



PART – PUBLIC CONSULTATION

DON VALLEY/WOODBINE JHS

October 27, 2015

7:00-9:00 p.m.

Woodbine JHS

Central Membership:	Ken Lister (Trustee), Beth Veale (Superintendent), Karen Buzzelli (recorder), David Paltser (Planning), John Tancredi (French), Lori Moore (Special Education), Alisa Cashore, Marisa Cocco, Mary Outow, Angela Halkidas, Mario Perri, Paul Farrell, Annie Slater, Lisa Laliberte, Danila Duliunas, Debbie Loftus-Tierney, Tamara Grealis, Kevin Freckelton
Attendees:	Records indicate that 258 individuals signed in.

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
Objective of Meeting:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Community to hear what we are proposing in the way of changes taking into account:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Space accommodation issues in the areaBoard motion from 2000 regarding JHSSecondary gifted program pathway	
Questions/Comments/Concerns:	<p>During the course of the evening the following were raised, in some instances by more than one individual:</p> <p>EQAO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Not hearing about student wellbeing. EQAO happens in grade 6. Child moves to new school for grade 6 and then has to do EQAO! That's a lot of pressure. Some schools do not seem to have the best EQAO results. Schools that have the higher attendance rates tend to have higher results. Board should be looking at why enrolment at Woodbine is not what it should be at? <i>Looking at adding TOPS to Vanier. Board looking at how we can make our schools more effective. The work of this particular process is addressing the utilization of the schools. What do we do in terms of programing to make a school desirable? Pathway means that there is a school assigned to your home address...based on geography. Optional attendance is always an option.</i> <p>Moving Gr. 9 to Secondary:</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moving the grade 9 students to secondary school is important. Grade 9 change is very important. Credits accumulate 9-12, if you fail first grade you cannot move on to the local school. Transition from JHS to 10-12 is not conducive. It is grade 9 EQAO that counts, not grade 6. <p>Enrolments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Think that we have looked populations at different schools, but why are some over populated and some under? Reality is that kids don't want to go those schools, i.e. Don Valley. Why don't we take another perspective? Why do we cut resources from good schools and give them to the bad schools? We should make the good schools bigger and infuse more resources into the better schools and increase population. <p>French Immersion Transitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Too many transitions for French immersion. <i>Agree that it is not a perfect situation. Will make the transition as smooth as possible for the students. Will make sure that Don Valley and Windfields students will interact before they move to Windfields. Trustee Ken Lister has heard the concerns about York Mills being only Gr. 10-12; not disagreeing. Cannot promise will be fixed in the short term. Will push, has already spoken to other trustees. Cannot promise it will be done but will push for it.</i> When will we know what other French immersion options are available? Have you thought about having a French immersion only school? <p>Safety:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moving kids that are younger (gr. 6) to a middle school environment; are we expecting them to be as mature and grown up as the Gr. 7-8? Will they be treated differently and thereby be segregated from the rest of school? How will we manage the logistics of this? <i>Some of this will be a school by school decision, i.e. some middle schools don't allow kids to leave at all, some have lunch passes, some need parental consent, etc.</i> Concern re travel for 10-11 year olds; is it legal to let them walk/transit alone? <p>Gifted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned with gifted student from Seneca Hill going distance to Zion Heights. Is a long way and most of the class live east of Don Mills. <i>Transition is based on which</i> 	

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	<p><i>schools have space. TTC tickets are provided for gifted programs. Many students in Gr. 6 already travel by TTC. We work with parents in the summer to prepare them for this kind of transportation. Not all students will be going to Zion, especially east of Don Mills. We opened a new site in ER19 this year. If in this immediate area will go to Zion, if travelling from further away will be routed elsewhere.</i></p> <p>Optional Attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will Optional Attendance be available for 2016? This process does not stop you or change optional attendance rules? <i>Georges Vanier will still have room for optional attendance.</i> <p>General:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If most beneficial model is K-8 why are we not making this happen more? <i>Cost of retrofit for kindergarten is prohibitive. Have to demonstrate to ministry we have done what we can before they will fund.</i> • Has the team considered just changing the boundaries? <i>Yes, but when you change one area it affects the areas next door as well.</i> • We should improve our education system, not just move kids to other schools. This should be about our kids. 	
Next Steps:	PART members will meet to review feedback.	
Next Meeting	November 3, 2015	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 9:10	

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