

**Final Report of the Program Area Review Team (PART) for
Castlebar and Norseman JMS
March 22, 2018**

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Norseman JMS Program Area Review Team recommends that:

- 1. Castlebar be re-opened as a standalone Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 school, offering Junior Kindergarten to Grade 3 effective 1 September 2019; expanding to Grade 4 effective 1 September 2020, and expanding to Grade 5 effective 1 September 2021; and**
- 2. A Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 Junior Attendance Area for Castlebar be established, as shown in Appendix C – of the report, from a portion of the Norseman JMS Junior Attendance Area north of the Gardiner Expressway, west of Royal York Road, south of Titan Road and the utility corridor, and east of Kipling Avenue effective 1 September 2019.**

BACKGROUND

In November of 2015, the Ministry approved funding to construct an addition at Norseman JMS in response to sustained and projected long term overutilization at the school. To accommodate construction, the Castlebar building was re-opened for September 2017 as a satellite site for Grades 4 and Grade 5. Eight rooms were renovated in Castlebar for interim use. By 2016, updated enrolment projections revealed insufficient space at Norseman JMS for the long term although the new addition would be complete.

In response to increased enrolment, and insufficient space at Norseman JMS, the Board determined that a comprehensive long term accommodation strategy was necessary for the area. As per the Board's Long Term Program & Accommodation Strategy (LTPAS), staff assembled a Local Feasibility Team (LFT) in November 2017 to discuss a long term accommodation plan for the Norseman JMS and Castlebar sites.

The Program Area Review Team (PART) membership was informed that a Local Feasibility Team (LFT) comprising of TDSB Principals, Trustee and Planning

Staff was established to explore the feasibility of opening the Castlebar site as a stand-alone school with associated attendance area boundary changes to Norseman JMS.

The transition of the LFT to a PART was approved by Central Accommodation Team (CAT) on December 14, 2017. The objective of the PART was to continue the work of the LFT in evaluating the feasibility of the proposed accommodation options, by seeking advice and feedback from parent representatives over the course of the working meetings.

PART Meeting #1:

At the first PART working meeting conducted on January 11, 2018, an explanation of the role of the PART as an advisory committee was presented. The PART was provided with the Program and Accommodation Drivers that the LFT used to evaluate the proposed scenario, specifically addressing good utilization, minimal use of portables and efficient use of space in schools.

The PART was provided with an overview of Norseman JMS, and the overutilization concerns due to increased enrolment. The team reviewed the actual and projected enrolment and utilization for Norseman JMS under the status quo and the accommodation options explored during the LFT process to manage anticipated long term enrolment growth (as shown in **Appendix A**).

The PART reviewed three (3) junior attendance area option maps showing the current and proposed Castlebar junior attendance areas as well as two (2) grade range configurations for each option (A-Junior Kindergarten to Grade 3 grade range configuration, or B-Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 grade range configuration). For each option, Castlebar students would enter Norseman JMS at either Grade 4, with the Junior Kindergarten to Grade 3 grade range configuration or at Grade 6, for the Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 grade range configuration. A total of seven (7) accommodation options were presented (as shown in summary table **Appendix D**). Option 2B was identified as the preliminary preferred option, due to a manageable balance of enrolments and anticipated growth attributed to students from new developments, while allowing for flexibly at Norseman JMS with surplus space.

PART Meeting #2:

The second PART meeting was held on January 23, 2018. During this meeting

the PART explored the enrolment projections in greater detail for Castlebar and Norseman for each of the three (3) Castlebar junior attendance area boundaries, with both grade range configurations. The enrolment projection process and inputs required to provide a sound projection were explained as the team reviewed new developments that were factored into the projected enrolment and the proposed junior attendance area. The proposed Castlebar Option 2 junior attendance area would contain the majority of new development and accommodate those students. The team further discussed the preferred Castlebar Option 2B (Option 2 junior attendance area with the, B-Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 grade range configuration).

The team discussed the logistics of opening a school, such as bussing, changes to student's walk to school as well as considering the administrative staff and resources required to run a school efficiently. The information staff intended to present at the public meeting was discussed. The draft public meeting presentation slides were reviewed, with staff noting changes suggested by the PART.

Public Meeting:

The public meeting held on February 8, 2018 offered community members an opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed recommendations being reviewed by the PART. A copy of the presentation slide deck and meeting boards were posted on the TDSB website. A survey was also provided at the public meeting. The deadline to provide comments was February 12, 2018. Four (4) Community Feedback Surveys and seventeen (17) emailed comments were received highlighting concerns about the options, consultation process, implementation strategy and the affects to students. Comments and concerns focused primarily on student transitions, the grade range and considering grandparenting for students currently attending Norseman JMS.

Appendix E provides a summary of feedback received. Refer to **Appendix F** for all feedback.

PART Meeting #3:

The PART conducted a working meeting after the public meeting on February 13 2018, to discuss comments received from community members, and to decide whether any revisions to the PART recommendations would be required in light of the feedback received. The PART discussed the feedback, questions and

concerns expressed by the public.

There was general opposition from community members to proceed with the recommendations, particularly with the preferred grade range configuration. Community members were concerned about student transition to Castlebar. The PART suggested staff investigate ways in which the preferred grade range configuration may be implemented to best service students affected by the transition to Castlebar. The PART agreed that revisions to the recommendations and revisiting the implementation strategy would be required as a result. The PART suggested staff explore a phase- in approach at Castlebar to implement preferred Option 2B (Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 school). Another PART meeting was scheduled for a few weeks later in order to assess options and strategies suggested by the PART and the public.

PART Meeting #4:

The PART conducted its last meeting on February 27, 2018 to further examine options suggested at PART Meeting #3, and to decide on the team's final recommendations. The team reviewed three (3) implementation strategies for preferred Option 2B.

The first strategy was a PART suggested phased-in approach for Castlebar to reach a full stand-alone Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 school. This strategy included an extraction of only Junior Kindergartens to Grade 3 students within the Castlebar Option 2 attendance area for 2019, then retaining grades over the years (add Grade 4 in 2020, add Grade 5 in 2021 etc.).

The second phased-in approach was suggested by staff for Castlebar to reach a full stand-alone Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 school. This strategy included an extraction of only Junior Kindergartens to Grade 3 students within the Castlebar Option 2 attendance area, retaining grades over the years, in addition to a phase-out of Norseman JMS Grade 5 students for 2019.

The last implementation strategy considered was grandparenting students currently attending Norseman JMS while retaining the satellite Norseman JMS Grade 4 and Grade 5 students at Castlebar until total phase- out in 2023. This strategy was further investigated by staff in response to community inquiries received about exploring grandparenting students who are currently enrolled at

Norseman JMS. For this scenario, a Castlebar phase-in would start with an extraction of Junior Kindergarten students within the Castlebar Option 2 attendance area for 2019, and then retaining grades over the years. Norseman JMS Grade 4 and 5 students would continue to use Castlebar as a satellite site, until Castlebar could no longer accommodate Norseman JMS students in 2023.

The PART considered the advantages and challenges to implementing each strategy. Refer to **Appendix G** for details regarding the Castlebar implementation strategies considered by the PART. The team preferred the PART’s phase-in approach. This strategy would be a good use of space in the long term, provide flexibility of space at both schools, and allow for smooth transition to Castlebar for students, while minimizing transitions.

When asked, the PART membership responded that it had reached consensus on Option 2B, with the PART suggested phase-in implementation strategy, being the best option to recommend to the Central Accommodation Team.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Program Area Review Team		
School/Organization	Name	Role
Norseman Junior Middle School	Carolyn Wright	Principal
	Janet Bambrick	Vice-Principal
	Martha Lang	Vice-Principal
	Tabitha Brown	Parent Representative
	Carolyn Froude	Parent Representative
	Heather Strupat	Parent Representative
	Chris Wales	Parent Representative
TDSB Central Staff	Tracy Hayhurst	Superintendent, LN22 (Chair)
TDSB Trustee	Pamela Gough	Trustee, Ward 3

Staff Resources		
Organization	Name	Role
TDSB Central Staff	Fatima Bhabha	Educational Planning Officer, Planning
TDSB Central Staff	William Wallace	Educational Planning Coordinator, Planning

Meeting Details		
Meeting Type	Date	Time
PART Meeting #1	January 11, 2018	6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
PART Meeting #2	January 23, 2018	6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
Public Meeting	February 8, 2018	6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
PART Meeting #3	February 13, 2018	6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
PART Meeting #4	February 27, 2018	6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

ANALYSIS OF PREFERRED AND ALTERNATIVE SCENARIOS

The Program Area Review Team considered the following seven (7) accommodation options.

Status Quo:

- Continue to use Castlebar as a Norseman Grade 4 and Grade 5 student satellite site
- Norseman JMS to accommodate Junior Kindergarten to Grade 3, and Grade 6 to Grade 8

Option 1:

- Relocate students within a Castlebar Option 1 attendance area permanently for **A) Junior Kindergarten to Grade 3** OR
B) Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5
- Norseman JMS to accommodate Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8, plus Castlebar students at transition

Option 2:

- Relocate students within a Castlebar Option 2 attendance area permanently for **A) Junior Kindergarten to Grade 3** OR
B) Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5
- Norseman JMS to accommodate Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8, plus Castlebar students at transition

Option 3:

- Relocate students within a Castlebar Option 3 attendance area permanently for **A) Junior Kindergarten to Grade 3** OR
B) Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5
- Norseman JMS to accommodate Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8, plus Castlebar students at transition

Appendix D provides a comparison of space and utilization at both Castlebar and Norseman JMS under the status quo and PART reviewed options.

PREFERRED OPTION 2B

Attendance Area Boundary Changes

The Castlebar Option 2 attendance area was preferred. With the proposed boundary changes, the current junior attendance area for Norseman JMS would be reduced. It is anticipated that there will be sufficient space at both Norseman JMS and Castlebar over the long term if a portion of the existing students within the Norseman JMS attendance boundary are reassigned to Castlebar. Refer to **Appendix B** for a map of the current Norseman JMS attendance area.

The proposed boundary changes will contain the majority of anticipated enrolment growth from future development in the Castlebar Option 2 attendance area. Castlebar would have sufficient capacity to appropriately accommodate growth attributed to new developments. The Castlebar site also has space on site, should a portable be required in the long term.

The Castlebar Option 2 attendance area was chosen for several reasons. The attendance area will be represented by the centre lines of major roads/boundaries (utility-corridor). The attendance boundary will be cohesively bound by major roads/utility-corridor in order to maintain students on the same side of a street/block attending the same homeschool (boundary follows streets and physical features- not property lines). Neighbours on the same side of the street would not be sent to different schools.

Appendix C provides a map showing the proposed Castlebar junior attendance area with the modification to the Norseman JMS junior attendance area.

Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 Grade Range Configuration

The proposed Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 grade configuration was considered to be the more desirable option by allowing students to remain at Castlebar until Grade 5. Students would then transition to Norseman JMS for Grade 6 to Grade 8. This grade range configuration is preferred due to a consistent transition to middle school (Grade 6) for students attending both Sunnylea JS and proposed Castlebar. The grade range also allows students to be together longer, form bonds and leadership skills by having younger students interacting with older students.

Projected Long Term Enrolment

Option 2B would result in a manageable balance of enrolments at both schools in the long term. Norseman JMS would be at an acceptable utilization in the long term (97% by 2022). Castlebar would be overutilized in the long term (107% by 2022). There would sufficient space at the Castlebar site to accommodate the projected number of students as a result of growth in the area, with the space required for a portable on site if required. A surplus of two (2) classrooms is anticipated at Norseman JMS for the longer term, which will provide the flexibility required to manage any potential unanticipated growth in the area.

Appendix A provides a summary of projected enrolments over time at Castlebar and Norseman JMS under Option 2B.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

There is consensus amongst the voting PART members for Option 2B.

The PART supports re-opening of Castlebar as a Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 standalone school, with a phased – in grade implementation strategy, while establishing a Castlebar junior attendance area with associated junior attendance area boundary changes for Norseman JMS.

