

**Public Meeting Presentation to the
George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI community**

**George Harvey CI and
York Memorial CI
Pupil Accommodation Review**

**Thursday, May 6, 2021
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

This presentation is available on the TDSB public website at www.tdsb.on.ca - click on **Accommodation Reviews** on the left side of the page - scroll down to **Pupil Accommodation Reviews** - select **George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI**.

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognise the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples.

Agenda

1.	Land Acknowledgement	Audrey Amo, Facilitator
2.	Welcome and Introductions	
3.	Virtual Meeting Norms	
4.	How to participate in this meeting	
5.	Opening Remarks	Chris Tonks, Trustee and Kwame Lennon, Superintendent
6.	Background	Andrew Gowdy, System Planning Officer
7.	Modified Pupil Accommodation Review	
8.	Guiding Principles	
9.	Overview of Schools in the Review	
10.	Issues to be Addressed	
11.	Scenarios	Safiyyah Omar-Saleh Educational Planning Officer
12.	Timelines and Next Steps	Audrey Amo, Facilitator
13.	Delegations	
14.	We want your feedback!	
15.	Wrap up and Meeting Adjournment	

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TDSB Staff Introductions

Audrey Amo, Facilitator, Former Superintendent of York

Chris Tonks, Trustee of Ward 6

Kwame Lennon, Superintendent of Learning Network 03

Vicky Branco, Former Superintendent of Learning Network 03

Andrew Gowdy, System Planning Officer, TDSB Planning Department

Safiyah Omar-Saleh, Educational Planning Officer, TDSB Planning Department

Virtual Meeting Norms

- Please be **concise, respectful, and courteous** with your questions and feedback.
- Each speaker can ask **1 question and 1 follow up**. If you have more questions, raise your hand again or type your question in the chat box.
- Please save your questions to the **end of the presentation**.
- **Please minimize background audio.**
- If you choose to keep your camera on, **please be aware of what is in your background.**

We will ensure that a few people do not dominate the discussion and every participant has the opportunity to speak without interruption.

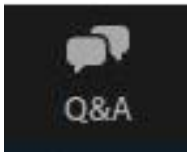
How to Participate



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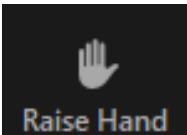
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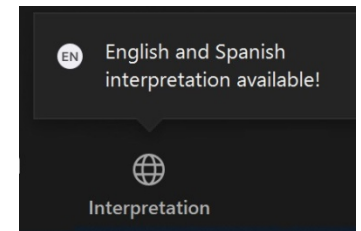
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Detailed Zoom Instructions

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Interpretation is available. Click **Interpretation** and select **Spanish**.



Background

- **May 6 and 7, 2019** – York Memorial CI building (2690 Eglinton Avenue West) was significantly damaged by fire.
- **May 13, 2019** – York Memorial students and staff were relocated to the nearby George Harvey CI building (1700 Keele Street).
- **May 22, 2019** – the Board of Trustees approved consultation with students, parents, and staff on plans for the location of York Memorial CI for the 2019-20 school year:
 - The Board of Trustees also approved that a request be made to the Ministry of Education to commence a pupil accommodation review of York Memorial CI and George Harvey CI based on the urgent situation resulting from the fire
 - Ministry permission is required due to a provincial moratorium on school closures

Background

- **June 19, 2019** – the Board of Trustees approved the relocation of York Memorial CI to the vacant Scarlett Heights building (15 Trehorne Drive) for September 2019.
- **September 3, 2019** – York Memorial CI began operations in the Scarlett Heights building and George Harvey CI returned to previous operations.
- **November 27, 2019** – in response to a request from the Ministry for details on the proposed pupil accommodation review, the Board of Trustees approved a proposal to be submitted to the Ministry.
- **January 7, 2020** – the Ministry granted permission for the TDSB to move forward with a modified pupil accommodation review.

Background

- **February 5, 2020** – the Board of Trustees approved the start of the modified pupil accommodation review:
 - The process began with an Initial Staff Report describing scenarios for student accommodation
 - The Initial Staff Report is available online on the **Accommodation Reviews** webpage
 - Information about George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI is available in the **School Information Profile** on the Accommodation Reviews webpage
- **March 2020** – Shutdown of TDSB schools and buildings due to the pandemic
- **May 2020** – Review was paused and postponed to Fall of 2020. Survey was closed.
- **January 2021** – Review was resumed.

Modified Pupil Accommodation Review

What is the difference between:
a **modified pupil accommodation review** and
a **standard pupil accommodation review**?

- It takes less time – a standard review can take most of a school year – a modified review can take less than half of a school year.
- It does not require that a committee of students, parents and staff be formed.
- It requires fewer public meetings – a standard review requires a minimum of 3 public meetings – a modified review requires a minimum of 1 public meeting.
- It is intended for situations that are less complex involving a small number of schools - it will focus on two schools, York Memorial CI and George Harvey CI.
- One or more of the schools in the review must meet at least one of four conditions such as having a utilization rate below 65% - George Harvey CI had a utilization rate of 38% at the start of the review, well below the threshold of 65%.

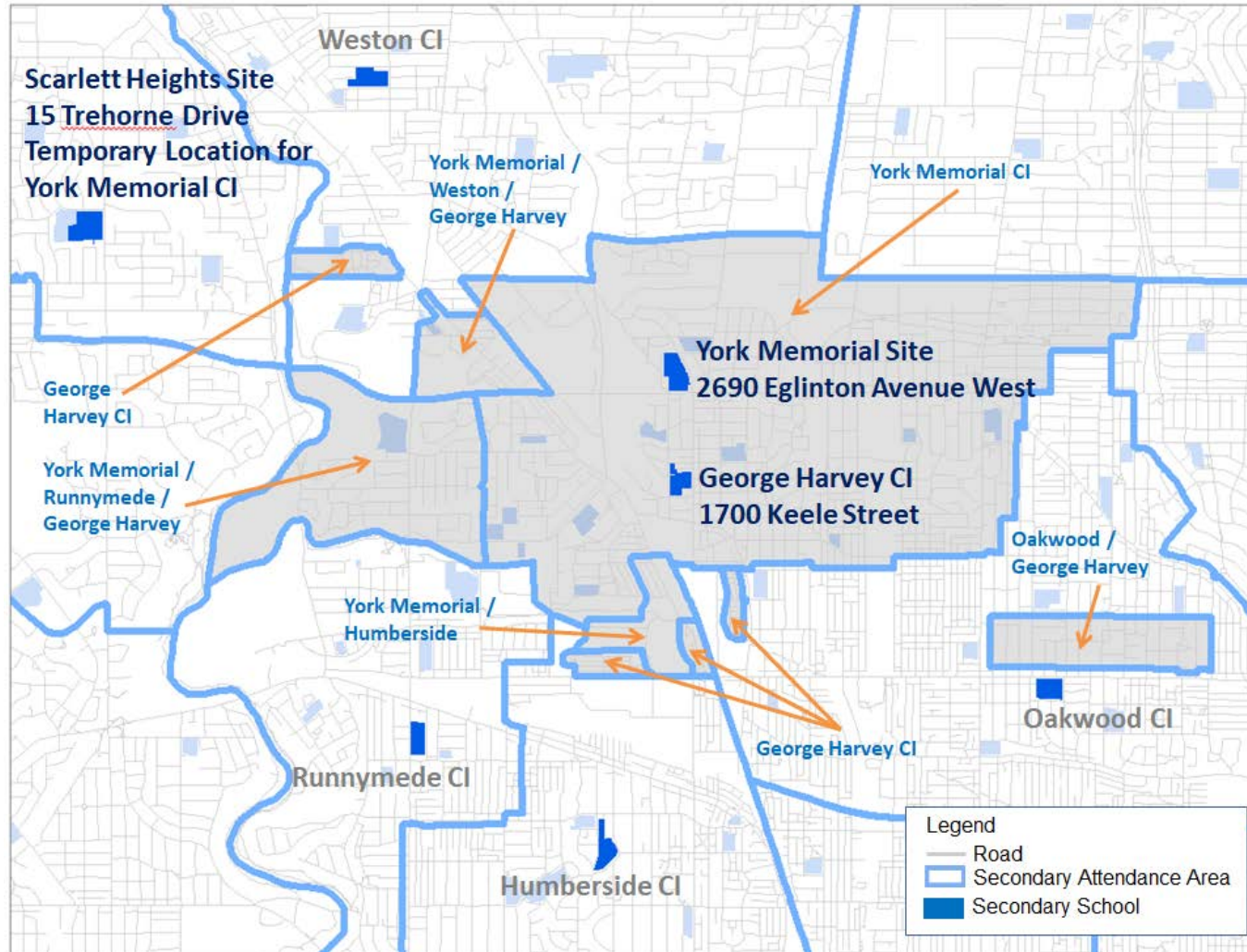
Why is the **modified pupil accommodation review** appropriate for the review of York Memorial CI and George Harvey CI?

- We want a decision on the future of the York Memorial site as quickly as possible to:
 - provide certainty for the students, parents and staff of York Memorial CI about the future of their school;
 - ensure that the York Memorial site does not sit dormant for a prolonged period in its current state.

Guiding Principles

- 11 guiding principles for long-term planning were approved by the Board of Trustees in April 2019.
- They were used to develop and assess the scenarios. The following guiding principles are particularly relevant to this review:
 - **Neighbourhood schools that meet the needs of all students**
 - **Optimal secondary school size of at least 1,000 students**
 - **Consistent attendance boundaries**
 - **School locations that support active transportation**
 - **Optimal utilization rate of 90%**
- These principles are being used to review all secondary schools as part of the **Secondary Program Review**.
- All 111 secondary schools are being reviewed to ensure all students have equitable access to programs and opportunities – as close to home as possible.

Overview of Schools in the Review



York Memorial CI

Before the fire:

