School
Tuesday, June 17, 2008 7:00pm – 9:00 pm

Attendees: Trustee Janet McDougald, Penny Gingell (Chair), Jennifer Cowie Bonne, Nancy Crooks, Sandra Cross, Karen Crouse, Catherine Deegan, Caren DesBrisay, Michelle Kletke, Greg Lorentz, Mary Pat McConnell, Paul Mountford, Steve Paas, Debra Powell, Lydia Renahan, Kathy Moores

Regrets: Jane Howely

1.1 Welcome

Action Item:

Penny Gingell, Superintendent of Education and Chair of the ARC welcomed everyone to the first of four public meetings and introduced the members of the ARC committee. The Mandate of the ARC was read. It was explained that the Peel District School Board guides any decisions about the review and potential consolidation of existing schools. Decisions are to be made with the involvement of the community and based on the learning needs of the students affected. The policy and procedures comply with Ministry of Education guidelines. The purpose of the meeting is to listen to the questions and concerns of the parents and residents of the communities involved in the ARC process.

Person Responsible:

Penny Gingell

2.0 Overview of school consolidation process

The board's policy outlines four stages that must be completed when considering closing schools: Identification, Review and Analysis, Presentation of Recommendations to Physical Planning and Building Committee and the board of trustees, Implementation. Further details of each stage can be found on the Peel District School Board's website.

The Peel Board has created an Accommodation Review Committee to review four schools for potential consolidation:

Byngmount Beach Public School was selected because its enrolment is at 37 per cent capacity – the lowest in the Peel board and its enrolment is expected to continue to drop over the next decade.

Lyndwood Public School is nearby and its enrolment is 51 per cent capacity, with an expected decline in the next 10 years.

Person Responsible:

Paul Mountford

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Neil C. Matheson Public School is close to Byngmount Beach and Lyndwood. Its enrolment is not at capacity, and its enrolment is expected to decline in the next decade. Allan A. Martin Senior Public School is the middle school for Neil C. Matheson and it is located near Byngmount Beach and Lyndwood schools.	
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3.0 Accommodation Review Committee

Sandra Cross, School Council Representative, Byngmount Beach Public School explained that as a member of the ARC, there is a responsibility to lead a review of the school accommodation needs within the review area. Through consensus-building decision-making and community consultation, a review of available options to develop creative, community-driven solutions. A recommendation for student accommodation is made to the Physical Planning Department and to the full board to maximize student learning within the resources available.	Person Responsible: Sandra Cross
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4.0 Next steps in the process

Janet McDougald explained that she was the chair of the Peel District School Board and also the trustee for the schools identified in this review process. In her capacity as the trustee for this area, she is also a non-voting member of the ARC. She comes to the process with the same open mind as the other members: to represent the needs of all students and parents in the review area. As chair of the board of trustees, she assured the community that the board does not have any predetermined idea of what the final outcome of this process should be. No decisions have been made. The ARC will begin to develop options based on questions and comments raised. Creative thinking is encouraged in the next phase of the process. At the next public meeting – September 24, 2008, possible options will be presented and feedback gathered. The third public meeting – October 29, 2008 will be an opportunity to further review the recommendations going forward. The fourth and final public meeting – November 27 will be the presentation of the report and the ARC's proposed recommendation going to the board. ARC submits a written report to the Controller of Planning & Accommodation that includes findings and recommendations on December 8, 2008. . March 3, 2008 , Physical Planning and Building Committee review ARC report and recommendations.	Person Responsible: Janet McDougald
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A final decision will be made at the regular board meeting on March 24, 2009. The final decision belongs to the board of trustees, not the ARC or board staff.

Opportunities to delegate will occur at future PP&B and Board meetings as timelines state on the website.

Community input is important and will be seriously considered but the final decision will be based on what is best for student learning and the resources of the board.

5.0 Questions and Comments

Questions and comments will be posted on website. The community is requested to submit its ideas for the best possible solutions for students and the community, either directly to their parent representatives on the ARC or via email on the website.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.