Parent representatives on the PART recognized that;

- a phase- in PART suggested implementation plan would best service students at Castlebar
 - 2019: Castlebar Junior Kindergarten to Grade 3
 - 2020: Castlebar Junior Kindergarten to Grade 4
 - 2021: Castlebar Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5
(Phase- in complete)
- renovations and upgrades that have been proposed at Castlebar should be completed in a timely manner, with minimal disruption to students
- a comprehensive administrative staff would need to be assembled well in advance of opening Castlebar

Throughout the course of our discussions, parents at the PART working and public meetings provided feedback and raised several questions about the program and accommodation plan for this community. It is noted at the PART working meetings that conversation about these concepts was lengthy, robust and full of thoughtful questions and responses that allowed multiple sides of the issue to be discussed.

The PART recommends pursuing the recommendations contained within this report.

SUMMARY OF APPENDICES

Appendix A – Long Term Enrolment Projections at Status Quo and Option 2B

Appendix B – Current Norseman JMS Junior Attendance Area

Appendix C – Proposed Norseman JMS and Castlebar Junior Attendance Area

Appendix D – Summary of Options considered by the PART

Appendix E – Summary of Questions and Responses

(questions received during the public process and responses provided by staff)

Appendix F – All Comments and Feedback Received

Appendix G – Summary of Castlebar Implementation Strategies considered by the PART

Appendix A

Long Term Enrolment Projections at Status Quo

		Status Quo - 2 Year Plan		Status Quo Long-Term	
		Implemented Norseman JMS 2017-2018	Implemented Castlebar Satellite 2017-2018	Norseman JMS (Satellite Permanently)	Castlebar Satellite (Permanently)
	Grade Range	JK-3 and 6-8	4-5	JK-3 and 6-8	4-5
	2017 Revised Capacity	507	147	507	147
	Portables	5	0	0	0
2017	OCT 31 2017 Enrolment	651	134	651	134
	Sept Utilization	128%	91%	128%	91%
	Total Classrooms Required	28	6	28	6
	Total Classrooms Existing	23	8	23	8
	Classroom Surplus/Deficit	-5	2	-5	2
2019	2019 Revised Capacity	783	147	783	239
	Prelim SQ Enrolment	849	-	661	188
	Prelim SQ Utilization	108%	-	84%	79%
	Total Classrooms Required	38	-	31	9
	Total Classrooms Existing	35	-	35	12
	Classroom Surplus/Deficit	-3	-	4	3
2022	Prelim SQ Enrolment	1017	-	823	194
	Prelim SQ Utilization	130%	-	105%	81%
	Total Classrooms Required	44	-	37	9
	Total Classrooms Existing	35	-	35	12
	Classroom Surplus/Deficit	-9	-	-2	3
2027	Prelim SQ Enrolment	973	-	786	187
	Prelim SQ Utilization	124%	-	100%	78%
	Total Classrooms Required	42	-	36	9
	Total Classrooms Existing	35	-	35	12
	Classroom Surplus/Deficit	-6	-	-1	3
	Partners	Childcare- Shared		Childcare- Shared	

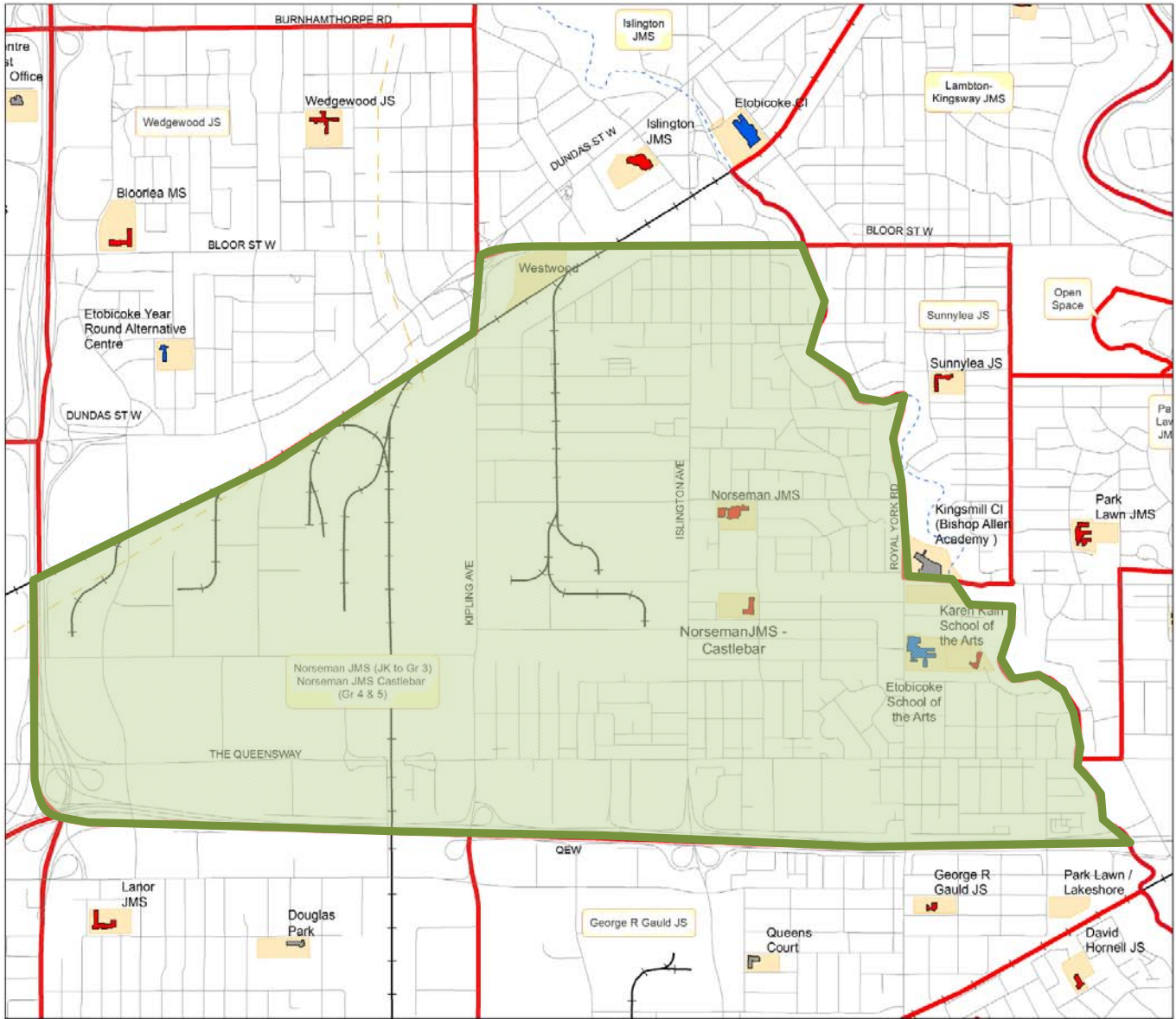
Long Term Enrolment Projections for Option 2B

Option 2-B		Norseman JMS (including Castlebar Gr 6-8)	Castlebar Grade JK-5
	Grade Range	JK-8	JK-5
	2019 Revised Capacity	783	239
2019	Prelim Enrolment	672	177
	Prelim Utilization	86%	74%
	Total Classrooms Required	29	10
	Total Classrooms Existing	35	12
	Classroom Surplus/Deficit	6	2
2022	Prelim Enrolment	762	255
	Prelim Utilization	97%	107%
	Total Classrooms Required	33	13
	Total Classrooms Existing	35	12
	Classroom Surplus/Deficit	2	-1
2027	Prelim Enrolment	717	256
	Prelim Utilization	92%	107%
	Total Classrooms Required	33	13
	Total Classrooms Existing	35	12
	Classroom Surplus/Deficit	2	-1
Partners		Childcare- Shared	

Appendix B



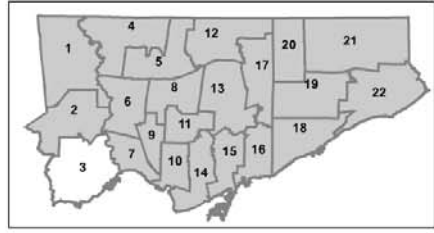
Norseman JMS and Norseman-Castlebar JS Junior Attendance Area



Produced by:
Strategy & Planning, TDSB
December 2017
Source:
Base Map - Land Information Toronto
Facility Data - Strategy & Planning, TDSB



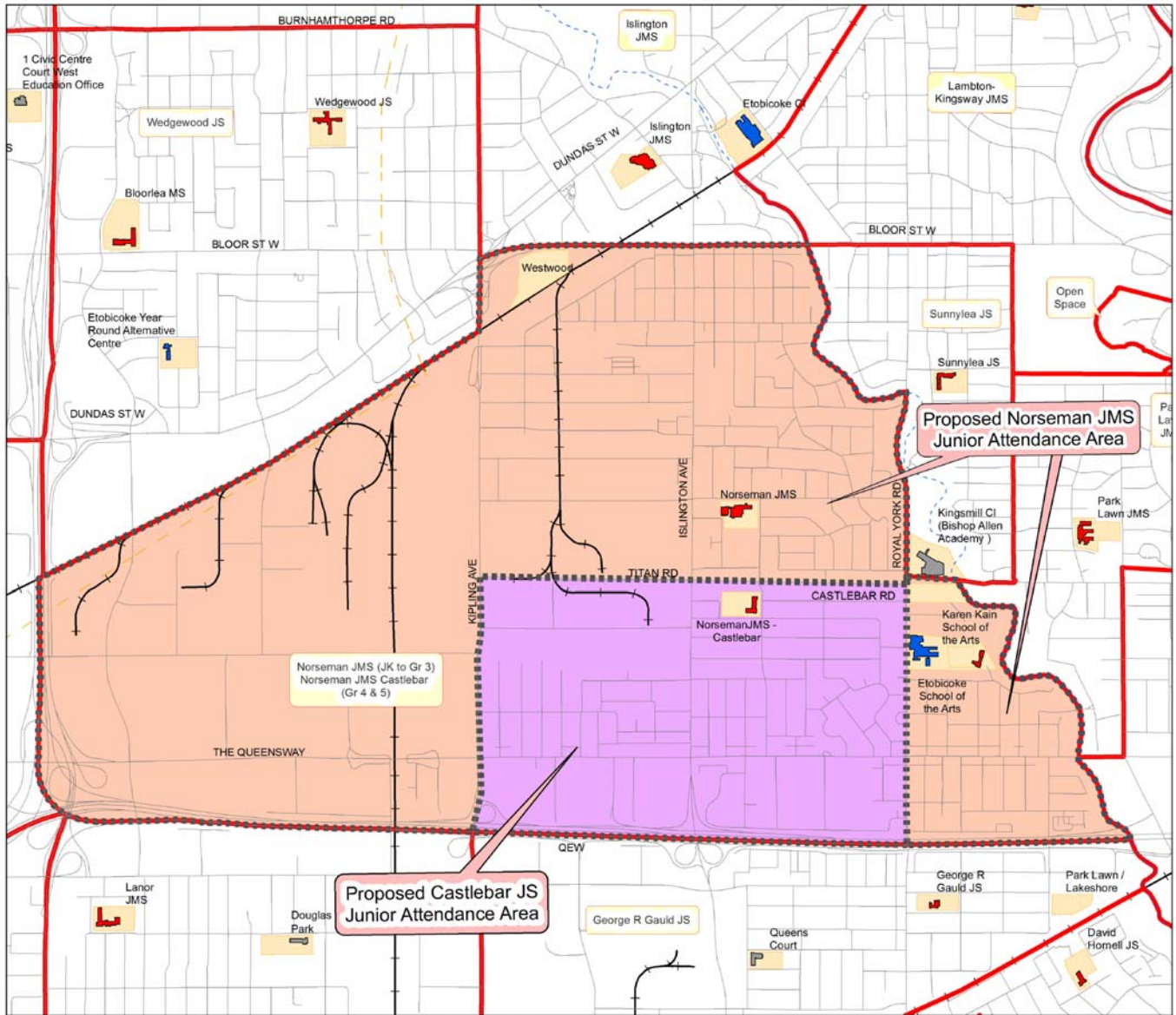
- Legend:**
- Elementary School
 - Secondary School
 - Other
 - Site
 - Junior Attendance Area
 - Major Road
 - Railway
 - Utilityline
 - Waterway



Appendix C



Proposed Norseman JMS and Castlebar JS Junior Attendance Areas (Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5)