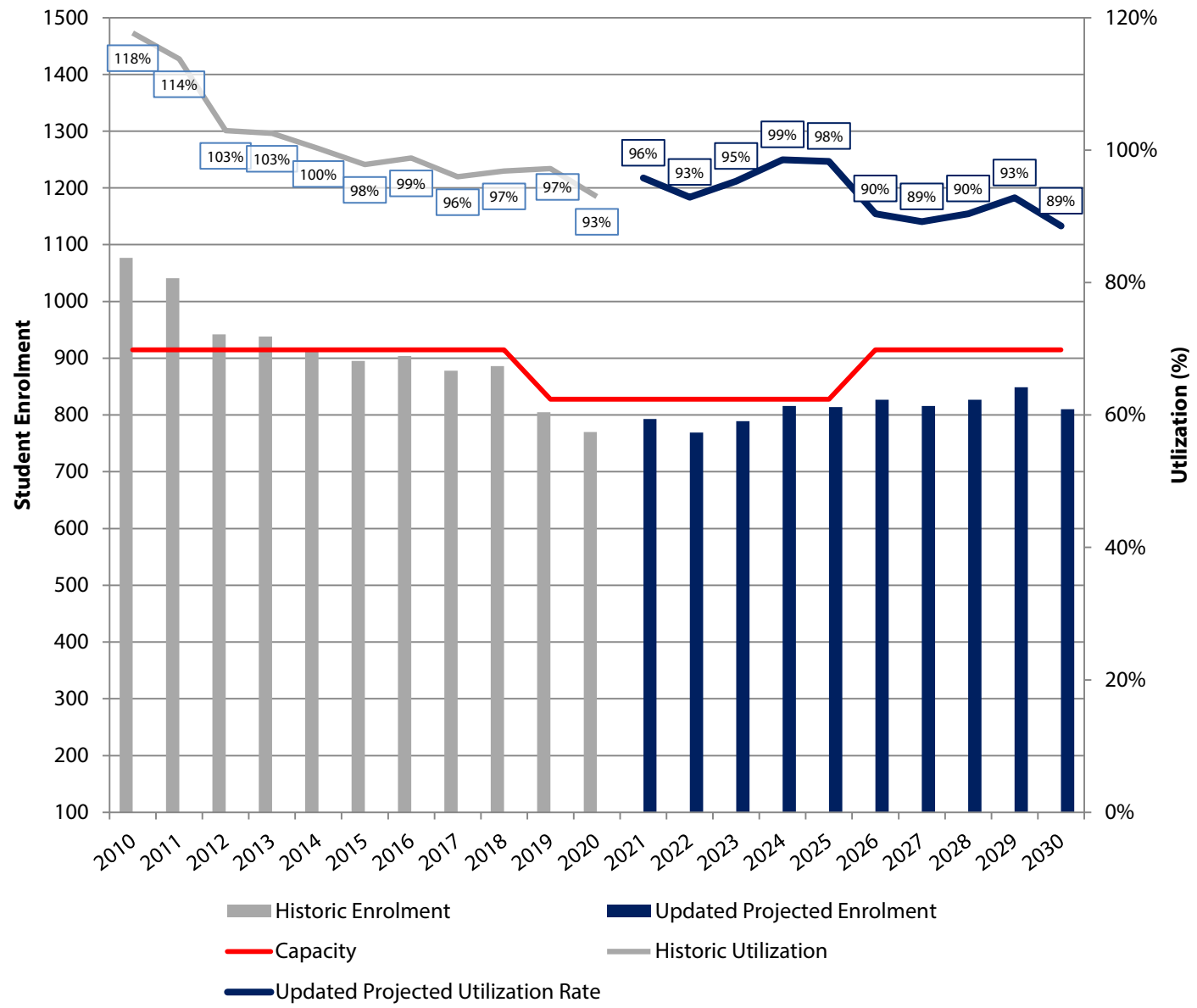
- The site is 7.61 acres and is shared with a TDSB administration centre (2 Trethewey Drive) and a City of Toronto community centre (Centennial Recreation Centre West).
- The school is non-semestered and follows the dress code (no uniform).
- The school offers the following programs:
 - Regular Program
 - Developmental Disability
 - RUSH (Roadmap to University Success with Honours)
 - Advanced Placement
 - Pre-advanced Placement
 - And four Specialist High Skills Majors (Arts and Culture, Information and Communications Technology, Global Leadership and Citizenship, and Health and Wellness).

After the fire:

- York Memorial CI students were moved into the vacant Scarlett Heights Entrepreneurial Academy as a holding solution.
- York Memorial students who qualify for transportation are receiving TTC tickets.
- The school remains non-semestered with no uniform.
- The school offers the same programs.
- The school has the same attendance areas.
- The TDSB administration centre resumed operations on the York Memorial site last year (the building was minimally impacted by the fire).

York Memorial CI Enrolment & Utilization

- In 2019-20, York Memorial CI's enrolment declined slightly from 886 to 805 students due to the fire. The building capacity is 828. The utilization rate was 97%.
- In 2020-21, enrolment declined from 805 to 770 students, decreasing the utilization rate to 93%.
- The enrolment is projected to slightly increase to 814 students by 2025 (98% utilization) and slightly decrease to 810 by 2030 (89%).

