

**Final Report of the Program Area Review Team (PART) for
Georges Vanier SS Cluster of Schools
November 3, 2015**

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Georges Vanier SS Cluster of Schools Program Area Review Team recommends the following:

- 1. Grade Changes;**
 - a. The junior elementary schools (Crestview PS, Dallington PS, Forest Manor PS, Kingslake PS, Lescon PS and Seneca Hill PS) become JK to Grade 5 schools.**
 - b. That Don Valley JHS and Woodbine JHS become Grade 6 to 8 schools.
 - i. With corresponding school name changes being, to Don Valley Middle School and Woodbine Middle School.****
 - c. Georges Vanier SS becomes a Grade 9 to 12 school;**
- 2. Shift in French Immersion Pathways;**
 - a. The pathway from Don Valley MS for Grade 9 be Windfields JHS, and then to York Mills CI for Grades 10 to 12.**
 - b. That an additional guaranteed option be provided to Don Valley MS French Immersion pupils to attend Newtonbrook SS for Grades 9 to 12.**
- 3. Shift in Special Education Programs;**
 - a. The pathway from Lescon PS and Seneca Hill PS for the Grades 6 to 8 Gifted Program be Zion Heights MS and then on to their designated Secondary school by home address;**
- 4. Change to the Dallington PS Attendance Area west of Leslie Street that becomes part of the Lescon PS attendance area with the pathway to Don Valley MS and Georges Vanier SS.**
- 5. That a future study be conducted of the viability of a TOPS program at Georges Vanier SS**
- 6. Implementation;**
 - a. That Grade 6 and 9 shifts occur for September 2016;**
 - b. That program changes occur beginning September 2016 meaning new program sites will have their first grade of intake;**
 - c. That the change to the Dallington PS boundary be implemented for September 2016 with grandparenting of existing pupils and their younger siblings;**
 - d. That a study of a TOPS program take place as early as September 2016;**
 - e. That school based transition teams be established, involving teachers, parents, principal, and when appropriate students, to identify and mitigate issues in student readiness, including such matters of student safety.**

BACKGROUND

A Local Feasibility Team (LFT) comprised of the area Trustee, Superintendent, TDSB Principals and central program and planning staff, was established to complete the Junior High School review established by the Board of Trustees in June 2000. The objective of the LFT was to come up with a feasible solution for transitioning away from the Junior High School model while addressing significantly over and underutilized schools in the area, as well as enhancing program offerings in local schools. A previous LFT in 2013 established that Grade 9 would move from Don Valley JHS and Woodbine JHS to Georges Vanier SS after a more extensive analysis of the impact on elementary school feeders.

The LFT created 18 scenarios, and a preferred scenario was identified as the most feasible within the context of the TDSB Long Term Program and Accommodation Plan's (LTPAS) Program and Planning Accommodation Drivers.

The transition of the LFT to a Program Area Review Team (PART) was approved by Central Accommodation Team (CAT) on September 17, 2015. The objective of the PART is to continue the work of the LFT in evaluating the feasibility of the preferred scenario 2g (revised), by seeking advice and feedback from impacted parent representatives throughout the course of 3 working meetings. The PART also presented the preferred scenario to the general public to seek input from the broader community. Meeting minutes can be found on the TDSB website.

At the first PART meeting, an explanation of the role of the PART as an advisory committee was given. The group was provided with the Program and Accommodation Drivers that the LFT used to arrive at the preferred scenario, specifically addressing over and underutilized schools, rational attendance areas and equity and access to programs for all students. The PART was asked to evaluate the options using the same criteria. A data package with all of the scenarios the LFT created was distributed to the PART. The data included actual 2014 student enrolments, projected 2019 and 2024 enrolments based on the scenario being considered, as well as an illustration of each of the resulting feeder pathways. The LFT identified Scenario 2g (revised) as the preferred scenario. Enrolment and utilization information about the preferred scenario is shown in Appendix A.

At the second PART meeting, feedback was provided by the group on the preferred scenario in a round table discussion. Feedback forms were also distributed to team members. The group was asked about the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed scenario.

The comments and questions posed at the second PART meeting informed the content of the presentation at the public meeting. A summary of the feedback received at the public meeting and a copy of the presentation can be found online at the Georges Vanier Program Area Review website.