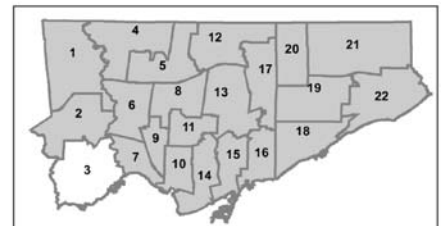
Legend:

- Elementary School
- Secondary School
- Other
- Site
- Junior Attendance Area
- Proposed Junior Attendance Area
- Major Road
- Railway
- Utilityline
- Waterway

Produced by:
Strategy & Planning, TDSB
December 2017

Source:
Base Map - Land Information Toronto
Facility Data - Strategy & Planning, TDSB

L:TDSB/B01/Reviews/Norseman/P20171212
ProposedCastlebarJAAOption 2.mxd



Appendix D

Accommodation Options considered by the PART

<u>Status Quo</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to use Castlebar as a Grade 4 and 5 satellite site permanently - Norseman JMS to accommodate JK-3, and Grade 6 to 8
<u>Option 1</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relocate students within new Option 1 boundary to Castlebar permanently for either A) JK-3 or B) JK-5 - Norseman JMS to accommodate JK-8, plus Castlebar students at transition
<u>Option 2</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relocate students within new Option 2 boundary to Castlebar permanently for either A) JK-3 or B) JK-5 - Norseman JMS to accommodate JK-8, plus Castlebar students at transition
<u>Option 3</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relocate students within new Option 3 boundary to Castlebar permanently for either A) JK-3 or B) JK-5 - Norseman JMS to accommodate JK-8, plus Castlebar students at transition

Options

	1A – JK-3	1B – JK-5	2A – JK-3	2B – JK-5	3A – JK-3	3B – JK-5
Norseman JMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - acceptable utilization in the long-term (97%) - surplus of rooms for the long-term (+2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - acceptable utilization in the long-term (84%) - surplus of rooms for the long-term (+6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - overutilized in the long-term (106%) - deficit of rooms for long-term (-1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - acceptable utilization in the long-term (97%) - surplus of rooms for the long-term (+2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - overutilized in the long-term (111%) - deficit of rooms for long-term (-2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - overutilized in the long-term (104%) - deficit of rooms for long-term (-1)
Castlebar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - overutilized in the long-term (108%) - deficit of rooms for the long-term (-2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - overutilized in the long-term (151%) - deficit of rooms for the long-term (-6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - acceptable utilization in the long-term (77%) - surplus of rooms for the long-term (+2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - overutilized in the long-term (107%) - deficit of rooms for long-term (-1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - acceptable utilization in the long-term (64%) - surplus of rooms for the long-term (+3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - acceptable utilization in the long-term (88%) - surplus of rooms for the long-term (0)

Appendix E

Summary of Questions and Responses

Theme	Issue	Question	Response
Consultation	Timing	<p>What responsibilities do the school and TDSB take in the lack of communication regarding this substantial change and the impact on the families who are in the new proposed boundaries? How can this decision/recommendation be made without properly and thoroughly consulting the community that is being impacted?</p>	<p>The TDSB is committed to public engagement and consultation. Community meetings leading up to the current Program Area Review Team (PART) process were held on June 9, 2016, March 29, 2017 and May 29, 2017 and were intended to keep the community informed on plans for the Norseman addition, interim use of the Castlebar site and the timeline for the formal study and public process for the longer term plan for Castlebar. These presentations and timelines have been posted to the Norseman JMS website for the community's information. The public meeting is the main opportunity in the formal PART process for the public to ask questions, raise concerns, and provide feedback. Letters regarding the public meeting were mailed via Canada Post to all addresses potentially affected by the proposed boundary, and sent home through all students via back pack circulation. Beyond the public meeting there is an opportunity to provide feedback to the PART through the feedback forms provided at the public meeting or as you have done through the accommodationsreviews@tdsb.on.ca email address. There is also an opportunity to provide feedback directly to the Board of Trustees through the delegation process either through written submission or in person at the Planning and Priorities Committee meeting where the PARTs recommendations will be considered. It is the Board of Trustees who makes the final decision about changes to boundaries.</p>
		<p>Why was the PART formed in 2017 when all major communications from the TDSB informed that this would not be examined until the 2019-2020 school year?</p>	<p>The Long Term Program and Accommodation Strategy (LTPAS) represents an annual review and prioritization of projects to be undertaken over the 10-year planning window of the document. The scope of projects is reviewed and updated annually as well as the year in which studies have been prioritized to be conducted. Trustee's approve the LTPAS annually. As you have noted the 2016-2024 approved LTPAS identified:</p>
		<p>The projection enrollment number have not really changed at all, why are we deviating from the strategies presented to review PART in 2019-2021? Why did this PART committee formation start happening 3-4 years in advance? What was the drivers to deviate from the published TDSB studies, especially when there were no enrollment forecast changes?</p>	<p>"Explore a review of the holding strategy introduced at the Norseman JMS/Castlebar 'campus' to determine if it is required in perpetuity to accommodate continued enrolment pressure, or, if the community is better served through the introduction of a new JK-3 standalone school on the Castlebar school site." To be conducted in 2019-2020 school year.</p>
		<p>The plan put forward from the TDSB always said JK-3 would be evaluated in 2020, I am not sure where the JK-5 recommendation is coming from?</p>	<p>The most current 2017-2025 approved LTPAS (approved by the Trustees on June 23, 2017) indicates: "Explore a review of the holding strategy introduced at the Norseman JMS/Castlebar 'campus' to determine if it is required in perpetuity to accommodate continued enrolment pressure, or, if the community is better served through the introduction of a new JK-3 or JK-5 standalone school on the Castlebar school site." To be conducted in the 2017-18 school year.</p> <p>The timing of the review was amended during LTPAS discussions last spring and the intent of moving up the review was to provide the community with some certainty and clarity about the future of the Castlebar site prior to the completion of the addition. The grade range was always intended to be a major consideration of the review and JK-5 was identified to align with the transition point for Sunnylea students to Norseman for grade 6.</p>
	PART Representation	<p>Perhaps the school and the TBSB are not interested in making people fully aware, so that the proposal can be quietly passed to accomplish what was originally intended? How do I know that my concerns were presented to the PART and taken into consideration? There was no line of questioning and no form of feedback. Why was a community meeting with the PART parent team members not held? This would have provided each area representative with a full perspective of the concerns from parents/community members in their area and not just what the perceived concerns may have been?</p>	<p>All feedback has been presented to the PART members and has also been posted to the review webpage for the Norseman/Castlebar PART. Staff put together a summary of the issues and concerns raised as well as the responses provided. Feedback received will also be reflected in the PART report considered by the Board of Trustee.</p> <p>Parent representatives on the PART were chosen to represent those affected by the proposed boundary change. Two representatives are from within the new proposed Castlebar boundary and the other two are from the existing Norseman boundary.</p>

Implementation	New developments	New development should go out of the school area, which is consistent with previous TDSB decisions, in an over capacity school zone like Norseman. Was this reviewed as an option?	The redirection of new development is an option the TDSB considers when there is no ability for the local school to accommodate students anticipated from the new units. Between the 12 additional classrooms being constructed on Norseman and the 12 classrooms available at Castlebar we do not currently anticipate the need to redirect any of the known residential development applications to a school with space outside of the area. The majority of the known new development (8 of 13 applications) in the current Norseman attendance area has been captured in the proposed Castlebar JK to grade 5 boundary.
		New development should go out of the school area in an over capacity school like Norseman. Was this reviewed as an option?	
		Send the JK to Grade 5 in that new development to Castlebar - they will be new students to either school and the integration into a new school is inevitable regardless of what school they attend. Why should the children that already attend Norseman be displaced?	
		Why is it not an option to have new development addresses part of the Castlebar catchment, instead of them having the priority of attending a school that they are already not a part of?	
		We are simply pushing the current Norseman problem to Castlebar. Was the expected future development considered by PART?	
	All known future development has been factored into the enrolment projections used in the analysis presented during the PART process (both working and community meetings). The analysis is not intended to offer a definitive assertion about the need for a portable (or portables) but to suggest based on what is currently known that additional space may be required and the near term solution for any potential shortage of space would be to use portables. Both the Local Feasibility Team (staff process) and the PART have contemplated the potential for portables on both the Norseman (post-addition) and Castlebar site.		
Grand parenting	Is it possible to “grandfather” some students who have already spent years at Norseman and let them continue there without causing them unnecessary stress and anxiety and moving them back and forth between schools?	Providing grand parenting for students currently attending Norseman is not feasible as the students residing within the proposed boundary are required to create a viable program and to efficiently utilise space if Castlebar is to be a standalone school. There would not be a sufficient number of new students moving into the proposed Castlebar attendance area to run a viable standalone school and the site would be significantly under-utilized.	
	Would there be an option to have current students stay at Norseman if they are within the new boundaries for Castlebar?		
	I don't understand why you wouldn't consider the idea of grandfathering those who are already attending Norseman and have the change only affect newcomers to the community ?		
Extra-curricular	My child is in the before and after-school YMCA program at Norseman - will there YMCA be program at Castlebar as well?	Yes, there will be a before and after-school YMCA program and junior teams for students at Castlebar.	
	Will junior teams be available to her if she was to go to Castlebar?		
Options	Enrolment	Option status quo Feb 8th presentation: Since it was already determined in previous utilization studies that Norseman would not be over capacity on status quo, how with is it possible with 42 less students in 2019, than previous studies, that Norseman with the status quo arrangement is over capacity?	The Status Quo Option projected enrolments suggest Norseman would be overutilized in the long-term at (105%) with a deficit of 2 rooms. Castlebar would be at acceptable utilization in the long-term (81%) with a surplus of 3 rooms. The Status Quo Option is not over capacity in 2019. Norseman in the Status Quo Option becomes overutilised due to incoming development by 2022.
	Boundary	I also have a hard time understanding why option 2 grades JK-5 is the preferred option. This splits up the south corridor. Even people affected in option 3 have mentioned that plan makes the most sense. So how was option 2 decided?	Option 2 boundary is considered the preferred option for the following reasons: - Attendance boundary will be cohesively bound by major roads/utility-corridor - Attempts to maintain students on the same side of a street/block attending the same homeschool (boundary follows streets and physical features- not property lines) - Neighbours on the same side of the street are not sent to different schools - Boundary contains and can accommodate the majority of new developments
	Grade Range	What about moving all junior grades (JK-SK-1) to Castlebar and reconfiguring Norseman as a more senior school? What about making Castlebar a stand alone or satellite middle school for grades 6- 8? Were these options considered? If not, why not? If they were ruled out, why? Were renovations at Castlebar School considered to turn that school into a grade 6-8 while keeping Norseman as a JK-Grade 5? Or were any other possible grade combinations considered between the two schools to avoid splitting the boundary?	Several options for grade ranges were contemplated during the analysis that led to the interim relocation of grades 4 and 5. Options to explore relocation of kindergarten grades, primary grades, as well as grade 6-8 were contemplated. Cost associated with fitting up kindergarten classrooms given the investment that had already been made to implement full day kindergarten at Norsemen could not be justified. Both the primary (grade 1 to 3) cohorts and the grade 6 to 8 cohort are projected to be approximately 300 (roughly 100 per grade) and Castlebar’s capacity is 239 (with all 12 classrooms).