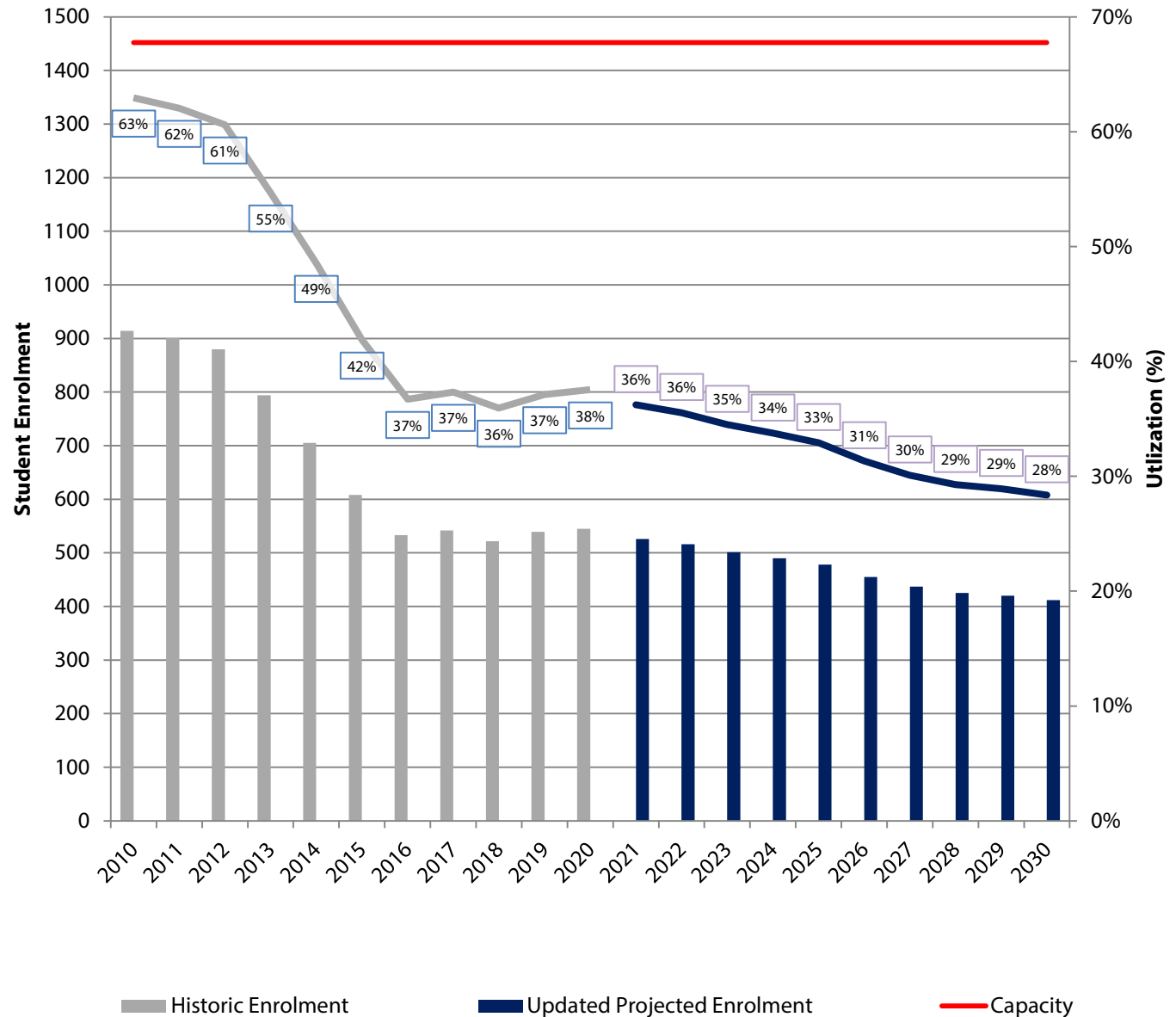


George Harvey CI

- The site is 6.2 acres.
- The school is semestered and has a uniform.
- The school offers the following programs:
 - Regular Program
 - Five Specialist High Skills Majors (Arts and Culture, Health and Wellness, Information and Communications Technology, Global Citizenship and Leadership, and Construction, Engineering and Automotive)
 - English as a Second Language
- There are three other users groups in the George Harvey building:
 - George Harvey Child Care Centre
 - Skylark Youth Services
 - Essential Skills Upgrading

George Harvey CI Enrolment & Utilization Rate

- George Harvey CI has declined in enrolment since 2010.
- In 2019-20, George Harvey's enrolment was 539 students. The building's capacity is 1,452 pupil places. The utilization rate was 37%.
- In 2020-21, enrolment remained stable at 545 students. The utilization rate remained at 38%.
- The enrolment is projected to slightly decrease to 478 students by 2025 (33% utilization) and to 412 by 2030 (28%).

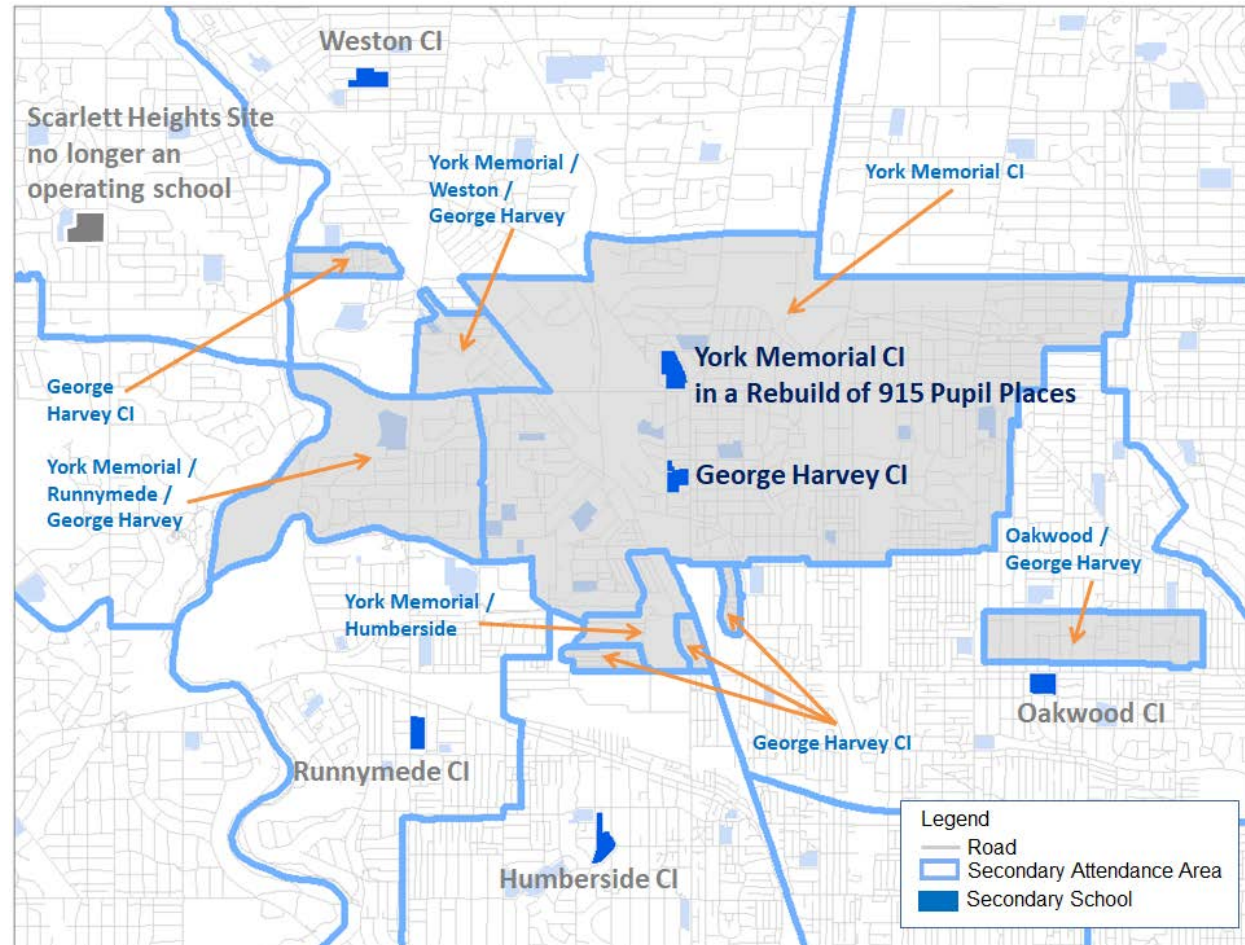


Issues to be Addressed

- **Declining enrolment** – both York Memorial CI and George Harvey CI have declined in enrolment from 2010. George Harvey CI has a small enrolment of 545 students, well below the preferred school size of 1,000 students.
- **Geographic redundancy** – The York Memorial CI and George Harvey CI sites are located close together within the same attendance area.
- **Attendance area anomalies** – George Harvey CI does not have a local secondary attendance area. Four small, disconnected pockets of residential addresses have been assigned to George Harvey CI.
- **Future of the York Memorial site and how to use the proceeds from the insurance claim** – The York Memorial site at 2690 Eglinton Avenue West has been fenced off and made safe, but is in a holding state awaiting a decision on its future. The site cannot remain in its current condition indefinitely. The TDSB will gain insurance funds that can be used to provide local accommodation for the affected students.

Scenario 1 – Status Quo – No Consolidation

- George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI remain open as separate schools.
- York Memorial CI moves into a new building on the former York Memorial site when the new building opens in 2026.
- No changes to the current attendance areas.



Scenario 1 – Status Quo – No Consolidation

Advantages

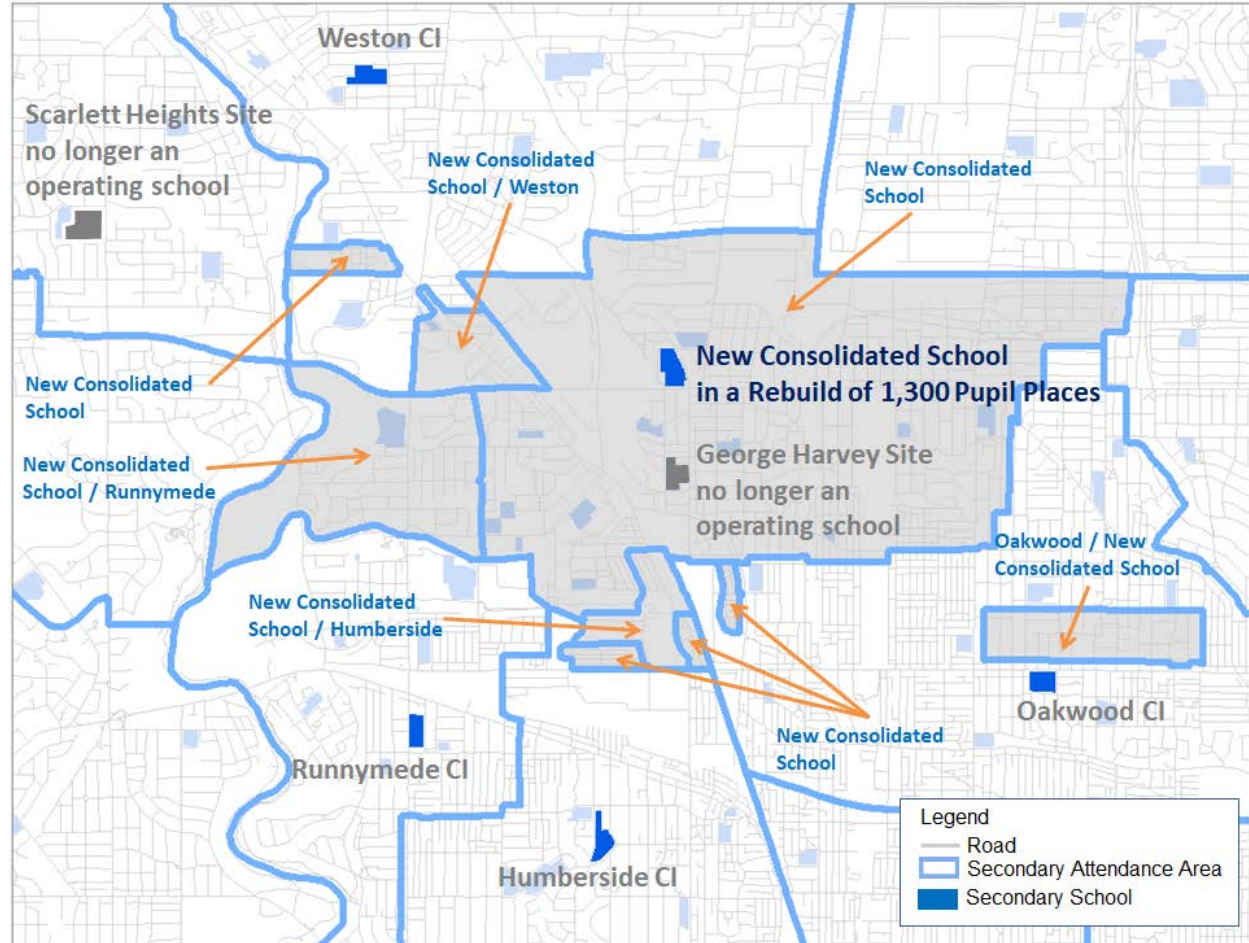
- Relocations are minimized for students and staff.
- The two schools keep their own identities.
- York Memorial students benefit from a new facility.
- York Memorial returns to a site within its attendance area – easier access for local students.
- Costs less to build the new smaller facility (no need to apply to Ministry for capital funds).

Disadvantages

- The optimal-sized school of 1000+ students is not achieved – students do not benefit from increased course offerings.
- George Harvey remains underutilized.
- George Harvey students do not benefit from a new facility.
- Fewer students from Eglinton and Keele may choose to attend York Memorial while it is at Scarlett Heights.
- Transportation costs for York Memorial students until 2026.
- Costs of operating two schools and two buildings for the foreseeable future.

UPDATED Scenario 2 – George Harvey and York Memorial Consolidate in 2022

- George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI consolidate in the existing George Harvey building in 2022.
- Then move to a new building on the former York Memorial site when the new building opens in 2026.
- All attendance areas for George Harvey and York Memorial are assigned to the new consolidated school.



