



George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI – Pupil Accommodation Review Public Information and Feedback Meeting

Tuesday, May 6, 2021

6:30 – 8:00pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom Webinar

Presenters	Audrey Amo, Former Superintendent of York (Facilitator) 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 Safiyyah Omar-Saleh, Educational Planning Officer, TDSB Planning Department
Other Staff & Trustee in Attendance	Lorraine Linton (Superintendent of Secondary Schools) Uton Robinson (Executive Superintendent, Learning Centre 1) Dan MacLean (Trustee, Ward 2) Liane Celseti (Principal, George Harvey CI) Donna Drummond (Principal, York Memorial CI) Wilmar Kortleever, Shared Services Liaison, Trustee Services (Meeting Notes)
Attendees	Close to 200 people attended part, or all, of the meeting.

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
Objective of Meeting:	Receive feedback from the public on the George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI – Pupil Accommodation Review	
Presentation:	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 presented the slide presentation that was pre-shared and posted on the public website.	

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
<p>Comments/Questions:</p> <p>Speaker 1</p> <p>Andrew Gowdy</p> <p>Speaker 2</p> <p>Andrew Gowdy</p> <p>Speaker 2</p> <p>Andrew Gowdy</p> <p>Speaker 3</p> <p>Andrew Gowdy</p>	<p>1. Given all the data in the presentation today, why is George Harvey not just getting closed?</p> <p>In this process we have proposed consolidation, meaning bring two schools together as one, but through a process respecting and valuing each school. We want both schools to feel valued and are establishing a level playing field in bringing these two together. In addition, the government has issued a moratorium on school closings.</p> <p>2. Toronto Heritage Law follows National Heritage Law. According to those bylaws, the foundation has to remain intact. If you are to consolidate both schools, and sources imply and confirm that this is the case, the George Harvey name cannot be used anywhere in, on, or above the foundation of the school. How do you propose to guarantee that the George Harvey name is not used on the school grounds in order to retain its heritage? If the school gets consolidated, how do you propose that any new traditions do not incur a violation of those bylaws?</p> <p>We certainly will follow the heritage bylaw. We have a team working with the city's Heritage Preservation Services Department to fully understand the bylaw. I cannot respond to some of the details that you've raised, but we do wish to respect George Harvey in the consolidation process. As reported, we recommend that the name of the consolidated school be York Memorial Collegiate Institute. We think that is respecting the heritage value of the site, the school, and the bylaw. There might be other ways to reflect the history of George Harvey, including other buildings on the property.</p> <p>I have researched the By-laws, but you cannot use another historical name attached to the foundation of that monument.</p> <p>There are opportunities we can explore. For example, maybe the name of the gym is George Harvey or maybe the shop spaces that need to be built. We are looking at using space in 2 Trethewey Drive for those shop spaces. This is part of the transition exercise, which is having teams investigate this respect for the heritage bylaw, but at the same time trying to honor both schools.</p> <p>3. If the school merges in scenarios 2, 3 and 4, does York Memorial take over the new building?</p> <p>In Scenarios 2 and 3, we propose the consolidation, and the difference between those 2 scenarios is when the consolidation is implemented. In scenario 2 it brings together the two student bodies as soon as possible in September of 2022 , in the</p>	

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
Speaker 4	<p>George Harvey building. When that happens, the body of students and staff associated with it, under a single Principal, will be known as York Memorial. They will stay in the George Harvey building until the new building is opened on the York Memorial site, and then they will move up to Keele & Eglinton. They will occupy the new building and the name will go with them.</p> <p>Scenario 3 is essentially the same, with the students coming together as one school called York Memorial, but the timing is different. It will be implemented when the new building at Keele & Eglinton opens in 2026. In the meantime, York Memorial stays at the Scarlett Heights building. The school in that location is named York Memorial and George Harvey stays in the George Harvey building, called George Harvey.</p> <p>4. Given that it has taken over two years to prepare the Central Tech site for Bloor’s relocation, and that is into a space that is basically separated by floors and is able to keep construction contained to not interfere with the daily functioning of the school, how will the needed work at George Harvey be done in a single pandemic-interrupted year when the work is being spread out throughout the entire building that is filled with close to 600 people? How will this be done in a way that does not put additional stress, expectations, or disruptions on students and staff?</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>This matter is addressed by our Design Department. We have had people walk the George Harvey building to identify the renovation needs. They are putting together the schedule. I cannot speak to the details of how individual rooms are renovated over the next twelve to 14 months, but it is something looked at by our design staff. We should also remember that George Harvey currently has space for 1450 students; having fewer than that number in the building gives us some flexibility for the construction.</p>	
Vicky Branco	<p>I will be meeting with the Administration team at George Harvey to look at timetabling once a decision is made. We will look at which pockets of the building need to be under construction. There will be a concentrated effort on how we are going to design the construction, and when, and where. If a decision is made in June, we do have the whole year, plus the summer, so two summers in total to do the construction and complete the move.</p>	
Speaker 5	<p>5. The TDSB takes a very long time to get construction done (that's not a criticism - it's a fact). There's no way you will get all those things done by fall 2022. Will you use an outside contractor again like when preparing Scarlett?</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>Our Design Department manages that process. It will likely be a combination of in-house staff and a contractor.</p>	

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
Speaker 6	<p>6. York Memorial has one of the largest specialized programs in the TDSB with its RUSH AP program, which includes right now more than 400 students. With a potential merger in 2022, it would be impossible to maintain the equity and integrity of this program, with surplus teachers, shared classroom, limited supplies, and comprised classrooms. Can you guarantee our school community that this important program will continue in its current breadth and scope?</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>Yes, the RUSH program will continue. It is the vision of the consolidation to have the best programming from York Memorial and George Harvey come together. The RUSH program is certainly a vital component of York Memorial and it will be part of the consolidation.</p>	
Speaker 6	<p>The RUSH AP program is dependent on certified, trained teachers. With the uncertainty around what staffing procedures are going to look like, how can you guarantee that our large program will continue when there is no guarantee around how the school will be staffed?</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>Staffing will happen through our Board’s annual staffing procedures. Employee Services Department will speak with the various unions to work out that process, but we are confident that the staffing process will still allow teachers to be in place to support the programs of the consolidated school.</p>	
Speaker 7	<p>7. If York memorial is a memorial site why not turn it into a museum.</p>	
Audrey Amo	<p>Thank you for your comment.</p>	
Speaker 8	<p>8. How are you going to deal with the level of anxiety of students losing their teachers, that they have formed bonds of trust with? This question is from a current York Memo Student.</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>We certainly recognize that students and staff and parents have gone through tremendous change over the last two years with the fire, the move between buildings, and now the pandemic. As TDSB staff, one of the pillars of our vision of learning is to support student mental health and well-being. If this consolidation is approved, there will be transition committees formed to look specifically at mental health and well-being. To manage this transition, we have a Professional Support Students Department that is composed of social workers and psychologists. They will be actively involved in this transition.</p>	
Speaker 9	<p>9. I think everybody knows that the TDSB has very difficult decisions to make every day, let alone year by year, let alone in the future as the pandemic has obviously shown us. Many of these decisions, obviously, are between the balance of money and students. Yesterday the TDSB 's Director herself insisted very clearly that supporting the 900 students and staff from York Memo continues to be the</p>	

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
Chris Tonks	<p>top priority. Trustee Tonks, as our elected trustee, what can you tell York Memorial students who ask 'if our needs truly are the top priority of the board, and as a student body we voted over 93% against the 2022 merger, how exactly is that showing the board that we are a priority?'</p> <p>To give some context: when a survey was taken after the fire, I think the board responded and we made Scarlett Heights an option. We were not prepared to do a merger under those circumstances, or a consolidation, or a closure – whatever language you want to use.</p> <p>The difference today is that we find ourselves nearly 2 years in, and we have engaged in a process. We are listening and responding as we go along. So, things are not necessarily looked at in a vacuum. I would hope that there is the confidence that we are looking at the best interests of students and staff.</p> <p>We are looking forward to building a strong future for our school, whatever that may look like. I can tell you that if you've followed along in this process, I think that one thing staff have heard loud and clear and researched and took under consultation and responded to, is the naming issue. Before, when we started this last year, there was no commitment to the name, and you've seen change. We are in a consultation process, and we haven't made any decisions. I encourage everybody to voice their opinions and I will have to make a decision on what I feel is in the best interests of our students, the community.</p> <p>There are many, many different issues that that people bring up, and not everyone has the same concerns. Many bring very different concerns to the table, so how to reconcile all of that is not easy. I think that first and foremost, people have seen that we have been responsive for the last couple years. And through this process, I believe that we have been responsive as well. We continue to listen.</p>	
Speaker 9	<p>The survey I am referring to was actually created last year during the Modified PAR situation. We had a student Assembly, and it was our own students that initiated a schoolwide survey of over 80% of the students. Many of the students who initiated that survey are listening to the chat today.</p>	
Chris Tonks	<p>Apologies, I misunderstood, I thought we were talking about the immediate aftermath of the fire and the decision that had to be made in terms of whether we would be returning to George Harvey the next year, or relocate to another school. Students were just as vocal at that time. We are responsive. I have received well over 100 e-mails, and responded personally to almost each and every one. We are going through this process, and obviously have the survey results as well. We will take the student's thoughts into account.</p>	
Speaker 10	<p>10. How are we retrofitting George Harvey by 2022, and what kinds of retrofits could be made for a DD Class, a Music Room, and a dance studio? How can George Harvey will be retrofitted to meet the needs of both schools as one school?</p> <p>The existing spaces at George Harvey will be retrofitted to meet the needs of the different programs. Some</p>	

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
Safiyah Omar-Saleh	rooms will be repurposed to meet those needs. It will not necessarily be building additional rooms, but using the existing spaces to ensure that the needs of the consolidated school will be met at George Harvey.	
Speaker 11	<p>11. It was felt like there was very little consideration for the well-being of staff and students during the two moves after the fire. I am a teacher at York Memorial and I do not mean emotional support, but physical support like hired staff to deal exclusively with packing, unpacking, ordering, following up on missing supplies, missing boxes, missing equipment. There didn't seem to be anyone who knew what was going on, or where anything was. Will teachers be provided with solid support, so that we can actually focus on providing curriculum, teaching, and support to our students? This was incredibly difficult for us when we moved to George Harvey and then again to Scarlett Heights.</p>	
Vicky Branco	<p>As part of the staff last year I want to publicly apologize again for any hardship that was experienced by all staff and students. This fire was something we have never experienced in the history of Toronto District School Board.</p> <p>We have definitely learned how to do a transition better. Whenever the decision is made to for consolidation, we will take a year to plan. We are committed to do this right, and get input and put groups together to work on this transition. It is not going to be like the last time where we had to do it pretty much overnight. The physical move of materials and resources will be over a summer, with lots of consideration and input. Subcommittees will be struck to make sure we are meeting expectations of staff and students and community.</p>	
Speaker 12	<p>12. Due to covid, kids might be doing virtual learning at home next year. What's the point of moving YMCI kids to George Harvey when there is a very likely chance of students being at home?</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>The pandemic has proven to be hard to predict. Staff's current thinking about next school year is that the best place for students to learn is in-person. We are planning to accommodate that, but we also know that we have to create the remote learning option.</p>	
Speaker 13	<p>13. The students are sad that they are not getting the value of the high school experience right now. We don't know what is in store for them next year. Somebody in the school system has to create some sort of support for these students who are missing out on the high school experience.</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>This is indeed experienced across the system. In our response, safety will be paramount. We are planning for in-person learning with remote learning as an option. But we will be monitoring the pandemic situation closely and following Toronto Public Health guidelines. There is a possibility that next school year won't</p>	

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
Speaker 14	<p>resemble a normal school year, that we will still be in some mode of response to the pandemic.</p> <p>14. How do we address and decide what the timetable and dress code will be, if the schools are consolidated?</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>If the consolidation is approved and if it is going to be implemented for 2022, we have a year for implementation. In that period a number of committees will be formed to answer all of those questions.</p>	
Speaker 15	<p>15. How are you guys going to ensure that George Harvey doesn't lose their history? You guys are going to keep York Memorial's name because it is important, so what about George Harvey?</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>That is also going to be part of the transition work that was described. While staff are recommending that the consolidated school will be called York Memorial, we definitely want both schools, identities and histories to be honored in some capacity. A committee will be looking at how there is a way to reflect the history of George Harvey within the consolidated school. The committee will generate the ideas, discuss it, and come up with proposals. An idea that we can share right now is that there might be an opportunity to name a space in the building after George Harvey, such as the Gym. Students will be encouraged to participate in this process.</p>	
Speaker 15	<p>You said York Memorial was an historical heritage site. If so, why not turn it into a museum to keep that historical site?</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>That is a very interesting question that we haven't heard before. The history of that site is very much like a museum. The heritage by-law protects attributes of the building in the same way as a museum. It protects important elements of society.</p> <p>However, It is a school. It was built as a school and it remains valuable to the TDSB and to the community as a school. We think history and student learning can both be accommodated within that facility.</p>	
Chris Tonks	<p>I appreciate the question about George Harvey. Like in these kinds of processes of mergers and consolidations and closures, understandably, it really builds passion in people. I understand, people are very protective and want to honour their history. This should not be a George Harvey versus York Memorial issue. This is about a building, a school. And not only for the people watching tonight, but for the people attending for the next 50 years. For them we want to build a school that is modern, a school that serves the community. That is what York Memorial started off as, and how George Harvey was built. I do want to find a way to honour and respect the legacy of both schools.</p>	
	<p>16. Has the Board made an assessment on how much will it cost to make George Harvey ready to receive</p>	

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
Speaker 16	over 800 students from York Memorial?	
Andrew Gowdy	We have done a preliminary costing, which came to approximately \$500,000.	
Speaker 17	<p>17. My initial concern is that the data used for the projections of declining enrollment and the neighborhood histories are not currently factoring in the impact that the crosstown LRT is creating in the Eglinton corridor? We are already seeing single family dwellings in the area converting to multifamily areas. This suggests that our projections are going to need a larger capacity school to accommodate the incoming families that currently can't live in this area. How are we future-proofing this scenario because the current data isn't reflecting the future.</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>This is something that we have taken into consideration into our projections. It is difficult to model, because we do not have all the numbers of units that are going to be developed over time. In our analysis of the Keele & Eglinton area and the attendance area of York Memorial and George Harvey, we do know that there is a large number of students attending the schools who don't live in that Keele & Eglinton area. For example, only 46% of students attending George Harvey come from that attendance area that was gray shaded on the slide deck shared earlier. And only 41% of the York Memorial students reside in the attendance area. Across both schools, there are only 563 students who live in that area, and we are planning a capacity of 1300 students. As more families move into the York Memorial attendance area, we would expect to see in-area enrollment growing. What this school would do is decrease the number of students that is accepted from outside of the area. We'd expect all schools across the city to balance enrollments when growth in enrollment happens, by managing optional attendance.</p> <p>What is happening with George Harvey and York Memorial is also consistent with the Secondary Program Review. This is a system wide study of all 111 secondary schools. The purpose of that Review is to establish a neighborhood composite school of at least 1000 students in each school. We are identifying clusters of other schools across the city, and consolidations could happen in those areas too. This process is in keeping with the direction that we're going in for the rest of the city.</p>	
Speaker 17	<p>With the uncertainty about the physical enrollment for the coming year, and into 2022, could the board consider, if there was going to be a future consolidation, that the catchment for both George Harvey and York Memorial can be combined to give the students the choice of going to the neighborhood school in the interim time, while we're waiting for the new building?</p> <p>I think that choice is available to the students now, to the residents of the Keele & Eglinton area if they wish</p>	

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
<p>Andrew Gowdy</p> <p>Speaker 18</p> <p>Andrew Gowdy</p> <p>Audrey Amo</p> <p>Speaker 19</p>	<p>to apply to George Harvey. It's certainly an option for them. And similarly for York Memorial, choice is available to residents of Keele & Eglinton.</p> <p>18. How will the staff land in 2022 in a consolidated situation, and will all staff be accommodated?</p> <p>The Board has an annual staffing process and staffing formulas. We follow processes that are established with the unions. With consolidation, we are proposing a different concept. A formal process has not been established yet, but if the consolidation does get approved by the Board of Trustees, our Employee Services Department will work with each of the affected unions and establish that process. The Unions have been contacted. They know our proposals and are prepared to have these discussions and define a new process. If this decision is made, this would resemble what happened shortly after amalgamation in 1998, when the Toronto District School Board was first formed. One of our early projects at that time was to reduce the amount of square footage that we were operating, and the province advised us to close schools. We embarked upon a number of Pupil Accommodation Reviews and as the TDSB was a new organization, we didn't have formal procedures. Employee Services met with the unions at that time to negotiate the process that would support the closure of schools at that time and look after affected staff. We are going through a very similar process if the board is to approve a consolidation here.</p> <p>In 1998, I was Superintendent assigned to Employee Services looking after secondary school staffing. At the end of the negotiations process all sorts of provisions were put in place to give people opportunities. We found in secondary that the large majority of teachers choose to go to the new school and were accommodated there. There was a number of people who made the choice to transfer to other schools, sometimes because it was closer to where they lived. Sometimes it meant an opportunity to teach in a school or an area that they had never had a chance to teach before. I can only speak to the teaching component, but it had a remarkable number of people who ended up in that new school building with the kids.</p> <p>19. When the kids were taken from York Memorial and put into George Harvey until it was all figured out to put them up at Scarlett Heights, our DD programs wouldn't fit there. They had to go to York Humber. Some of the other kids were having dance classes in the hallway, some teachers had no room in science classes. How do we propose to have the kids fit if we have to go back to George Harvey? How are we going to or how is someone going to make space to put all of these kids in that wouldn't fit before?</p>	