Students	Out of Catchment students	What has been done to address those students who attend Norseman using addresses that are within the catchment, but they do not physically live at these addresses?	If we are aware of a family who does not physically live where they say they do, or if a family has moved, we require the two pieces of mail to verify their address as we do when a child originally registers.
	Multiple Transitions	This seems like a rather unique situation where students will be removed from Norseman and then asked to return again in Grade 6. Most students will leave a school and never return to it. Are there any similar scenarios at another school in Ontario that can be reviewed to determine impacts of this change on students, teachers and the community?	The scenario of reopening a closed site in such close proximity to an operating junior middle school is fairly unique to the best of our knowledge. Relocating students is necessary when opening a new school. It requires the students that will populate the new school to be removed from a holding school(s). Most new public elementary schools in Ontario are planned to serve kindergarten to grade 8 so it is difficult to identify examples where students would transition back to a middle school. We are not aware of similar examples of students relocating to a junior school and then rejoining the school they left for middle school grades.
	Multiple Transitions/ Well-being	I have two children, who will both experience this potential boundary change very differently than their friends and the Norseman cohort they began school with. How does this contribute to the continuity of my children's educational experience and learning process? My daughter will be required to make three very unique transitions in the course of a three year period.	We will need to work to support in a unique way considering individual student needs. Major change and varied transition will happen for some with the first year of a boundary change and then change/transition should be minimized from there. School identified several actions they would take to support this transition including careful placing of students in classes with other students who will be attending Castlebar in the following year, continued interaction with Castlebar as a "sister" school (kind of like learning buddies but of the same age), our continued transition day for all students moving from grade 5 to grade 6 (Sunnylea, Norseman, Castlebar).
	Well-being	Have you considered how parents and teachers can address this new proposal that will soon be confirmed and brought up in the school yard? What have you put together for parents and teachers in the way of a toolkit and Q&A to deal with telling children they will be separated from friends and no longer be a part of Norseman?	We can certainly explore putting together a Q&A to support student transition and moving forward. We will consult with varied staff – in school and central to prepare a document.
	Enrolment	Look closely at the children that are in Grade 2 and 3 currently and do an impact analysis on how many are actually IMPACTED by the transfer to Castlebar. How large is that number? What is the current percentage of children attending Norseman that this move would affect ?	Given the proposed implementation date of September 2019 the proposed boundary change would only affect students residing within the boundary and currently attending Norseman in Kindergarten through grade 3 (grade 5's in September 2019). As of October 31st 2017 this represented: JK – 21 SK – 23 Gr 1 – 26 Gr 2 – 17 Gr 3 – 26 This is a total of 133 current students, or roughly 15% of the total October 31, 2017 enrolment of 745. The above numbers do not include the coming 2 years of JKs that would also be included at Castlebar or any new students who were expected to move into the proposed boundary for Castlebar.

Appendix F

All Comments and Feedback Received

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: February-08-18 7:50 PM

To: accommodationreviews

Subject: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

I do NOT support keeping Norseman students in grade 4&5 at Castlebar. If this is being considered please give parents time to petition this decision.

I support the option to make Castlebar a separate JK to 5 school.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Castlebar Re-opening Public Meeting

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: February-11-18 12:40 PM
To: Wright, Carolyn (Principal); Gough, Pamela; Hayhurst, Tracy
Subject: Castlebar Re-opening Public Meeting

Hi there,

I am currently a parent of a Norseman child, and I attended the public meeting last week. Based on your catchment re-alignment this will affect my family, as my child would have to move to Castlebar. I didn't get the opportunity to ask in the meeting but do want to know, what is the current percentage of children attending Norseman that this move would affect? Because depending on what it is, I don't understand why you wouldn't consider the idea of grandfathering those who are already attending Norseman and have the change only affect newcomers to the community? Aside from the obvious emotional impact (friends separated) it would drastically reduce the overall change impact.

I know this was raised in the meeting so it's clear to me there are other parents in this position who feel the same way. If you could please let me know, what that percentage is and what that translates into as an actual number and to please seriously re-consider this. This wasn't an option presented, and I think that's a real miss and I am asking if you could give this idea an opportunity to be explored and vetted more fully.

Thank you,
[REDACTED]

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: February-11-18 10:36 PM
To: accommodationreviews
Subject: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

Good day,

I have 2 children (Grade [REDACTED]) who will be affected by the proposed new boundaries and they would be attending Castlebar in 2019 under the proposal.

One of the reasons my husband and I made the decision to move to this neighbourhood 7 years ago was because we did the research and knew that Norseman was a good school. We wanted our children to attend this school but under this proposal, we would be forced out of Norseman.

I also find it unfair that my daughter, who will be in grade [REDACTED] when Castlebar opens as an independent school, will have to transition to a new school after spending 4 years at Norseman. She will have to leave the relationships and bonds that have been created and go to a new school for 3 years before she can return back to those relationships again. It feels like she is being punished for something that is out of her control.

I understand that the current 155% capacity at Norseman needs to be dealt with and utilizing Castlebar is the most reasonable option. However, is it possible to "grandfather" some students who have already spent years at Norseman and let them continue there without causing them unnecessary stress and anxiety and moving them back and forth between schools? Especially since it has already been identified that Castlebar will be overutilized in the long-term, families who have already started at Norseman should be given the option to stay at Norseman.

Thank you for your time,
[REDACTED]

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: February-11-18 9:09 PM
To: accommodationreviews
Subject: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

Hello,

As parents to 2 children at Norseman we prefer the implementation of Option 2A. Our secondary choice would be Option 2B.

Thank you for your efforts on this matter

Regards
[REDACTED]

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Noreseman/Castlebar concerns

From: Gough, Pamela
Sent: February 12, 2018 7:11 AM
To: [REDACTED]; Wallace, William (Planning); Bhabha, Fatima
Cc: Hayhurst, Tracy
Subject: Re: Noreseman/Castlebar concerns

Hello [REDACTED] thank you for your email and call. I am forwarding your questions to the two TDSB planners who carry this file, Bill Wallace and Fatima Bhabha, for their reply. Bill and Fatima please loop me in on this.

Yours,

Pamela Gough, MSc, MT, OCT
Trustee, Ward 3, Toronto District School Board
Email: Pamela.gough@tdsb.on.ca
Tel: 416-395-8787
Website: <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Ward3>
Twitter: @pamelagough

Sign up for my free monthly e-news here: <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Ward3>

On Feb 10, 2018, at 6:40 PM, [REDACTED] > wrote:

Hi Pamela,

Per my previous email and our conversation today, please see my concerns below with the early formation of the PART for Noreseman/Castlebar. I would appreciate the opportunity to continue our discussion of the items below with you as soon as possible.

My major concern is the manner in which the TDSB has conducted themselves with respect to border changes that affect attendance at Norseman school, as well as the lack of communication on the process and timelines.

I firmly believe the formulation of the PART study is too early and in contradiction to many TDSB documents published and presentations made, outlined below.

I will try to timeline this a bit so we have a basis for discussion:

2009/2010: When decisions were being made about FTK and we were told at the time that there Castlebar was evaluated, and the cost of restoring the school far exceeded any reasonable expectations so there was no chance of Castlebar ever re-opening as a JK-3 school as it was against the TDSB's vision of having JK-8 schools. I am not 100% sure but I do recall you were there at that meeting with Chris Spence.

We can fast-forward a little; everyone did finally agree that there was an overcapacity issue in the area and Norseman was approved for an addition to be complete in 2019, as you know.

June 9, 2016

"p20160608-updateonnorseman" attachment.

Update on the Norseman construction plan. A very well attended meeting, very well planned and it clearly identified next steps of the process.

This plan included on page 14:

"In 2020-21, after the addition at Norseman JMS is complete and the school has adjusted, undertake a review of how the satellite arrangement with Castlebar has functioned (identified in the Long-term Program & Accommodation Strategy 2016-2025)."

"If the satellite arrangement has not functioned well and another use for Castlebar is more appropriate, a Program Area Review Team will be formed to develop and analyze alternatives."

I have heard tremendous feedback, from the parents and the principal commending the great transition, set up and operation of Castlebar as Norseman campus - up to and including great positive feedback at the Feb 8th, 2018 meeting.

Given this tremendous feedback, I am not clear as to why the PART was formed, 3 years ahead of plan?

I also included the 2016-2025 report for reference because in our conversation today you mentioned that it was never the intent to have the Castlebar campus a part of Norseman school in the long-term;

"160615 long term app a part b" attachment.

on page 35:

in 2019-20 "Explore a review of the holding strategy introduced at the Norseman JMS/Castlebar 'campus' to determine if it is required in perpetuity to accommodate continued enrollment pressure, or, if the community is better served through the introduction of a new JK-3 standalone school on the Castlebar school site."

Again, why was the PART formed now when to major communications from the TDSB informed that this would not be examined until the 2019-2020 school year?

Given the above information previously communicated by the TDSB and Norseman staff, I feel strongly that the current decisions that are being made with respect to changing borders at Norseman school is grossly unnecessary and clearly contradictory to any and all official TDSB and Norseman communications have put forward to date.

Dec.5th, 2017

The only communication sent about PART being formed was through a SAC newsletter on December 5th, with a request to reply within a few days.

"SAC News Dec42017" also attached. The purpose of the PART was not indicated in the newsletter so it was very unclear that this committee would be making decisions and recommendations to the TDSB 3-4 years in advance of when it was indicated previously.

I think this clearly outlines my confusion with the situation and it is inappropriate and unjust for the PART to make recommendations without more community involvement.

Any changes from the current plan will just waste more money.

Jan.2018

There were two meeting of the PART, with no feedback requested from the community.

Feb.8.2018

The recommendations of the PART was communicated to the community with many questions leaving residents surprised and not in favor of the recommendation, given the PART was formed 3-4 years ahead of the previously communicated plan, it is reasonable to have this reaction.

Some general concerns I have with the recommendations of the PART thus far;

-The option chosen by PART leaves Castlebar with a portable needed in the onset of the school, with the highest developing areas included in the Castlebar zone (House of Lancaster/Queensway - we are setting ourselves up for the smallest school (only 12 rooms) to have the largest future development in their catchment. We are simply pushing the current Noreseman problem to Castlebar. Was the expected future development considered by PART?

-It was always 'promised' that new development and townhomes across from Noreseman near the No frills would not be included in the area. I agree with this concept. Preference should be given to current residents who have lived here for a long time, are in the current zoning and have had their allocated tax dollars to building Noreseman over many, many years. New development should go out of the school area in an over capacity school like Noreseman. Was this reviewed as an option?

- The plan put forward from the TDSB always said JK-3 would be evaluated in 2020, I am not sure where the JK-5 recommendation is coming from?

-The PART process/timeline was communicated by the school to take place in 2019, after the renovation - it is not appropriate to start a process after misleading the audience with a published timeline.

We should let the current plan unfold and evaluate in 2019-2020; it is very possible that operating Castlebar as a Norseman campus will be a feasible option but we are not giving the previous decisions (and expenses incurred to make these decisions) unfold to best evaluate our next steps.

-Unclear about the rational for not grandfathering siblings that currently live in the area and have already been attending Norsman as grandfathering policy changes is very typical in many instances.

-I did see the PART in the SAC newsletter, dated Dec 5th titled " SAC News and Screenagers is Tonight!!"

and it was understood by myself and others that this notice was starting the process of a series of community meetings that would result in a review in 2019-2021 after the expansion was completed to evaluate the effectiveness of the solution in place.

-With such an important topic such as school boundary decision, one would reasonably expect this would deserve its own meeting to outline the process and steps and not start 3-4 years in advance of previously agreed, published and communicated timelines.

-I am not usually able to attend the SAC meeting but I read the meeting minutes regularly, not once did I see the PART timeline as a topic of discussion which was consistent with the expectation of a 2019 review based on TDSB presentations past.

-There can be many changes between now and 2019, I strong believe making this decision now will not be in the best interest of the most affected area's of change.

-If PART is to continue, we need to do so with more community involvement; this process was not understood by many especially since it was advanced by 3-4 years (per TDSB presentations), so if we are to continue, we need to pause and evaluate the current state and there needs to be more community involvement.

-Lastly (long-shot...), the root cause of the issue is that the current Norseman expansion is not enough space for the zone. We need to pressure for a larger renovation as we have land at Norseman; not simply pushing the new development problem to a smaller school that has not even formed yet is not an appropriate action.

- I really do not think everyone understands the PART process. The process was not communicated well to the community, especially since it was not supposed to start until 2019-2021. The PART process should stop as it is not needed to be evaluated until 2019-2021.

Thank-you for taking the time today to call, as you can tell, I am pretty passionate about my children's schooling.

I would like to recommend to follow the previously agreed, published and outlined timeline to review the impacts of the Norseman expansion and Norseman campus after the construction is complete in the 2019-2021 school years.

A lot is at stake here and the early actions of the past 8 weeks have been taken in contradiction of previously agreed and communicated timelines by the TDSB to the community which has been very misleading to many people.

Please let me know when you have some time to discuss, I am free anytime.