Scenario 2 – George Harvey and York Memorial Consolidate in 2022

Advantages

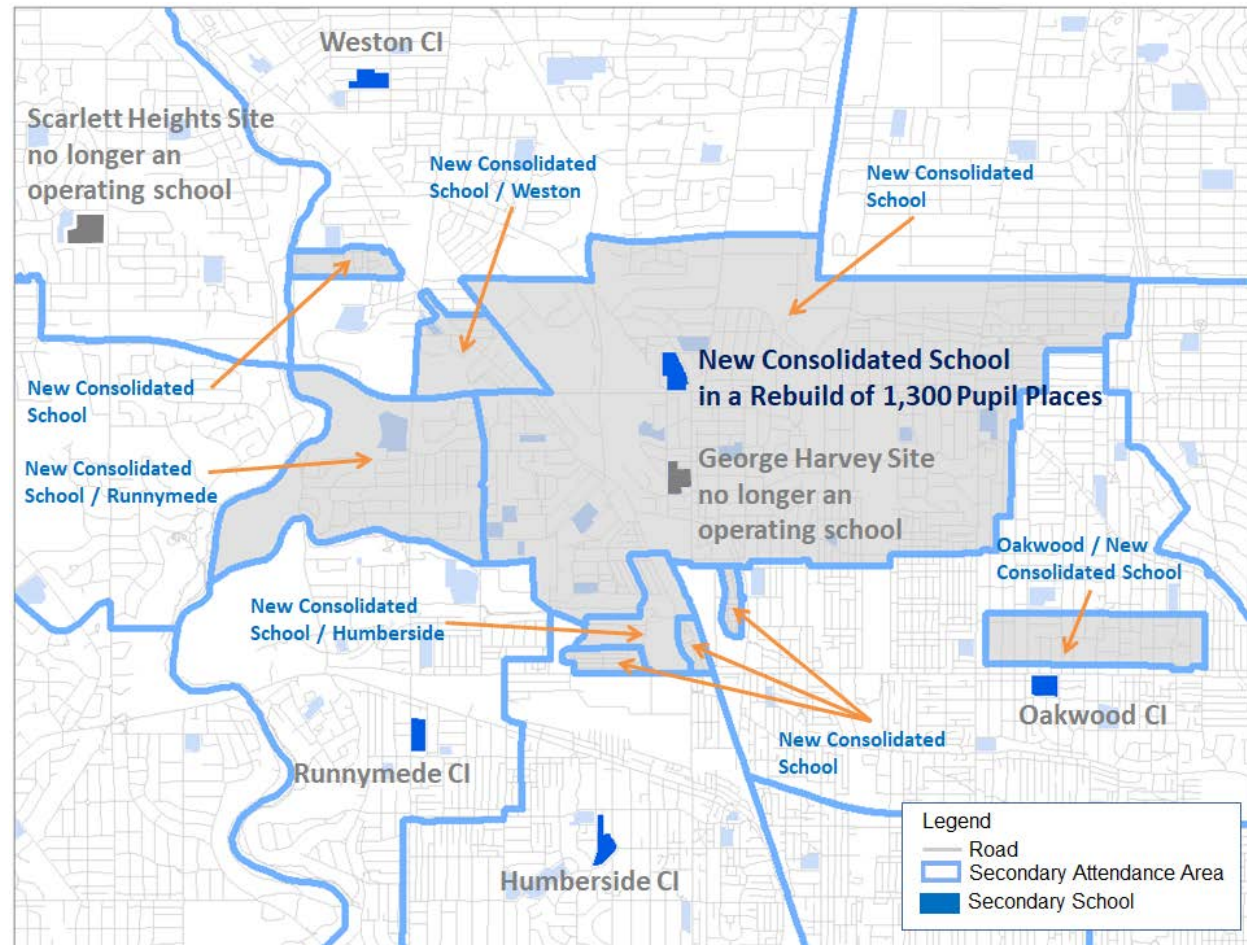
- The optimal-sized school of 1000+ students is achieved – students benefit from increased course offerings at an early opportunity.
- Most of the York Memorial students who experienced the relocations in 2019 do not go through another relocation.
- Transportation costs are reduced.
- York Memorial returns to a site within its attendance area – easier access for local students.
- Both George Harvey and York Memorial students benefit from a new facility with a great sports field and great access to public transit.
- Efficiencies in staffing and facility operations are achieved by operating a single larger school that will be well utilized.

Disadvantages

- Students and staff experience a relocation in 2022.
- Students and staff experience change in becoming a single consolidated school.
- Some students, such as students in the Developmental Disability program, who experienced the relocations in 2019 may experience another relocation.

Scenario 3 – George Harvey and York Memorial Consolidate in 2026

- George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI remain open as separate schools until the new building on the former York Memorial site opens.
- The two schools consolidate and move into the new building in 2026.
- All attendance areas for George Harvey and York Memorial are assigned to the new consolidated school.



Scenario 3 – George Harvey and York Memorial Consolidate in 2026

Advantages

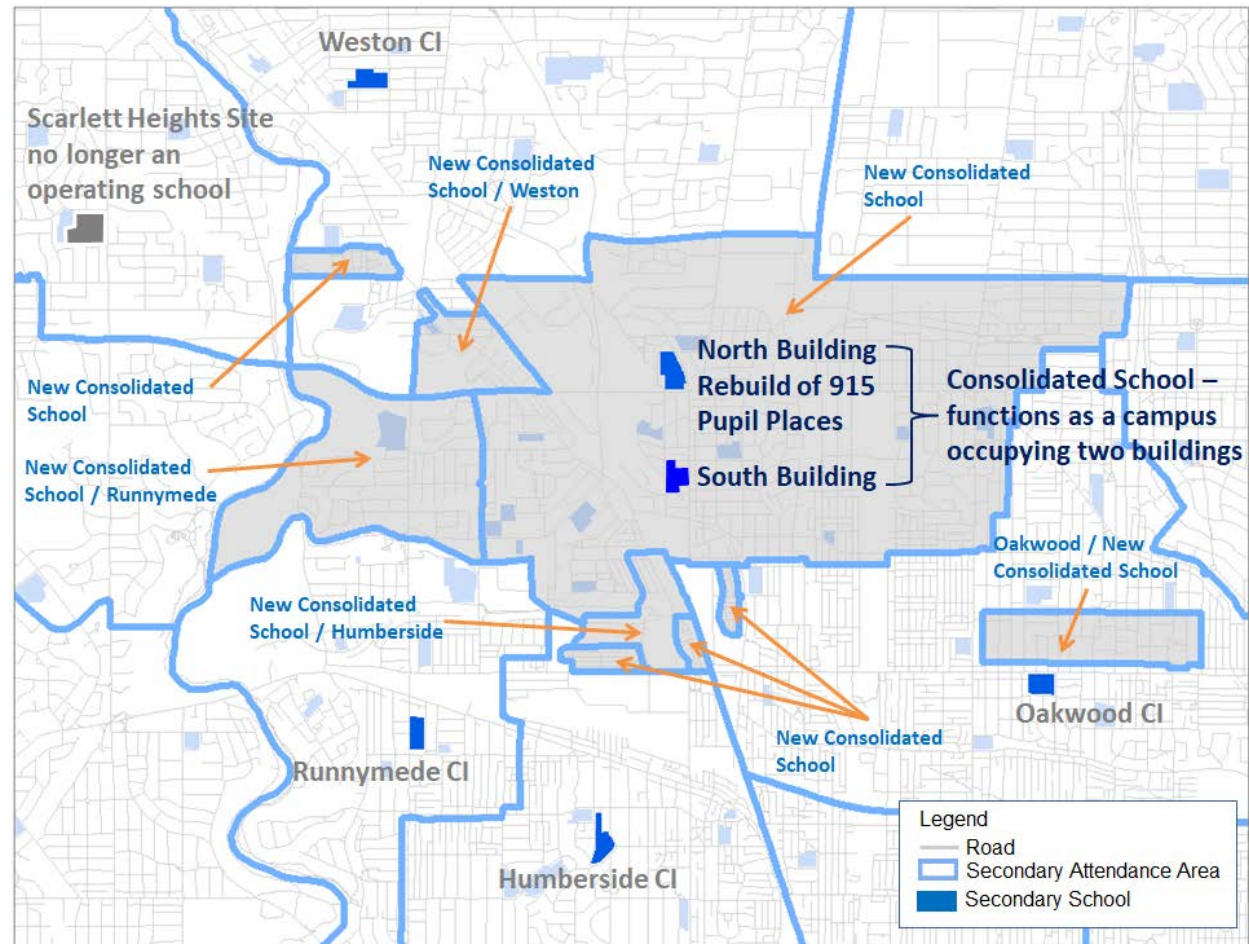
- **Relocations are minimized for students and staff.**
- The optimal-sized school of 1000+ students is eventually achieved – students benefit from increased course offerings.
- York Memorial returns to a site within its attendance area – easier access for local students.
- Both George Harvey and York Memorial students benefit from a new facility with a great sports field and great access to public transit.
- Efficiencies in staffing and facility operations are achieved by operating a single larger school that will be well utilized.

Disadvantages

- **Takes longer for the optimal-sized school to be achieved and for the students to experience the associated benefits.**
- **Transportation costs for York Memorial students until 2026.**
- **George Harvey is underutilized until 2026.**
- **Fewer students from Eglinton and Keele may choose to attend York Memorial while it is at Scarlett Heights.**
- Students and staff experience change in becoming a single consolidated school.

Scenario 4 – George Harvey and York Memorial Consolidate as a Campus in 2026

- George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI remain open as separate schools until the new building on the former York Memorial site opens in 2026.
- The two schools consolidate in 2026.
- The consolidated school occupies the new building and the George Harvey building and functions as a campus – one school using two buildings.



Scenario 4 – George Harvey and York Memorial Consolidate as a Campus in 2026

Advantages

- Relocations are minimized for students and staff.
- The optimal-sized school of 1000+ students is eventually achieved – students benefit from increased course offerings.
- York Memorial returns to a site within its attendance area – easier access for local students.
- Both George Harvey and York Memorial students benefit from a new facility.
- Some efficiencies in staffing are achieved by operating a single larger school.
- **Costs less to build the new smaller facility (no need to apply to Ministry for capital funds).**

Disadvantages

- Takes longer for the optimal-sized school to be achieved.
- Transportation costs for York Memorial students until 2026.
- Fewer students from Eglinton and Keele may choose to attend York Memorial while it is at Scarlett Heights.
- Students and staff experience change in becoming a single consolidated school.
- **Students and staff need to walk between two buildings during the day.**
- **George Harvey building is underutilized before and after the consolidation.**
- **Students will still be using the older spaces in the George Harvey building.**
- **Inefficiencies of operating two buildings.**



Frequently Asked Questions

Why hasn't the George Harvey site been proposed as the long-term receiving site for the consolidated school?

- The George Harvey building would require a deep-retrofit which would require the relocation of George Harvey students to a holding site – the closest building with surplus space is Oakwood CI – it would be very challenging to have the two schools share the Oakwood building with their separate timetables.
- The York Memorial site has better access to public transit than the George Harvey site – it will have direct access to a Crosstown LRT station.
- The York Memorial site has a larger sports field than the George Harvey site – the York Memorial sports field is approximately 4.5 acres and includes a track – the George Harvey sports field is approximately 1.6 acres (no track).
- The York Memorial site provides the opportunity to construct a new facility built to current standards – the George Harvey building would be a retrofitted version of the existing building – the layout of the building would largely remain the same.

Why not wait until 2026 for the consolidation?

- By consolidating in 2022, the students of York Memorial CI and George Harvey CI will experience the benefits of a **neighbourhood school that meets the needs of all students** at the earliest time possible:
 - The students of the consolidated school will have access to a broader range of course offerings;
 - The students of the consolidated school will have access to a school located within the Keele and Eglinton attendance area.
- While York Memorial CI is at Scarlett Heights, fewer students from the York Memorial CI attendance area may choose to attend the school due to the distance.
- George Harvey CI is projected to continue to decline in enrolment, thus limiting the program choices for students.
- Transportation costs will be reduced.

What will be the name of the consolidated school?

