



**The Pupil Accommodation Review Committee
Public Meeting - Open House Synopsis
(Albion Heights JMS, Elmbank JMA, Greenholme JMS,
Humberwood Downs JMA, Melody Village JS)**

**Public Meeting #3 – Open House
Date: May 31st, 2012
Time: 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Location: Greenholme JMS, Gymnasium**

Synopsis:

Present:

*Albion Heights JMS
Elmbank JMA*

Sandra Buie – Principal, Tham Banting, Ulita Walsh
Aldona Volunge – Principal, Fitz-Roy Gordon – Vice-Principal, Lennox Abraham,
Hersi Ali, Maria Ali

*Greenholme JMS
Humberwood Downs
Melody Village JS*

Terry Singh – Principal, Moriam Ajenifuja
Joan DeMurrell – Vice Principal, Denise Domise, Nilesh Mehta
Pauline Miller - Principal, Lise Jickels, Devon Drepaul

*Student Reps:
Interpreters*

Sitesh Patel, Asheka Khan
Chandra Kanagaratnam, Ali Haider, Parveen Bhalagamwala, Abdisalam Shakul,
Cathine Chung

*Childcare
Staff*

Sadia Abdullahi and Hwo Ali
Annie Appleby – Superintendent of Education, John Hastings – Local Trustee,
Claude N. Grimmond – Facilitator, Reema Khanna, Andrew Gowdy, John
Tancredi, Abdi Ali, Sandra Tondatt, Dina Pizolinas, Janet Mills, Tanya Senk,
Giovanna De Girolamo

*Parent Ed. Network
Note Taker:*

Barbara Frinpong
Bernie Daya

Item	Agenda	Responsibility Attachments
1.	The Open House Public Consultations are intended to share information as well as gather feedback. Community members were given the opportunity to talk with staff whilst sharing their insights and concerns.	Annie Appleby
2.	<p>Welcome/Overview</p> <p>Everyone who registered was given a Passport to the Open House for the Ward 1 REXDALE Elementary School Pupil Accommodation Review as well as a Feedback Survey upon arrival. Participants were greeted and directed to tour all stations surrounding the gym: Pupil Accommodation Review Process, Understanding the 5 Schools, Possible Accommodations: Models # 1 2 3 and 4 were displayed for community reflection for possible accommodations. The discourse was managed by Planning; French Immersion Programming – FSL Program Coordinator and CCP, Garden by students: Parenting & Family Literacy Centre, Roots of Empathy –TDSB Partners.</p> <p>The drop off box for suggestions and feedback surveys as well as sending comments to the website brighterfutures@tdsb.on.ca.</p>	

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	<p>Welcome/Overview Continued:</p> <p>Display Board with all PARC committee members identified with photographs and position/role + notation of those with voting rights. Members of the committee escorted visitors around the stations answered questions and directed them to the appropriate staff person.</p>	
3.	<p>Questions/Comments/Responses:</p> <p>*“If the decision is made to move the Queen’s Plate students to Albion Heights, will parents be able to choose to remain at Elmbank if they like the school and are happy there?” <u>Response:</u> TDSB has an optional attendance policy that would be followed. It is possible that intermediate level students who wish to graduate with peers may remain at Elmbank JMA and any new families go to Albion Heights JMS –if this is the preferred model to be recommended. This will be addressed and clarified.</p> <p>*George Martell commented that he did not understand why the committee was promoting the Albion Heights French model. <u>Response:</u> This is a new model that came out of discussions from the Public Meeting at Melody Village and from the committee. Mr. Martell commented that it was another example of “elitism” similar to what happened in 1999 when the Humberwood Downs JMA boundary was changed. He stated that the parents have hired a human rights lawyer Rosenthal – moreover, they have indicated that if the model is not one where Queen’s Plate goes to Albion heights they will be proceeding with the case.....”this is not a question but only information.”</p> <p>*Will there be an Early French Immersion program as a result of this ARC? <u>Response:</u> At this time, all of the models include a SK FI program – certain models include this program as part of a dual track school and one of the models proposes the establishment of a FI centre (at Melody Village).</p> <p>*What about Extended French? <u>Response:</u> Currently we have a program in the area at Greenholme which is meeting the demand and has room for additional students.</p> <p>*If the French Immersion program was introduced at a school in the area, would a child be able to enrol in the program if they are no longer in SK? <u>Response:</u> Unfortunately, no they would not be able to enrol. French Immersion entry is in SK. Students have an opportunity to apply into the French Extended program starting in Grade 4. All individuals who are in favour of French Immersion were pleased with the idea of a local program rather than the distance for Elmlea JS.</p> <p>*If Albion Heights attendance area is expanded, the students west of Hwy 27 will still require bussing and will still not be able to access extracurricular activities.</p> <p>Some community members did not feel like the options that were proposed provided a real solution for the area. They felt that the TDSB will be back in a review process in a couple of years if any of the options were adopted.</p>	

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4.	<p>Participants were encouraged to participate in the Survey brighterfutures@tdsb.on.ca. It is important that we hear back from the community throughout this process. Input will be considered along with feedback from others. All ideas will be considered by the PARC Committee in its deliberations and report to the TDSB Board.</p>	<p>Annie Appleby</p>