The PART held a third working meeting to discuss the feedback received at the public meeting about the preferred scenario and provide guidance on how to proceed. The

PART membership found consensus on Grade 9 changes, Gifted programming, name changes and a future study for September 2016. A vote was held on implementation for Grade 6 changes, French Immersion programming and boundary changes, and was agreed by a large majority to begin implementation for September 2016.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Program Area Review Team		
School/Organization	Name	Role
Avondale Public School	Michael Byrne	Principal
Brian Public School	Paul Farrell	Principal
	Nellemarie Hyde	School Council
	Aretha Phillip	School Council
	Bianca O'Brien	School Council
	Nancy Simich	School Council
Cliffwood Public School	Sarah Frost	Principal
Crestview Public School	Marie-Therese Haddad	Principal
	Gayathri Samaroo	School Council
Dallington Public School	Danila Duliunas	Principal
	Yesie Funes-Eng	School Council
Don Valley Junior High School	Marisa Cocco	Principal
	Julie Kwok	School Council
	Esther Chung	School Council
	Sumit Sen	School Council
Forest Manor Public School	Kevin Freckelton	Principal
	Marie Soulodre	School Council
	Lubna Daniyal	School Council
George S Henry Academy	Deborah Blair	Principal
Georges Vanier Secondary School	Tamara Grealis	Principal
	Ruth Akhand	School Council
Kingslake Public School	Mary Outow	Principal
	Adina Balaban	Parent Representative
Lescon Public School	Mario Perri	Principal
	Diana Feher	School Council
Seneca Hill Public School	Angela Halkidas	Principal
	Riaz Rahaman	School Council
Woodbine Junior High School	Alisa Cashore	Principal
	Bayan Sarassra	School Council
TDSB Central Staff	Beth Veale	Superintendent (Chair)
	Tracy Hayhurst	Superintendent, ER15
	Linda Curtis	Superintendent, ER17
TDSB Trustee	Ken Lister	Trustee, Ward 17
	Alexander Brown	Trustee, Ward 12

Staff Resources		
Organization	Name	Role
TDSB Central Staff	David Paltser	Educational Planning Officer
TDSB Central Staff	John Tancredi	Central Coordinating Principal, Teaching and Learning
TDSB Central Staff	Lori Moore	Supervising Principal-Special Education
French as a Second Language Advisory Committee	Kristina Laperle	Parent Co-Chair

Meeting Details		
Meeting Type	Date	Time
Committee	October 6, 2015	5:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Committee	October 20, 2015	5:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Public Meeting	October 27, 2015	7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Committee	November 3, 2015	6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

ANALYSIS OF THE PREFERRED SCENARIO

The analysis is summarized in Appendix A and suggests that preferred scenario will provide:

- With grade changes, program relocations, and attendance boundary changes, sufficient classroom space exists to accommodate intermediate grade students at Don Valley MS and Woodbine MS, and all secondary grade students at Georges Vanier SS.
- The resulting impact to the elementary schools indicates general improvement to the number of schools that are over or under enrolled, and corresponding changes to utilization rates, and a reduction in the projected number of portables required.
 - For example, the current situation has 2 schools operating above 100% and 4 schools operating below 65 %. By 2024 there will be 5 schools being utilized over 100% and 1 school below 65%. This is contrary to the accommodation drivers outlined in the Board's Long-Term Program and Accommodation Strategy.
 - The preferred scenario leaves only two schools having a utilization rate above 100%
 - It is noted that Brian PS will remain over enrolled with portables on site past 2024. An accommodation solution is being proposed within the context of the Sir John A Macdonald CI cluster.
 - All non-capital means (boundary change, program relocation, grade changes) have been employed to balance enrolments across the schools.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

There is generally strong support amongst the PART members to proceed with the preferred scenario. Parents generally recognize the benefits of the JK-Grade 5, Grade 6 to 8, and Grade 9 to 12 models and the additional choice this will provide to families.

Throughout the course of our discussions, parents at the PART working and public meetings raised several questions about and made comments concerning the accommodation plan for the area. These are summarized under the following themes.

1. Timing of Changes

- When would implementation take place?
- Is there enough time to plan?
- Too many changes at once?
- Could the changes be phased in?

