

YORK MILLS CI JUNIOR HIGH CLUSTER PART

York Mills CI, St. Andrew's JHS, Windfields JHS,
Armour Hts PS, Broadlands PS, Denlow PS, Don Valley MS,
Dunlace PS, Harrison PS, Owen PS, Rippleton PS

PROGRAM AREA REVIEW TEAM (PART) MEETING

September 20, 2016

MEETING NOTES

SCHOOL	Principal (and/or rep)	School Council Rep(s)
York Mills CI	Jennifer Chan	Naziha Mahmoud
St. Andrew's JHS	Marissa Cocco	Christine Guest, Eddie Lok
Windfields JHS	Heather Lanning	Mindi Green
Armour Hts PS	Cory Birnbaum	Krista McClure
Broadlands PS	Mark Duwyn	Lori Kirk
Denlow PS	Patricia Sutherland	Zami Zucker
Dunlace PS	Mikki Hymus	Dev Benham
Don Valley MS	Anne Lee	
Harrison	Linda Pasquino	Cindy Sachar
Owen	Julie Kwon, Stephen Miles	
Rippleton	Lynn Chadder	Krista Evdalis, Vanessa Appleton

Central: Kathleen Garner, Superintendent –LN7
Gerri Gershon, Trustee, Ward 13
Ken Lister, Trustee, Ward 17
David Paltser, Educational Planner
John Tancredi, Central Coordinating Principal –French as a Second Language
Kirsten Johnston, Central Coordinator –French as a Second Language (Ele)
Curtis Ennis, Superintendent –LN10
Audley Salmon, Superintendent –LN11
Maria LoBianco, Central Coordinating Principal – Special Education
Andrew Gold, Secondary Staffing
Susan Hammond, Administrative Liaison –LN7

1. Welcome and Introductions:

Kathleen Garner, Superintendent and Chair of this PART welcomed everyone and introductions were made around the table.

2. Why are we doing a PART?

Background information was provided noting that in 2000 Board direction was given to phase out Junior High Schools. In 2013 Local Feasibility Team (LFT) was created and recommendation was not to pursue at this time.

In 2014 Long Term Program & Pupil Accommodation Strategy (LTPAS) was approved by Trustees and identified a number of Junior High School studies to be undertaken to resolve existing and future accommodation issues. Three studies were undertaken and completed in 2015. St. Andrew's and Windfields are the last 2 Junior High Schools remaining in TDSB. Many elementary schools are over enrolled with portables on site, attendance has declined at York Mills CI to the point where the school may now be able to accommodate Grade 9 and changes to the Georges Vanier SS cluster to the North created an extra transition in the French Immersion track from Don Valley MS, Windfields JHS to York Mills CI

In 2016 another LFT took place and as result of that review, it was decided to bring this to a PART which means we need to hear from schools involved before reaching a decision.

3. Mandate of the PART

The Mandate is to create a recommendation to Board after examining the Junior High Model, reviewing accommodation pressures and boundary anomalies. The community meeting is part of the process and will provide options. The role of this committee is an advisory one and parents will review data and discuss input of data on schools.

4. Setting the Context:

The Planning Department is responsible for student accommodation. St. Andrew's and Windfields are the only Junior High schools left in the TDSB. Program Drivers include:

- **Program Choice** –Offer a variety of program choices to all learners including adults
- **Equity** –Provide Equity of opportunity and access to program
- **Fair Access to Specialized Programs and Schools** –Achieve a fair and equal distribution of specialized programs and specialized schools
- **Viability** –ensure viability of program

5. Enrolment Base Data & Scenarios

David Paltser provided a Power Point presentation showing the different models and scenarios. (i.e. Status Quo, Middle School Model, Senior School Model) and discussed impact of same. A handout of the Power Point was distributed and all information is available on line at www.tdsb.on.ca/accommodationreviews and is to be shared with parents.

The group was then asked for their input and a discussion ensued with each school highlighting their specific concerns:

BROADLANDS concerned about over utilization and large number of students and portables.

Felt French Immersion program increased numbers and would like to review. Suggestion to offer FI at Denlow or expand program at Dunlace to help offset numbers. There was some discussion about single track schools.

Owen PS –concerned about space - 6 portables on site. Felt K-5 option would be good but suggested timing important so community would need to know at the beginning of the year when change is occurring. It was established that time would be a consideration of the PART recommendation.

Rippleton –same concerns as Owen re space. Concerns over shared boundary and new developments increasing numbers further.

Don Valley MS -mixed reviews on transition from Junior High to Middle School (was JHS last year) and some parents are happy and some are not.

Windfields JHS –happy with status quo, like senior model feel JHS best model and kids in protected environment , reduces transitions, support is in place –good model as JHS building has HS model so not good to put grade 5 students into building

–also referenced Extended French track and the fact that parents would like all triple track students going to same school

Concerns expressed that IB program would be withdrawn if changed to Grade 7-8 school because IR program must run for 3years

St. Andrew's JHS –community likes JHS but could be equity issue as only JHS remaining building is Transition at gr 10 feels it is an issue and also feels that grade 6 students not ready for moving classes

Dunlace PS -concerned about numbers (includes STOCK and daycare up from 70 to 120).

Denlow PS concerns about space -square footage is not what is in school, classrooms very tiny, would like changes, -Extended French cannot provide program needed and gifted program there as well, -also bussing is an issue, -feel grade 5 students are too young to be with bigger kids in middle school

HARRISON –concern Grade 5 not socially ready and wants to know what school will do to support this transition to ensure they are comfortable, also concerns re IB as grade 6 students would lose out on IB exhibition and will miss out on being leaders if moved to bigger school -Another larger concern at Harrison is school closure

ARMOUR HTS –numbers are going down –would like K-8 model, however, response was that is not feasible

6. NEXT STEPS

- Review information and data prior to next meeting
- Share information and recommendations with community and get feedback and advise Kathleen Garner on same
- Bring back suggestions on recommendations and input from community

Thanked members for attending meeting and advised that the next meeting will take place on **Tuesday, September 27 at York Mills CI, Titan Hall, from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm** and that we will be working in small groups.

7. Adjournment –Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm