

Ward Forum

Trustee Chris Moise

Ward 10, University-Rosedale and Toronto Centre

Market Lane Junior and Senior Public School

Tuesday January 21, 2020; 6:30-8:30pm

Presentation

Guest Speaker: Andrew Gowdy, Senior Manager, Planning, TDSB

Planning for Ward 10 (package based on slides provided at meeting)

Rolling out 10-year plan for a constantly changing city

Enrolment trends (affect over/under utilization of schools) (slides 4-9)

- enrolment is stabilizing into the future; not foreseeing spike in enrolment in future
- We are not growing in the school population; decrease in families
- Differs by neighbourhood
- Contributing factor to overcrowding is residential development
- Downtown there is a need for elementary schools

(Slide 10)

-Need an annual process because of enrolment trends (LTPAS process)

-Look for emerging gaps, needs, issues

-Becomes work plan for upcoming year – Trustees, Superintendents, Central Staff

Guiding Principles (Slide 11) relate to Equity of Access and Efficient and Flexible Learning Space (Slides 12, 13)

Studies for Ward 10 (Slides 14-20)

1. French Program Review
 - anomalies in French program - - different start times for French programs
 - decisions made: no Extended French program; only Immersion with 2 entry points JK & Gr. 4
 - Increase accessibility; look at where they are and how to improve accessibility to them
2. Secondary Review
 - Secondary schools of 1000+ students where all needs can be met; full array of courses
3. Responding to Development Intensification
 - Assigning new residential developments to specific schools
4. Consistent Boundaries
 - each address assigned to one high school
 - study boundaries and figure out what to do with them

5. Looking at downtown schools
 - growth and underutilization; boundaries and program locations

6. Other Projects
 - LCBO Lands
 - West Don Lands
 - Bloor CI and Alpha II relocation – Central Tech may be the holding ground (underutilized)

Optional Attendance Policy Review (second slide package provided at meeting)

- Purpose of policy - allows students to attend school outside of their home school
- has resulted in strengths and weaknesses
- TDSB does not rank schools; we have effective schools that do not appear in Fraser Institute results; parents have to look beyond results of standardized tests

Optional Attendance – Current Reality (Slide 4)

- almost half of our secondary population attend a school at another address
- some schools have decrease in enrolment – lose teachers and course offerings
- most impact is in marginalized communities

Procedures

- there is always a limit for optional attendance - closed or open schools (to optional attendance)

Optional Attendance Public Consultations Survey on website (open until Feb.3, 2020)

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Policies-Procedures-Forms/Policy-Consultations>

List of Current and Proposed Working Draft policies (Slides 5-12)

- looking to revise policies in place
- specialized programs/schools – application processes changing
- priority groups -- all feeder students to be treated the same
- prioritize TDSB students over outside students
- school based childcare - - leaving school if leaving the daycare
- looking for new name for policy in plain language
- looking to make the process 100% digital

Feb. 3 - semestered exams and first term report cards may be interrupted by strikes

Superintendent Reports

- Learning still happening in schools during strike/negotiations
- Letter to parents (also available at meeting) about format of report cards during job action

-thanking parents and teachers for their flexibility

Annual Report (handed out at meeting)

Have to respond to ministry by Jan 31, 2020

Draft letter included in package

-Budget process starting shortly; it is open to the public – verbal or written input

-need to hear from schools that don't have their voices heard - - can speak to any issues and concerns

-taking place at 5050 Yonge Street

Superintendent Report (continued)

-Jean Lumb recently opened – connected with Catholic School; shared facilities

-POR Grants – this year we have had a reduction only \$100, 000 for whole board

-Parent Conference taking place in Etobicoke - - Toronto Congress Centre

-Secondary survey online – please take part; we need all voices heard - - on website until Feb. 3

Lord Dufferin – possible special meeting