- York Memorial CI has a unique historical significance in the York community and is protected by a heritage by-law:
 - In 1929 the Township of York decided to build “an institute of higher learning” as a memorial to commemorate the youth of the Township of York who died in World War 1;
 - It was rededicated in 1949 as a World War 2 memorial;
 - In 1985, York Memorial CI was designated a heritage building by the City of York;
 - York Memorial is the only secondary school in Ontario built expressly as a memorial to Canadian war dead, with memorial features built into its design;
 - The school is included in the Canadian Military Memorials Database (Veterans Affairs, Canada);
 - The Ministry of Veterans Affairs, Canada, and the Provincial President of the Royal Canadian Legion have stated that this building is a memorial site and the name must be retained to honour the sacred pledge of remembrance;
 - In working with Toronto Heritage Preservation Services over the past year it has become clear that the name of the school is integral to the historical value of the site.
- Given the above factors, if the Board decides to consolidate the two schools, staff will include a recommendation in the final staff report that the name of the consolidated school be “York Memorial CI”.
- Students enrolled in the consolidated school will be provided with an opportunity to determine ways to honour the traditions of both schools and to create new traditions for the future.

If the Board approves consolidation, how will the mental health of students and staff be addressed during the process of consolidation/transition?

- Staff from our Professional Support Services (PSS) department, will be available to students on an individual, family and collective level to support their well-being and wellness during the transition.
- A team, consisting of leadership and support staff, will work with staff and students early on in the process, before the transition takes place, to ensure concerns and anxieties around the move are addressed as soon as possible.
- PSS staff will work with the Student Support Teams (SST) for each school to determine the best ways to address the mental health needs of students before, during, and after the transition.

What happens next if the Board of Trustees approve the consolidation?

- The TDSB will seek funds from the Ministry of Education to build the larger building.
- If scenario 2 is approved, the George Harvey building will be retrofitted to accommodate all students and staff.
- A Transition Committee will be formed to implement the details of consolidation such as:
 - Determine the timetable for the consolidated school (semestered, non-semestered, or hybrid)
 - Identify courses
 - Determine uniform or dress code
 - Discuss ways to honour the traditions of both schools and to create new traditions for the future
 - Review the need for extra support staff to manage transition for both students and staff
- Employee Services will work with the unions, OSSTF, CUPE and TSAA (Toronto School Administrators' Association) on school staffing processes.

What will happen to the staff if the two schools become one consolidated school?

- The Board has to make two key decisions:
 1. **Will** the two schools be consolidated?
 2. **When** will the consolidation occur?
- Once the Board has made those decisions, Employee Services will work with the staff unions (OSSTF, CUPE, and PSSP) and TSAA on school staffing processes.
- Historically, when school closures were mandated by the government just after amalgamation, and the TDSB decided to close its first school, the Employer discussed the process and next steps with staff unions.

What retrofits will take place at the George Harvey building to accommodate the consolidated school?

- Unlike the temporary relocation that occurred in May 2019, if a consolidation is approved for September 2022, retrofits will be in place to accommodate all students and staff.
- The Principals of both schools have been and will be involved in the process of retrofits:
 - Creating a dance studio
 - Creating an additional room and storage for the music program
 - Creating an additional art classroom
 - Upgrading science rooms
 - Providing a Snoezelen room for the Developmental Disability program
 - Sufficient office space for all staff
 - Space considerations will be adjusted depending on timetable structure
 - Ongoing additional adjustments as identified

Why will it take 6 years to build a new school on the York Memorial site?

- It typically takes the TDSB approximately 4 years to construct a new school: 2 years to design and receive approvals from the City of Toronto and the Ministry of Education; and 2 years to construct.
- Building a new school on the York Memorial site will take more time because we need to deal with the existing infrastructure and the heritage designation: we are estimating it could take 3 years to design and receive approvals, and 3 years to construct.
- Example of a recently constructed secondary school: David and Mary Thomson CI took approximately 8 years to design and build.

Timelines

- Meet with the following groups to inform and receive feedback:
 - School council chairs of feeder elementary school
 - George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI staff
 - George Harvey CI and York memorial CI alumni
- **May 6, 2021** – Hold public meeting
- **May 26, 2021** – Post Final Staff Report on TDSB public website
- **June 14, 2021** – Submit Final Staff Report to Special Committee of the Whole (delegations are received at this meeting)
- **June 30, 2021** – Submit Final Staff Report to the Board of Trustees for final decision making

Delegations

- The TDSB's Special Committee of the Whole meeting on June 14, 2021 is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Trustees.
- Members of the public can make verbal presentations or submit written material.
- To present to the Trustees, you must contact **Governance and Board Services** at delegates@tdsb.on.ca by **June 11, 2021**
- For Delegation Instructions, please go to <http://www.tdsb.on.ca>:
 - Click on **Trustees and Board Meetings**
 - Click on **Delegations** under **Boardroom**

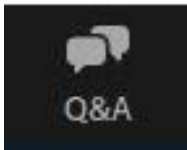
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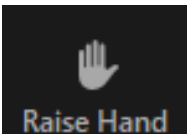
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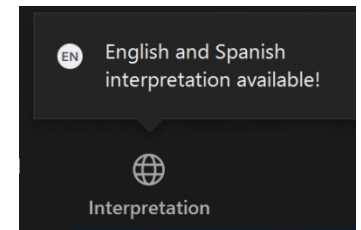
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**We want your
feedback.**

**What are your
thoughts?**

**Which scenario
do you like
and why?**

- **Scenario 1** – Status Quo – No Consolidation
- **Scenario 2** – George Harvey and York Memorial Consolidate in **2022** at the George Harvey Building and then move into the Rebuild on the York Memorial Site in **2026**
- **Scenario 3** – George Harvey and York Memorial Consolidate in **2026** at the Rebuild on the York Memorial Site
- **Scenario 4** – George Harvey and York Memorial Consolidate in **2026** as a Campus Occupying the Rebuild on the York Memorial Site and the George Harvey Building

Wrap-up

- Information on this review is available on the TDSB public website at www.tdsb.on.ca:
 - Click on **Accommodation Reviews** at the left side of the page
 - Scroll down to **Pupil Accommodation Reviews**
 - Select **George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI**
- Please fill out the **online feedback survey** available on the webpage above (**survey closes Friday, May 14**).
- Submit questions to **the google form link** on the webpage above.
- You can also email your questions/comments to your Trustee at chris.tonks@tdsb.on.ca.



Adjournment
Thank you!