<p20160608-updateonnorseman.pdf>

<160615 long term app a part b.pdf>

<SAC News Dec42017.pdf>

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 6:02:28 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: accommodationreviews; [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

My apologies - this is the third attempt to send - see below

[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: accomodationsreview@tdsb.on.ca <accomodationsreview@tdsb.on.ca>; [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018, 4:21:22 PM EST
Subject: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

Dear PART Committee,

Both my husband and I were in attendance at the Thursday public meeting regarding the options to deal with the challenge of overcrowding at Norseman.

As it was presented, the preferred option to mitigate this overcrowding is to move all children from JK to Grade 5 that reside on or south of Castlebar to the Castlebar school. There is much logic to this option, it is absolutely necessary to open up a junior school at the Castlebar building.

Firstly, let me comment on the meeting itself. It was disappointing to be present for an insensitive presentation to parents on a major change to our community school. Many parents of which may be only hearing rumors of the possible solutions or if they had any knowledge at all to any information around the Castlebar expansion before this meeting. Parents had questions but in our view, the answers provided seemed rushed, and almost bothersome to much of the school board's analysis and options of solutions.

There was not a spoken formal word or a slide from the parent representatives that may have helped the parents take in the information they were hearing more thoughtfully and in a more compassionate way.

But with that said, I am sure that this is NOT how these TDSB meeting to parents normally are run.

The information was all good in theory, certainly was cost saving and with minimal administrative task to separate the children. As stated earlier it is necessary to open up Castlebar.

Our daughter is a Grade [REDACTED] student and is already quite involved in the school through cross country, yoga and being selected by the Coding Team. She has friendships that she has made with kids in her grade for the last 4 years and of course, will be 5 year friendships by the time she has to change schools for the supposed 2 years before she will be reunited with a completely different Norseman. Finally, she has been a part of the YMCA afterschool program since JK at Norseman. Very much integrated into Norseman. We live on UNO Drive and when we moved into the neighborhood we would have never dreamed that our child would have to change schools while living at our current address.

Our request for consideration would be:

1. **Impacted Students Grandfathered** - Look closely at the children that are in Grade 2 and 3 currently and do an impact analysis on how many are actually IMPACTED by the transfer to Castlebar. How large is that number? Look at this number and consider providing parents with the option to grandfather their admission to Norseman. Some parents may appreciate that they are closer to the new school and may wish to be very open to the change. From what I heard from Ms Wright is that keeping grade 4 and 5's at Norseman it would add an additional portable. A minor extra expansion to keep the current Grade 2's and 3's at Norseman.

2. **Change Management** - the students already know about the change in certain grades. Our daughter does not. Have you considered how parents and teachers can address this new proposal that will soon be confirmed and brought up in the school yard? What have you put together for parents and teachers in the way of a toolkit and Q&A to deal with telling children they will be separated from friends and no longer be a part of Norseman? Please manage this now and not wait until next year.

3. **Islington - Norseman townhouse complex** - send the JK to Grade 5 in that new development to Castlebar - they will be new students to either school and the integration into a new school is inevitable regardless of what school they attend. Why should the children that already attend Norseman be displaced?

Our final request is we would appreciate an answer to extracurricular sports at Castlebar. We were hoping that our daughter would be able to consider basketball or volleyball through a school sport. Will junior teams be available to her if she was to go to Castlebar? Additionally, would [REDACTED] remain as the manager of the YMCA program at Castlebar?

We know this is a quick timeline to review any additional comments and suggestions from parents. We do hope that these comments and suggestions are reviewed for consideration and the outcome with transparent, handled with care and manageable for all.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

There was not a spoken formal word or a slide from the parent representatives that may have helped the parents take in the information they were hearing more thoughtfully and in a more compassionate way.

But with that said, I am sure that this is NOT how these TDSB meeting to parents normally are run.

The information was all good in theory, certainly was cost saving and with minimal administrative task to separate the children. As stated earlier it is necessary to open up Castlebar.

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We know this is a quick timeline to review any additional comments and suggestions from parents. We do hope that these comments and suggestions are reviewed for consideration and the outcome with transparent, handled with care and manageable for all.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Feedback for the Norseman/Castlebar Program Area Review

Importance: High

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: February-12-18 4:17 PM
To: Hayhurst, Tracy; Wright, Carolyn (Principal); Gough, Pamela; accommodationreviews
Subject: Feedback for the Norseman/Castlebar Program Area Review
Importance: High

To: PART of Norseman/Castlebar, Principal Wright, Superintendent Hayhurst, Trustee Gough:

I am emailing regarding the proposed changes to the Norseman catchment area. We are a family that will be impacted by the potential change of boundaries and I want to share my concerns over the way that the process has been managed. They are as follows:

1. The school & TDSB lack of communication on the plan

Our family, like many others attending Norseman, does not have the opportunity to be onsite on a daily basis. We rely on communications from the school and the TDSB to keep us informed about updates that impact us. On May 29, 2017, I attended a meeting at the school to keep abreast of the plan regarding the construction on the Norseman site and how the impacted grade 4/5 students attending Castlebar as a satellite school from Sept. 2017 to June 2019 were going to be managed. I was satisfied with the update that I received and felt that the school was doing a fantastic job at the change management around such a big initiative.

The future plans for the Castlebar location were also addressed at this meeting. Attendees were lead to believe that no decisions regarding permanent plans for the Castlebar site were being considered until the construction at Norseman was underway. I left that meeting feeling comfortable that my family, along with the others at Norseman, were being managed well through the planned transition.

Unfortunately, after attending the meeting on Thursday, February 9th, I no longer have this same sentiment.

My understanding of agenda for this meeting was to discuss the initiation of the process to review the potential use, if any, of Castlebar. I understood that community input would be part of this process, especially from those who will feel the most significant ramifications of any changes. However, this is not what happened. Instead, I was met by an already established PART who has formulated a recommendation which was ready to finalize this week. I was given two business days to provide feedback on a change that I feel significantly impacts my family.

My questions to the team are:

-What responsibilities do the school and TDSB take in the lack of communication regarding this substantial change and the impact on the families who are in the new proposed boundaries?

-How can this decision/recommendation be made without properly and thoroughly consulting the community that is being impacted? A single family (which is how I am being represented on the PART for my area) cannot voice concerns that take into account the full scope of what needs to be considered when making a decision of this magnitude.

2. Formation of PART and the selected representation

I, along with many other parents/community members missed the call for volunteers to join the PART. The reason for this I believe is twofold:

1. I did not leave the meeting in May with a sense of the urgency in this process; I was not anticipating/expecting the establishment of this committee to take place in the fall of 2017, and
2. The request for parent volunteers on this committee was buried in an email from the school where the subject line was about the Screenagers documentary and other SAC news.

When information is this important, a communication around it deserves to be elevated and sent out in a standalone email.

My questions to the team are:

-Was this done intentionally? Perhaps the school and the TBSB are not interested in making people fully aware, so that the proposal can be quietly passed to accomplish what was originally intended?

-How do I know that my concerns were presented to the PART and taken into consideration? There was no line of questioning and no form of feedback.

-Why was a community meeting with the PART parent team members not held? This would have provided each area representative with a full perspective of the concerns from parents/community members in their area and not just what the perceived concerns may have been?

3. Evaluating options to address new students/ out of catchment students

The speed and immediacy the potential boundary changes as presented are leaving me feeling that Norseman and the TDSB have not adequately considered the impact of their recommended changes on the families. It also feels as though these parties are also not interested in hearing the alternatives that many attendees suggested considering during the meeting.

New developments/Relocations to existing catchment:

Students entering Norseman from new developments are taking priority over children who have been at Norseman since JK. Why is it not an option to have new development addresses part of the Castlebar catchment, instead of them having the priority of attending a school that they are already not a part of? A new school is a new school for students, regardless of which one it is. For those being displaced as a result of this, the experience is not the same. Both of my children, who are impacted by these changes, will be separated from their core group of friends, with whom we have spent the last 3-5 years nurturing relationships with. I don't understand why it is not an option to grandfather these children who have been enrolled at the school since JK and request that others attend the alternate location.

Students attending Norseman who are known to live out of catchment:

What has been done to address those students who attend Norseman using addresses that are within the catchment, but they do not physically live at these addresses? I do feel that it is unfair for this to go unaddressed while my children are being asked to move out of the school where we live in the catchment area due to capacity issues.

Perhaps if the PART had taken these two scenarios into account, then children who are and should continue to be part of the Norseman community would be allowed to stay.

4. Experience of students from multiple scenarios

I have two children, who will both experience this potential boundary change very differently than their friends and the Norseman cohort they began school with.

Current Grade 5 student:

-will move to Castlebar as a Norseman satellite school in Sept 2018, with her core groups of friends and the 2013 cohort

-in Sept 2019, she will attend Castlebar as a standalone school, without her core groups of friends (who will remain in the Norseman catchment) and without the majority of the 2013 cohort, who will be eligible to attend Norseman

-in Sept 2020, she will move back to Norseman for Grade 6, and rejoin the cohort kids who have had the consistency and the opportunity to remain part of the original Norseman cohort.

Current Grade 6 student:

-in Sept 2019, he will attend Castlebar as a standalone school, without his core groups of friends (who will remain in the Norseman catchment) and without the majority of the 2015 cohort, who will be eligible to attend Norseman

-in Sept 2022, he will move back to Norseman for Grade 6, and rejoin the cohort kids who have had the consistency and the opportunity to remain part of the original Norseman cohort.

My questions to the team are:

How does this contribute to the continuity of my children's educational experience and learning process? My daughter will be required to make **three very unique transitions** in the course of **a three year period**. This is a less than ideal situation for any student. Children rely on the bonds they have created with friends as a way of managing change. Both of my children, especially the one in grade 6 will not even have that as a mechanism to help manage through this change.

**

I am asking that the school, the TDSB and the PART responsible for this initiative take accountability for the total disregard of the timing they communicated for this initiative and stop the current proposal from being put forward this week. It is imperative that the TDSB and the PART take the time required to get this decision educationally right for all students involved.

They must pay attention to the concerns voiced by the families and the community and fully consider the impact this decision will have on those involved. It should not be a simple exercise of marking coordinates on a map and taking headcounts within those lines. The TDSB mission is to 'enable all students to reach high levels of achievement and to acquire the knowledge, skills, and values they need to become responsible members of a democratic society.' and that the TDSB values:

- Each and every student

- Equity, innovation, accountability, and accessibility
- Learning environments that are safe, nurturing, positive, and respectful.

I'd like to see all the parties involved live up to this mission statement and these values in the Norseman/Castlebar situation by providing a consistent delivery of program and by doing what is right by **each and every** student, including my two children, and to take the time to understand what is educationally right before putting forth a recommendation.

I would be happy to discuss this further. I feel that we, as members of the Norseman school community, deserve at least a conversation before this is finalized.

██████████
██████████
██████████

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 9:23:40 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: accommodationreviews
Cc: Gough, Pamela
Subject: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

Hello -

I would like to comment on the proposed preferred option for Castlebar. I have two children currently at Norseman who will be impacted by the proposed boundary changes. I apologize that this submission is slightly late, I did not realize that there was a 5pm deadline for comments today as I was not able to attend the meeting last Thursday. I hope you will consider my comments none-the-less, as principles of natural justice would demand a comment period of longer than two business days for an issue as important as redrawing boundary lines within a tight knit community.

My primary concern with this process is that it is happening very quickly and there hasn't been clear communication from the TDSB as to what would be occurring and when. I have regularly attended the meetings at Norseman over the past 18 months outlining the plans for renovation and construction at Norseman and Castlebar. The timelines communicated with respect to when decisions would be made about the future of Castlebar are completely different from what is occurring. At the May 2017 meeting we were told that there was no plan for Castlebar beyond a satellite school and that no decisions had been made and its future would not be determined until after the Norseman renovations were complete. There appears to have been an acceleration of that timeline that has caught many families off guard.

Likewise, the notice for the February 8 meeting indicated it would be a discussion of options including boundaries, but when I reviewed the materials, it appears that except for retaining the "status quo" no other options other than boundary changes were considered. What about moving all junior grades (JK-SK-1) to Castlebar and reconfiguring Norseman as a more senior school? What about making Castlebar a stand alone or satellite middle school for grades 6-8? Were these options considered? If not, why not? If they were ruled out, why? This information was not in the materials. This is what I thought the February 8 meeting would be canvassing/discussing.