2. Readiness of Students

- Parents believe Grade 6 students are too young to move schools
- There is anxiety around the change
- Safety concerns around getting to school (walking, TTC) and the distances involved
- Maturity level of students

3. Childcare—Before and After Care

- Some parents want Childcare to be provided at Middle School for the Grade 6 students
- Can programming be provided at Lunch or after school for Grade 6 pupils?

4. Student Success

- What will happen to the teachers and the resources?
- How will we ensure the good student achievement continues?
- Concerns around EQAO testing in Grade 6

5. French Immersion Pathway

- There are concerns around the number of transitions in the proposed French Immersion Pathway (Don Valley-Windfields-York Mills)
- There are concerns over the distance of travel and expense for parents
- Why don't we expand York Mills CI so that Grade 9 can be accommodated?

6. Dallington/Lescon Boundary Change

- If bussing is required to Lescon, there are already traffic concerns at the school
- Can the change be delayed until the new development is completed at the Villaways?

There is a good sense amongst the parent community that with careful planning and the commitment of school staff, administration, parents, and the Superintendent and Trustee, we can achieve the goal to improve program delivery and remedy accommodation pressures.

Appendix A

Site Details	1 Georges Vanier SS	2 George S Henry Academy	3 Don Valley JHS	4 Woodbine JHS	5 Avondale PS	6 Brian PS*	7 Cliffwood PS	8 Crestview PS	9 Dallington PS	10 Forest Manor PS	11 Kingslake PS	12 Lescon PS	13 Seneca Hill PS	Total
Status Quo Data														
Grades Served	Gr. 10 - 12	Gr. 9 - 12	Gr. 7 - 9	Gr. 7 - 9	Gr. JK - 8	Gr. JK - 6	Gr. JK - 6	Gr. JK - 6	Gr. JK - 6	Gr. JK - 6	Gr. JK - 6	Gr. JK - 6	Gr. JK - 6	
Capacity*	1,581	774	450	649	553	358	429	513	602	715	418	452	265	7,759
Portables on Site 2014/15	0	0	0	0	9	5	3	0	0	5	0	0	1	23
Headcount Enrolment Oct 2014	657	512	239	343	464	450	441	400	614	699	306	263	287	5,675
Utilization Oct 2014	42%	66%	53%	53%	84%	126%	103%	78%	102%	98%	73%	58%	108%	73%
Projected Headcount Enrolment 2024	687	569	350	489	484	556	505	530	765	704	325	330	284	6,578
Projected Utilization - 2024	43%	74%	78%	75%	88%	155%	118%	103%	127%	98%	78%	73%	107%	85%
Programs (Special Education, French, Other)	DD (3.0)	-	French Immersion (4.0), DD (2.0)	Behaviour (1.0), ESL (0.5)	ESL (1.0)	French Immersion (11.0)	French Immersion (9.0), Extended French (4.0)	Behaviour (1.0), ESL (1.0)	French Immersion (10.0), ESL (1.0)	ESL (1.0), LD (1.0)	ESL (0.5)	Gifted (2.0)	Gifted (3.0)	-
Program/Community Partnerships						Brian's Petits Amis Children's Centre (3 - excl., 5-shared)	Cliffwood Community Child Care (2 excl., 9-shared)	YMCA (2-shared)	Rendezvous Child Care Centre (4-excl)	YMCA (8-shared)		Lescon (North York) Child Care Program (2-excl., 5-shared)	Phoenix Child Centre (6-shared)	

*Total School Student Capacity based on TDSB Room Use

Scenario 2g (revised) - Grade Changes, Program Shifts, Boundary Changes

Grades Served	Gr. 9 - 12	Gr. 9 - 12	Gr. 6 - 8	Gr. 6 - 8	Gr. JK - 8	Gr. JK - 5	Gr. JK - 5	Gr. JK - 5	Gr. JK - 5	Gr. JK - 5	Gr. JK - 5	Gr. JK - 5	Gr. JK - 5	
Projected Headcount Enrolment 2024	1,054	569	398	489	484	378	382	480	623	621	296	344	234	6,352
Projected Utilization - 2024	67%	74%	88%	75%	88%	106%	89%	94%	103%	87%	71%	76%	88%	82%