



# George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI – Pupil Accommodation Review Feeder Elementary School Council Chair Meeting

Monday, April 19, 2021

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom Meeting

<b>Presenters</b>	Audrey Amo, Former Superintendent of York (Facilitator) Chris Tonks, Trustee of Ward 6 Kwame Lennon, Superintendent of Learning Network 03 Andrew Gowdy, System Planning Officer, TDSB Planning Department Safiyyah Omar-Saleh, Educational Planning Officer, TDSB Planning Department Vicky Branco, Former Superintendent of Learning Network 03 (Q&A)
<b>Other Staff in Attendance</b>	Lorraine Linton, Executive Superintendent of Secondary Schools Liane Celseti, George Harvey CI of Principal Zorica Prekajski, George Harvey Vice Principal Geoffrey Vanek, George Harvey Vice Principal Donna Drummond, York Memorial CI Principal Trustee Services: Wilmar Kortleever, Shared Services Liaison (Notes)

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
<b>Objective of Meeting:</b>	Receive feedback from the Feeder Elementary School Council Chairs on the George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI – Pupil Accommodation Review.	
<b>Welcome, Introductions, and Presentation</b>	Meeting facilitator Audrey Amo opened the meeting with the Land Acknowledgement, Agenda, Attendees, Meeting Norms, and Participation options.  Welcoming and opening remarks from Trustee Chris Tonks and Superintendent Kwame Lennon.  Andrew Gowdy and Safiyyah Omar-Saleh from the TDSB Planning Department presented the slide presentation that was pre-shared on the TDSB public website.	
<b>Comments/Questions:</b>		
Question 1	1. Council chair indicated some of his concerns: funding and resources – would they be better if there were two smaller schools or one larger consolidated school? Will there be issues of student safety and security? Some parents think a smaller school is “better” than a larger school.	

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Andrew Gowdy	From a funding viewpoint, it is better if the Board had fewer but larger schools that were well-utilized. One of the guiding principles is to have composite secondary schools that offer a wide range of academic and technical programs.	
Question 2	2. Why no discussion of the fire? Was it arson? Could a fire be set again in either of the schools?	
Andrew Gowdy	The investigation concluded that the fire was accidental since the findings by the fire staff were inconclusive.	
Question 3	3. What impact will the pandemic have on the time needed for rebuilding the school?	
Andrew Gowdy	We have been conservative in our thinking and believe that 2026 is a realistic target for reopening.	
Question 4	4. Can a school of about 1200 students operate safely in 2022 because of the pandemic?	
Andrew Gowdy	We have schools currently that size and larger that are operating safely. We follow all of the directions from Public Health.	
Question 5	5. Are there safety implications for students in a larger school, such as bullying?	
Andrew Gowdy	Over the last 4 years, there have been similar issues at both schools. In our experience, the size of the school generally doesn't cause or prevent such safety issues.	
Question 6	6. What will happen to the George Harvey site in 2026?	
Andrew Gowdy	We haven't decided yet. It will depend on the Board's needs. We try to maintain some flex with available spaces. For example: when the fire happened at York Memorial, we had Scarlett Heights empty and available to help out.	
Question 7	7. Could there be a referendum for residents to vote on the scenarios?	
Andrew Gowdy	That is the purpose of the survey and other feedback processes. The board of trustees is the mechanism for decisions. Staff will report in June; that report will include the results of all of the consultations and feedback in great detail. Staff may not support the feedback; we have our marching orders from the Trustees, the guiding principles etc.	

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Question 8  Andrew Gowdy	8. Is it a two-step process – if the decision is to consolidate in 2022 and then the decision is whether or not to consolidate in the York Memorial building in 2026?  Scenario 2 is one step – consolidate into one school in 2022 in the George Harvey building and move the consolidated school into the York Memorial building in 2026.	
Next Steps:	Information on this review is available on the TDSB public website at <a href="http://www.tdsb.on.ca">www.tdsb.on.ca</a> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Click on Accommodation Reviews at the left side of the page</li> <li>• Scroll down to Pupil Accommodation Reviews</li> <li>• Select George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI</li> </ul> Please fill out the online feedback survey available on the webpage above.  Submit questions to the google form link on the webpage above.  You can also email your questions/comments to your Trustee at <a href="mailto:chris.tonks@tdsb.on.ca">chris.tonks@tdsb.on.ca</a> .	
Next Meeting	Meeting with other stakeholder groups will be held in the coming weeks. Subsequently: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 6, 2021: Public Meeting</li> <li>• May 26, 2021 – Post Final Staff Report on TDSB public website</li> <li>• June 14, 2021 – Special Board of Trustees Committee of the Whole meeting (delegations are received at this meeting)</li> <li>• June 30, 2021 – Board of Trustees meeting for final decision making</li> </ul>	
Adjournment	Thanks everybody for participating!	