In my view the purpose, importance, implications and urgency of the Feb 8 meeting was somewhat misleading. There were no interim outreach/communications with the broader parent community as far as I can recall since the formation of the PART last fall seeking ideas or input on different options. I think broader communications/consultations with the parent community beyond a single meeting are called for. I think at the very least another parent meeting should be held which clearly communicates that boundary decisions are the preferred and recommended option and that these changes will be implemented in September 2019.

I fully support opening Castlebar in some capacity and am well aware that the capacity issues at Norseman are acute and will continue to be so even after the renovations, but am concerned about the transitional impact on students and the community for children already enrolled at Norseman. I am upset that it appears that existing students and families, currently part of the Norseman community are being sacrificed to accommodate families who are not yet part of that community. While I recognize that different/overlapping boundaries are not sustainable in perpetuity, I strongly

urge the TDSB to consider a "grandfathering" policy for existing Norseman families, especially those with siblings in the school.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments as this process moves forward.

Best regards,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Norseman/castlebar concern

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: February-12-18 4:14 PM
To: accommodationreviews
Subject: Norseman/castlebar concern

Hi there,

I'm writing to oppose Castlebar school from being opened as it's own jk-3 or jk-5 school.

My strong preference would be for it to remain a satellite school for certain grades. These children have made strong friendships and I believe it will cause them much stress and trauma being separated.

People buy homes in the area and have stayed put to keep consistency in their children's lives and I feel this has been a rushed decision that many of the parents I spoke to recently felt powerless over or were not even aware of.

Please reconsider this decision and the impact it will have on our children.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Norseman Castlebar JMS PART

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: February-12-18 10:32 AM
To: accommodationreviews
Subject: Norseman Castlebar JMS PART

Dear Committee,

I commend the work of those involved in facilitating changes to Norseman JMS in the face of continuing growth in the neighborhood. I recognize that it is difficult to devise a plan that will accommodate the interests and preferences of all parties. I am pleased that a long-term solution to overcrowding is being devised for the school.

You have asked for comments and concerns from the community on the proposed PART recommendations and I have provided my thoughts below:

My preference would be to maintain Castlebar as a satellite school of Norseman for grade 4-5. This would seem to be an efficient option with fewer effects on students and families as they would remain part of the Norseman community and not be competing for the same resources for fundraising in the neighborhood. In the spirit of fairness, no student would have to leave the school in which they have developed a sense of community in order to accommodate growth from large scale developments.

As a parent of 2 children who are directly affected by the proposed change, I have some concerns about the number of transitions current students will be asked to make (some in a relatively short number of years). These transitions will lead to a separation of friends who have developed bonds over a series of years. Moreover, research shows that school moves have negative effects on student performance ([Schwartz 2017](#)). Your slides indicate that the preferred option would leave a surplus at Norseman in the short term. If this option is accepted, I ask that further consideration be given to allow students in some of the older grades to remain at Norseman if they choose (i.e. through optional attendance or other means).

If the recommended plan is approved, I have some further suggestions to support students and families through this change:

1. Provide supports to students who will be affected by a move by ensuring there are some students in their class that will also undergo the move the following year.
2. Promote equity in the TDSB by ensuring Castlebar students have access to similar extracurricular activities and programming they have enjoyed as students at Norseman.
3. Ensure Castlebar has access to before and after school care of the same caliber as those provided by the YMCA at Norseman.
4. During the transitional years, have some joint activities between the schools focused on those older students who have spent their whole school careers together to date (and maintain ties for the transition back in grade 6).
5. Provide detailed information to parents about the processes involved in starting up a new school such as hiring practices for new teachers, resources which will be allocated for classrooms etc. Quality of their children's education is top of mind to parents and this will allow families to make informed decisions about their child's education.

Once again I thank you for your efforts.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Castlebar

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: February-12-18 4:26 PM
To: accommodationreviews
Subject: Castlebar

Hello,

my name is [REDACTED]. My Daughter is in grade [REDACTED] at Norsemen and loves the school. We have been involved in fund raising and other events for the school. One of the good things that attracted us to this very area was the high school rating.

Therefore, as we live east of Royal York, and south of Queensway, I can not fully understand where that leaves my Daughter. Perhaps you could let me know. I apologize that I was not able to attend the public meeting due to work commitments.

I would be very opposed to her leaving Norsmen, for a separate school. As indicated, we have worked to make the school better. I do not want her to lose the benefits of attending Norsmen. It would seem to me that we are seeing the results of very poor planning and coordination between board, city planning etc.

As a side note, if you want, I can help you get the word out better the residents in the area.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Thank you

[REDACTED]

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 9:28:05 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: accommodationreviews
Subject: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

My apologies for the late submission. Thank for the information provided at the public meeting last week. As our home falls within all 3 new proposed catchment areas for Castlebar, we will most certainly be a part of the new Castlebar community!

Our son is 4 years old & is currently attending Montessori. We plan to register him for SK at Norseman for Sept 2018, understanding that he will then go to Castlebar for Grade 1 in Sept 2019. It was mentioned at the meeting that class lists for Sept 2018 will be planned in an effort to group students together that will be attending Castlebar the following year. Our only request is that this will also be considered for children transitioning from SK at Norseman to Grade 1 at Castlebar to help ease an already big transition year.

We also look forward to hearing more details on the refurbishment plans for Castlebar in preparation for 2019 & whether the parent community will be involved in funding for an adventure playground etc.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our feedback.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: February-12-18 4:23 PM
To: accommodationreviews
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

Resending as per the subject line reference request per the presentation.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]
----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Feb 12, 2018 at 2:07 PM
Subject: Program Area Review Castlebar and Norseman JMS
To: accommodationreviews@tdsb.on.ca

Hello,

I attended the meeting on Feb 8th at Norseman about the proposed changes to school boundaries and have some concerns about timing and the recommendations made by PART.

I, like many other people attending were not aware that a committee had been formed that were recommending boundary issues for the school. My concern is that the areas affected are not well represented by a 4 member team that have met twice to discuss. The original email that was sent out on this topic and committee was titled Screenagers on Dec 5th. I did not think within less than 2 months there were would a recommendation to split boundaries that would be effective Sept 2019, especially since it was originally communicated in previous meetings on this topic that boundary discussions of Castlebar would only be discussed after review of the satellite transition for a few years and looked at in 2020-21. Also the only information sent out was from the parent council on this. I would think for a change this important, something would be communicated by the school and trustee prior to the Feb 8th meeting email.

With a decision that affects so many individuals that was under the impression that they were in the Norseman catchment area, I don't think there has been enough communication with the community. I have spoken to a number of parents in the area that is affected in the preferred option and they were not aware that boundary decisions were being made at this point and very surprised to hear these changes were made without consultation. I would really like to see more involvement with the community of a decision of this importance.

I'd also like to understand why this decision is being rushed so much. It has only been two months since the committee was ever mentioned in a communication, it seems far to quick to make a decision like this.

I also have a hard time understanding why option 2 grades JK-5 is the preferred option. This splits up the south corridor. Even people affected in option 3 have mentioned that plan makes the most sense. So how was option 2 decided? Also this seems to be just pushing the overcapacity issue to the new school - Castlebar, because the majority of the new development is now in this catchment area. Already in I believe the first or second year

they are estimating a need for portables. And the gravity of the development growth has consistently been underestimated, so 1 portable is likely the minimum. I don't see this being a viable solution for a new school just starting out to already have overcapacity issues on top of the challenge of starting fresh.

I really think there should be an exploration of grandfathering students already at the school. I think this change could have detrimental effects on children who have close friend groups who will now be taken away from these groups for a number of years and then re-integrated a few years later. I think more analysis needs to be done on this and see what options there are.

I am upset that what we were communicated that the new development at Islington and Norseman would be out of the school district and this is not the case, and my family is now being "kicked out" of the catchment area. I think this needs to be reviewed more as well.

I really hope more time and community involvement will be put into this decision as I really think this has been made too quickly. I am very willing to be part of discussions and review on this topic.

Thank you,

██████████

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Castlebar and Norseman JMS

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 5:00:51 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: accommodationreviews
Subject: Castlebar and Norseman JMS

Hello,

I am writing to you about the boundary issues for the Norseman JM school.

I really think there should be an exploration of students already at the school. I think this change could have detrimental effects on children who have close friend groups who will now be taken away from these groups for a number of years and then re-integrated a few years later.

Hopefully, our kids still have a chance for better solution of this issue.

Best regards,
[REDACTED]

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: February-13-18 9:49 AM
To: accommodationreviews
Subject: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

There, I was unfortunately unable to make it to the Norseman/Castlebar PART meeting last Thursday, however I do have some questions/concerns. I have carefully reviewed the recommendations and all of the options for the new Castlebar school. Regardless of what option is chosen, we will be within the "new" boundaries. My son is currently in grade 3 at Norseman so it is likely that he would be forced to change schools at some point - I would guess in grade 3 (2019/2020) or grade 4 (2020/2021)? only to be switched back to Norseman for grade 6 if option 2B (preferred option) is chosen. I do have some serious concerns with such a major change midway through J/M school. Would there be an option to have current students stay at Norseman if they are within the new boundaries for Castlebar? Also, My child is in the before and after-school YMCA program at Norseman - will there be a YMCA program at Castlebar as well?

I appreciate any information you can provide. Thanks in advance.

[REDACTED]

Bhabha, Fatima


Subject: FW: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART
Attachments: Castlebar and Norseman JMS_Letter_.pdf

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: February-12-18 2:55 PM
To: accommodationreviews
Subject: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

Hello,

Please find attached the comments with respect to Castlebar Norseman JMS program area review.

Thank you
[REDACTED]



February 12th, 2018

Attn: Accommodation Reviews Office
Toronto District School Board
c/o Castlebar Norseman JMS P.A.R.T.

RE: Public Meeting - Castlebar and Norseman JMS Program Area Review

Dear members of the PART and wider TDSB Community,

This letter is in response to the recent Program Area Review Public Meeting, held on February 8, 2018 at Norseman JMS. I have listened to the public presentation and debate as well as reviewed the presentation materials distributed subsequent to the event. I believe this is an important issue and it needs to be reviewed diligently to ensure fairness to students as well as sustainability of our local community. Please find herewith my comments and suggestions.

If the ultimate proposal is to reopen Castlebar as a standalone school than **no option where Castlebar is over utilized in the long run is an acceptable option for this community**. Reason for this is simple – new residential developments. As per your presentation that evening, it is the development in the area that plays a key part in long term planning and although we are taking the right steps to address the issues (and community is grateful for your efforts in leading the initiative!) I think we should consider this even more thoroughly and with a long term horizon in mind.

When it comes to current proposed options the **most sensible approach would be to consider option 3** as Castlebar is underutilized and this would first and foremost ensure we are planning for the future and addressing the growth of the community while thinking about the planned development along the Queensway (see Fig 1). As virtually all significant development (in terms of number/type of units) is in an area served by future Castlebar location – we absolutely must ensure this school will serve the community not only in the next 5 years but beyond. Unfortunately **your preferred option 2** does not allow for this as it **clearly specifies Castlebar is over utilized in the long run**.

Secondly, all children within walking distance to Castlebar under option 3 are predominantly walking within bounds of residential areas and not passing major arterial roads like with other two options. As a parent I am gravely concerned with any proposal which suggests a child should have to cross Islington or Queensway to get to school. **It is dangerous for children to cross major arterial roads and city infrastructure hasn't kept up with the growing demands of the community**. Given the proposed boundaries under your preferred option 2 the most impact on child safety will be for those who now all of a sudden lose busing privileges – and it is a large group in our neighborhood. A walk to school should not be a stressful experience, for anyone, and I for one will not allow my child to cross a busy road and all of this because a perfectly square boundary map looks easier to implement therefore it must be better. I do not share the same view.

For above noted reasons I must reinforce with the members of the PART and wider TDSB community that option 3 is much more realistic than any of the other ones offered presently and I sincerely hope you will consider my comments.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



APPENDIX

FIGURE 1 – Planned Development Along Queensway

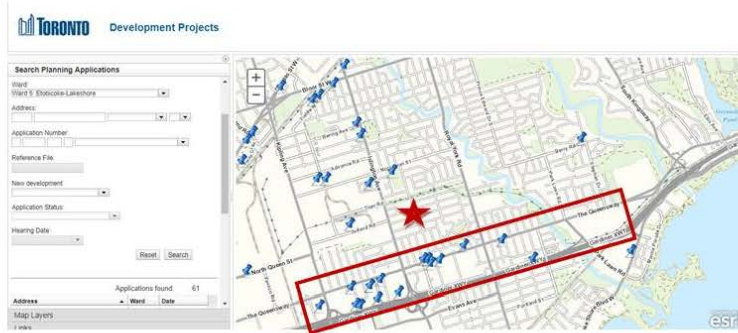


FIGURE 2 – Unsafe Walk to School

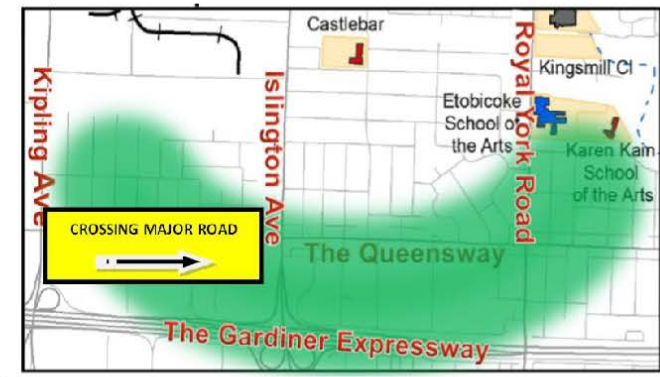
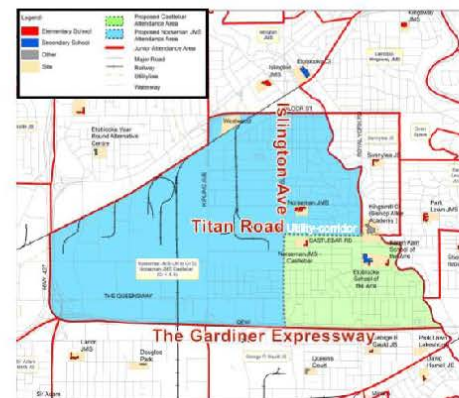


FIGURE 3 – Option 3 Boundaries



Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Castlebar/Norseman JMS Accommodations Feedback

-----Original Message-----

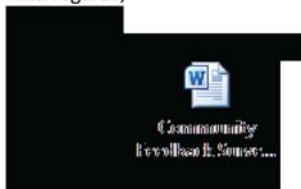
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: February-12-18 7:11 AM
To: accommodationreviews
Subject: Castlebar/Norseman JMS Accommodations Feedback

Hi,

Please find attached my Community Feedback Survey for the Norseman JMS/Castlebar School Program Area Review. This feedback is due today, Monday February 12, by 5pm

Thank you for the opportunity to share feedback with you. Should there be any opportunity to discuss the attached further, I can be reached at the contact information below.

Kind regards,



Community Feedback Survey – Norseman JMS and Castlebar School

A. What do you like about the proposed Program Area Review Team (PART) recommendations presented by staff?

I appreciate that the school board, administration and parents are undertaking a Program Area Review to find a *collaborative* solution to achieve the desired population at each Norseman JMS and Castlebar Junior School. There is no doubt that Norseman JMS is well over capacity and requires a review to address the situation.

I am also grateful that the TDSB maintained ownership of Castlebar School so that it could be utilized in situations when overcrowding becomes an issue, such as now.

B. What are your concerns with the proposed PART recommendations presented by staff?

I have two main concerns related to the recommended Option 2B presented by the PART on February 8, 2018 as outline below.

Concern #1 – Recommended Option 2B has the Highest Impact on Students and Teaching Staff

I am concerned about the impact this change will have on the children and teaching staff that are currently enrolled or teach at Norseman Junior Middle school and the potential impacts on the overall community.

According to the PART materials more than 100 existing Norseman JMS students would be required to move to Castlebar School. As a result, Norseman JMS will need to surplus teachers as the population will be reduced from 792 (as of Feb, 2018) to 672. This reduction could amount to approximately 6 teachers being surplus from their current positions. In a board where teacher positions are challenging to find, especially for those teachers with limited seniority, this could impact financial stability and people's livelihood.

I believe the impacted students overall well-being will be affected by this change. Children will not react well to separating from friends and siblings or other relatives. Impacts could be emotional (sad to be losing siblings/friends, scared to start at new schools twice, confused why they are being singled out) and I could foresee learning impacts. This idea of "well-being" is addressed more below with the concern about multiple transitions.

Ontario's Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy introduces the term "student voice." According to the strategy "This refers to expressions of students' points of view about things that matter in school". Schools may allow students to participate in consultations on topics related to their learning community. Further, the strategy highlights how in addition to parent engagement the student's voice is an essential component. While I am not suggesting you open

this up to students, you may want to consider, what would students say if they were asked to comment?

Concern #2 – Multiple Transitions for Students During Critical Learning Stages

According to the TDSB Accommodation Drivers, the overall decisions for accommodation at the school should result in minimal transitions for students. This recommended approach will mean that most students, already familiar with Norseman JMS and its school community will have to transition **twice**. Impacted students will transition from Norseman JMS to Castlebar and then back to Norseman JMS for middle school.

While it is not uncommon to ask students to transition to a new school in grade 6, for all of the impacted children, it will not be a “new” school. They will be asked to transition back to a school they used to belong to and to friends they used to know at what could be a difficult age.

According to research and based on parent feedback, Grade 6 can be a challenging grade for many reasons including the following:

- New school day set up – namely, rotation to a number of teachers for different subjects
- More responsibility to manage work from the different teachers, keeping track of multiple project deadlines and a keeping things organized in a locker
- Overall many are experiencing the transition from early adolescence to puberty which comes with behaviour changes, new emotions and learning about more independence. It can also lead to drops in academics as students can lose focus and motivation.
- Changes in dynamics as kids try to find their place socially amongst their peers (can lead to social cruelty like teasing, bullying, rumoring and harsher relationships)

For children, especially those who have challenges in coping with change, being asked to try to re-integrate with their old school community could be overwhelming, leading to learning and emotional impacts.

In 2016-17 the TDSB worked with parents and students to better understand what student well-being looks like, what is needed to support it and how we can understand our impact in order to develop Ontario’s Well-Being Strategy for Education: Promoting Well-Being in Ontario’s Education System.

If children are being expected to make difficult transitions, it may not align with some of the key points within the strategy:

- Students are better able to learn when they feel safe and welcome at school
- Children and students who have strong relationships and a positive sense of self are most likely to reach their full potential and thrive
- Well-being in early years and school settings is about helping children and students become more resilient, so that they can make positive, healthy choices to support learning and achievement, now and in the future.

C. Do you think there is anything that has been overlooked in the PART recommendations? If so, please explain

Yes, I do think there are a few things that have been overlooked in the PART recommendations, or not clearly communicated to the parent community.

Consideration #1: Need to further review and strongly consider Option 2A – Opening Castlebar as a JK-Grade 3 instead of Option 2B

According to the LTPAS, it states that the following will occur:

Explore a review of the holding strategy introduced at the Norseman JMS/Castlebar 'campus' to determine if it is required in perpetuity to accommodate continued enrolment pressure, or, if the community is better served through the introduction of a new JK-3 or JK-5 standalone school on the Castlebar school site.

I think you have done a good and thorough assessment of the introduction of a new JK-5 standalone school (i.e. Option 2B), however, I do not see the same attention being given to considering a JK-3 school as listed in the purpose statement above (i.e. Option 2A).

I believe that implementing Option 2A (JK-Grade 3) would address the major concerns listed above by reducing the overall impact to children, teaching staff and community. Further, a transition at Grade 4 seems more acceptable than Grade 6 with fewer anticipated challenges. It could also reduce the likelihood of sibling divide between schools.

During the public consultation on February 8, 2018 the presentation given states that the "LFT preferred a JK-5 grade range over JK-3". There were no further details or rationale provided to explain why this preference was given. Further, the LFT has no parent voice, making it even more important to provide more supporting rationale. One possible reason given by the administration is because "no schools in the TDSB exist that are JK- grade 3".

According to the Ministry of Education List of schools (as of January, 2018), there are 23 schools in the public and catholic school boards in Ontario that are JK- Grade 3 as follows:

Board Name	School Name
Bluewater DSB	Dundalk & Proton Community S
Bluewater DSB	Kincardine Township-Tiverton PS
Bluewater DSB	St Vincent-Euphrasia E S
Bruce-Grey CDSB	St Basil's Sep S
CDSB of Eastern Ontario	St James the Greater Sep S
CSDC des Grandes Rivières	É C Louis-Rhéaume
CSDC des Grandes Rivières	É C Louis-Rhéaume
CSDC des Grandes Rivières	É C Sacré-Coeur (New Liskeard)
CSDC des Grandes Rivières	É C St-Dominique

CSDC du Nouvel-Ontario	É S�p Saint-Joseph
Huron Perth CDSB	St Patricks Sep S
Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB	Hampton Jr PS
Lakehead DSB	Hyde Park PS
Limestone DSB	Yarker PS
Niagara CDSB	St Charles C Elem S
Northwest CDSB	St Michaels S
Ottawa-Carleton DSB	Castlefrank E S
Ottawa-Carleton DSB	General Vanier PS
Thames Valley DSB	River Heights S
Toronto DSB	Fraser Mustard Early Learning Academy
Trillium Lakelands DSB	Cardiff E S
Trillium Lakelands DSB	Stuart W Baker E S
York Region DSB	Robert Munsch PS

Further, a recent Program Area Review at Charles H. Best MS, Dublin Heights E & MS, Pleasant PS, Willowdale MS, and Wilmington ES schools **resulted in changing Wilmington ES school to a JK to grade 3 school** and Charles H. Best MS to a grade 4-8 school (while allowing for grandfathering) (weblink: <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Strategy-Planning/Search-All-Reviews?id=145>). I believe this example should be further examined as to how it relates to Norseman and what positive lessons can be learned by starting a JK-Grade 3 school.

Also, while it may not be the preference for the LFT to proceed with the JK-3, it is clearly not a numbers issue because the presentation from the February 8, 2018 consultation, states that for Option 2A, (opening Castlebar as a JK- Grade 3) "Castlebar and Norseman JMS would be at an **acceptable utilization in the long-term**".

The numbers show that with Option 2A (Castlebar JK-3, Norseman JK-8, with boundary change) the following could be possible:

Year	% Capacity Norseman	% Capacity Castlebar
2019	93%	51%
2022	106%	77%
2027	101%	77%

The 106% *estimated capacity* of Norseman in 2022 would facilitate the need for **one** portable. At this time, I believe there are 4 portables on site at Norseman within the existing space. No new portables would be required and there are sufficient portables to support this *potential over exceedance*. Further the trend of Norseman capacity decreases over time. According to the TDSB accommodation drivers, the desirable change is to minimize the use of portables, however, three portables are considered acceptable if space allows.

As a side note, news reports have stated that January 2018 was the weakest month of housing sales for January since 2009.

The following summaries how few *existing* Norseman JMS kids could be impacted under Option 2A:

Current Grade at Norseman JMS in 2017	Grade students would be in, in 2019	Impact
JK	Grade 1	Spend 3 years at Castlebar School
SK	Grade 2	Spend 2 years at Castlebar School
Grade 1	Grade 3	Spend 1 year at Castlebar School
Grade 2	Grade 4	No Impact expected under Option 2A
Grade 3	Grade 5	
Grade 4	Grade 6	
Grade 5	Grade 7	
Grade 6	Grade 8	
Grade 7	Grade 9	
Grade 8	Grade 10	

Consideration #2: An approach that keeps grades together and does not introduce a new boundary

There was no discussion at the consultation meeting on February 8, 2018 as to whether consideration was made to move entire grades to another school. For example, were renovations at Castlebar School considered to turn that school into a grade 6-8 while keeping Norseman as a JK-Grade 5? Or were any other possible grade combinations considered between the two schools to avoid splitting the boundary? The point is to keep children with their classmates, and if they have to change schools, they do so with their same age classmates for a much easier transition. While families may be split between two schools, students are always with their same peers all throughout.

Consideration #3: What does Lessons Learned from a Similar Scenario in an Ontario School tell us?

This seems like a rather unique situation where students will be removed from Norseman and then asked to return again in Grade 6. Most students will leave a school and never return to it. Are there any similar scenarios at another school in Ontario that can be reviewed to determine impacts of this change on students, teachers and the community? I haven't found any examples in my research.

Bhabha, Fatima

Subject: FW: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART
Attachments: p20160608-updateonnorseman.pdf; 160615 long term app a part b.pdf

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: February-12-18 1:34 PM
To: accommodationreviews
Cc: Gough, Pamela; Justin Di Ciano
Subject: Fwd: Castlebar and Norseman JMS PART

Please see my comments below regarding the Norseman/Castlebar JMS PART Meeting Feb 8th, without attachments (in case they were too large to send):

What did you like about the proposed PART recommendations presented by staff?

-I do like having less portables for kids, this is not change from the plan presented originally with proposed expansion, per attached slide show slide 4,5,6 "p20160608-updateonnorseman.pdf"

What are your concerns with the proposed PART recommendations presented by staff?

1-In the most recent presentation, slide 30 indicated that the total of both en-catchment area's would be $677+177 = 849$ students in 2019. This actually less than what was presented previously (slide 4 "p20160608-updateonnorseman.pdf" total of 891 students)

and there is not much of a difference in 2022 projections either, I think 15 students.

It makes no sense to redraw boundary's when nothing has changed and it was previously communicated that this process **would not start** until:

"In 2020-21, after the addition at Norseman JMS is complete and the school has adjusted, undertake a review of how the satellite arrangement with Castlebar has functioned (identified in the Long-term Program & Accommodation Strategy 2016-2025)."

"If the satellite arrangement has not functioned well and another use for Castlebar is more appropriate, a Program Area Review Team will be formed to develop and analyze alternatives." - slide 14 [p20160608-updateonnorseman.pdf](#)

2 - I also included the 2016-2025 report for reference because I feel this process is being unduly brought forward, when no capacity studies have indicated anything has significantly changed from the stated intention to have the Castlebar campus a part of Norseman school in the long-term;
["160615 long term app a part b.pdf"](#) attachment.

on page 35:

in 2019-20 "Explore a review of the holding strategy introduced at the Norseman JMS/Castlebar 'campus' to determine if it is required in perpetuity to accommodate continued enrollment pressure, or, if the community is better served through the introduction of a new JK-3 standalone school on the Castlebar school site."

It is very unclear given these stated timelines, why was the PART formed in 2017 when all major communications from the TDSB informed that this would not be examined until the 2019-2020 school year?

3 - There was no communication given to the community of this PART formation was being brought forward in advance of previously communicated timelines. It was very clearly stated in the above documentation that this was going to be the process and PART would be formed in 2019-2021 to examine the impacts.

This is a major shift in policy and process that affects school boundaries; it was not clearly explained that this was happening now. The formation of part in the Dec SAC newsletter titled

"SAC News and Screenagers is Tonight!!!"

was not appropriate communication given the gravity of the impacts on the community.

A separate special meeting should have been held when major shifts in timelines occur that are in deviation of previously communicated timelines by the TDSB. Especially when they are in contradiction of agreed recommendations/timelines presented multiple times presented to the community.

4 -Inaccurate information was communicated in the PART presentation:

slide 6 of the presentation stated:

"Explore a review of the holding strategy introduced at the Norseman JMS/Castlebar 'campus' to determine if it is required in perpetuity to accommodate continued enrolment pressure, or, if the community is better served through the introduction of a new JK-3 or JK-5 standalone school on the Castlebar school site"

This is not what the long term study actually said., it said:

"160615 long term app a part b.pdf" attachment

on page 35:

in 2019-20 "Explore a review of the holding strategy introduced at the Norseman JMS/Castlebar 'campus' to determine if it is required in perpetuity to accommodate continued enrollment pressure, or, if the community is better served through the introduction of a new JK-3 standalone school on the Castlebar school site

The information in the PART presentation is very misleading because this process was not supposed to start until 2019-2020. It is wrong and wasteful to evaluate the impacts when there was an agreed process that the community felt the TDSB was following.

There also was no recommendation ever to have castlebar as a JK-5 school in the Long-Term program and accommodation strategy.

5- The formation of PART was unduly early and too quick to draw any conclusions as the 2019 state of the community will look vastly different than today and the majority of the growth is only inside the castlebar proposed school zone.

6- I feel the data used is not appropriate for the decisions made - Option status quo Feb 8th presentation: Since it was already determined in previous utilization studies that Norseman would not be over capacity on status quo, how with is it possible with 42 less students in 2019, than previous studies, that Norseman with the status quo arrangement is over capacity?

7-There is inconsistent data in the presentation:

Option 1a JK-3, stated that with a larger en-catchment area than option 2 and 3; Norseman would be an "acceptable utilization in the long term"

However in option 2a and 3a, with a smaller en-catchment area: "Norseman would be over-utilized in the long term".

This data does not make sense, especially since the utilization data overall has not changed significantly from in the past.

8-The requests for participation were necessarily short (needing to reply in less than 2 days to a SAC newsletter that was not clearly marked as a PART issue in the title) and over a weekend, to this request - it really makes me feel like this is getting pushed through the system in an unduly fashion.

Do you think there has been anything overlooked in the PART recommendations?

Yes.

1-The projection enrollment number have not really changed at all, why are we deviating from the strategies presented to review PART in 2019-2021?

-Why did this PART committee formation start happening 3-4 years in advance? What was the drivers to deviate from the published TDSB studies, especially when there were no enrollment forecast changes?

2-The option chosen by PART leaves Castlebar with a portable needed in the onset of the school, with the highest developing areas included in the Castlebar zone (House of Lancaster/Queensway - we are setting ourselves up for the smallest school (only 12 rooms) to have the largest future development in their catchment. We are simply pushing the current Noreseman problem to Castlebar. The expected future development area's was not correctly considered by PART.

3- I feel it is unclear about the rational for not grandfathering siblings that currently live in the area and have already been attending Norsman as grandfathering policy changes is very typical in many instances.

4-It was always 'promised' that new development and townhomes across from Noreseman near the No frills would not be included in the area. I agree with this concept. Preference should be given to current residents who have lived here for a long time, are in the current zoning and have had their allocated tax dollars to building Noreseman over many, many years. New development should go out of the school area, which is consistent with previous TDSB decisions, in an over capacity school zone like Noreseman. Was this reviewed as an option?

5-With such an important topic such as school boundary decision, one would reasonably expect this would deserve its own meeting to outline the process and steps and not start 3-4 years in advance of previously agreed, published and communicated timelines. This is making the current PART study unduly called for.

6-I am not usually able to attend the SAC meeting but I read the meeting minutes regularly, not once did I see the PART timeline as a topic of discussion past which was consistent with the expectation of a 2019-2021 review based on TDSB presentations past.

7-The root cause of the issue is that the current Noreseman expansion is not enough space for the zone. We need to pressure for a larger renovation as we have land at Noreseman; not simply pushing the new development problem to a smaller school that has not even formed yet is not an appropriate action.

8-I really do not think everyone impacted in the community understands the PART process. The process was not communicated well to the community, especially since it was not supposed to start until 2019-2021. The PART process should stop as it is not needed to be evaluated until 2019-2021.

I would like to recommend to follow the previously agreed, published and outlined timeline to review the impacts of the Norseman expansion and Norseman campus after the construction is complete in the 2019-2021 school years.

If PART is to continue in this instance, we need to do so with more community involvement; this process was not understood by many especially since it was advanced by 3-4 years (per TDSB presentations), so if we are to continue, we need to pause and evaluate the current state and there needs to be more community involvement.

This process should not have started when it did, doing so is unfortunately wasting tax payers time and money since we are not following our own established communicated TDSB timeliness. Too much is going to happen in the area in the next 2 years to make this decision today.

Thanks,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.



Program Area Review
Castlebar and Norseman JMS

Community Feedback Survey

A. What do you like about the proposed Program Area Review Team (PART) recommendations presented by staff? ~~exciting plan.~~
 I like the way that the opening of Castlebar is a stand alone school plan. I like the way that the increasing number of children that currently belong to Norseman will be ideally accommodated in both schools so that all classes maintain the optimal number of students, so each child gets proper teaching and attention.

I like the fact that option 2 - took in consideration - to keep children from the same school in the same school.

B. What are your concerns with the proposed PART recommendations presented by staff?

- Considering the projected increase in the number of children in the area, it would be a long term accommodation should be planned for ahead of time.
- Will there be enough kids in Castlebar initially to form classes of decent size?

C. Do you think there is anything that has been overlooked in the PART recommendations? If so, please explain.

- Would suggest that the option of keeping siblings in the same school should be considered.
 For example:
 One of my children will be in grade 5 and the other is grade 7 -> would be logical to keep them together.

Please return your completed survey to the collection box at the public meeting.

If you would prefer to submit your comments electronically, please email us at: accommodationreviews@tdsb.on.ca

Deadline to submit feedback—Monday, February 12th, 2018 by 5:00 p.m.



Program Area Review Castlebar and Norseman JMS

Community Feedback Survey

A. What do you like about the proposed Program Area Review Team (PART) recommendations presented by staff?

I like that my child will be able to stay at Norseman and not have to go to Castlebar. I do not want my child to change schools for grade 4/5.

B. What are your concerns with the proposed PART recommendations presented by staff?

NO CONCERN My only concern is that parents convince you to keep Norseman for 4/5 student & Castlebar. I do not want this.

C. Do you think there is anything that has been overlooked in the PART recommendations? If so, please explain.

DO NOT MOVE THE NORSEMAN BOUNDARY SOUTH TO VAN DERGRIFF
If anything open Fairfield as a JK-5 and send 6-8 to Norseman.

Please return your completed survey to the collection box at the public meeting.

If you would prefer to submit your comments electronically, please email us at: accommodationreviews@tdsb.on.ca

Deadline to submit feedback—Monday, February 12th, 2018 by 5:00 p.m.

Appendix G

Castlebar Implementation Scenarios

Option 2B Phase- In (PART Suggestion)

- 2019: Castlebar JK- 3
- 2020: Castlebar JK- 4
- 2021: Castlebar JK- 5 (Phase- In complete)

Option 2B Phase- In (Staff Suggestion)

- 2019: Castlebar JK- 3 + Status Quo Phase Out – Only Norseman Gr 5 at Castlebar
- 2020: Castlebar JK- 4
- 2021: Castlebar JK- 5 (Phase- In complete)

Option 2C Grand parenting and Status Quo (Staff Suggestion)

- 2019: Castlebar JK + Status Quo (Norseman Gr 4 and Gr 5) at Castlebar
- 2020: Castlebar JK-SK + Status Quo (Norseman Gr 4 and Gr 5) at Castlebar
- 2021: Castlebar JK- 1 + Status Quo (Norseman Gr 4 and Gr 5) at Castlebar
- 2022: Castlebar JK- 2 + Status Quo Phase Out – Only Norseman Gr 5 at Castlebar
- 2023: Castlebar JK- 3
- 2024: Castlebar JK- 4
- 2025: Castlebar JK- 5 (Phase- In complete)

Implementation Scenario	Advantages	Challenges
Option 2B - Phase- In (PART Suggestion)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good use of space in the long-term - Provides flexibility of space at both schools - Smooth transition to Castlebar for students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Imbalanced enrolment at Castlebar for 2019
Option 2B - Phase- In & Norseman JMS Gr 5 (Staff Suggestion)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good use of space in the short and long-term - Provides flexibility of space at both schools - Smooth transition to Castlebar for students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administrative challenges of managing Norseman JMS Gr 5's at Castlebar
Option 2C - Grand parenting & Castlebar Satellite (Staff Suggestion)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maximizes use of space in the short and long-term 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Imbalanced enrolment at Castlebar and Norseman JMS - Administrative challenges of managing two schools at Castlebar - Lacks flexibility of space at both schools