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
Andrew Gowdy	<p>I remember walking the George Harvey building after the fire and seeing what it looked like with the two separate schools coexisting. It was definitely a challenge to find space, because we had George Harvey already established with their semester timetable and teachers in place. Then basically York Memorial came in, in the course of two or three days, and space was found by looking for empty slots within the George Harvey timetable. In that circumstance there were two schools with very different timetables coexisting. The consolidation is a different proposal. It is to make a single school, with one Principal and one timetable. That single school would be occupying all the space within George Harvey, and there would be a year to plan for how the timetable would be organized within the building.</p>	
Speaker 19	<p>If we have our kids up at Scarlett Heights now, a lot of cash has to be spent to make it feasible to go back. Why can't we keep it as it is, and save the money? It is 5 or 6 years down the road, but from what I understood there's no problem with students wanting to attend Memo up at Scarlet Heights.</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>The proposal behind scenario 3 is keep the two schools where they are and bring them together in 2026 when the new building is done. Part of these engagements is to hear thoughts, so we are interested to see if there are people who support scenario 3. With scenario 2, there is a cost to having York Memorial and George Harvey consolidate in 2022. We do have to do those renovations and retrofits to George Harvey. We contrast that cost against the benefits of having the two student populations come together as one for 2022. The primary driver behind having them come together for September of 2022 is to benefit students and to have students being able to access this broader range of programming. It is worthwhile to remember that the Board is spending a little less than \$300.00 a year for transportation costs while the students are at the Scarlett Heights location.</p>	
Speaker 20	<p>20. There are many questions about the pandemic and the impact of the pandemic around ventilation in the school. Is George Harvey a fit school to accommodate both schools as one? And will it offer all the programs for both schools?</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>The intent of the consolidation is to have the programming at both schools come together and be available to the merged student body. We anticipate that there will be the full range of course offerings from the academic to the technical. We anticipate that programs like RUSH and the developmental disability program will all be accommodated too.</p> <p>Whether the building is suitable for receiving all the students as a result of the pandemic, is something that is being addressed by staff. It is ensuring that classrooms that are in use have the appropriate ventilation. We have facility services staff that have done surveys of schools and deployed ventilator units.</p>	

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
Speaker 20	Will you need portables at George Harvey if we consolidate in 2022?	
Andrew Gowdy	No. The capacity of George Harvey is 1400 students and we'll have fewer than that. They will be able to be accommodated in the building without portables.	
Speaker 21	21. Was this consolidation started before the fire at York Memo? If not, why now? When you have to spend about \$500,000 to rebuild and put the two schools together in one, why don't you keep that money and let York Memorial stay where they are right now? Money was spent to put the school there, and there is no reason to spend money again. York Memo is rebuilding right now, we understand, so why not wait at the location that we are at right now?	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>We'll take your comment as support of Scenario 3, which is keep the schools where they are and then consolidate them in 2026 when the new building is done. In terms of the consolidation in 2022, there is a cost, as well as the immediate benefit that we're trying to achieve, which is having students access the broad range of course offerings.</p> <p>Consolidation is not a new idea. For the last 15 years, from time to time, we have considered George Harvey and York Memorial and explored closure and consolidation. The fire just required us to act, and that is why we initiated this pupil accommodation review. We were going to receive a sizable insurance settlement, so we needed to determine what exactly we were going to build with that money.</p> <p>Right now the York Memo site has been stabilized. It is going through a cleaning process of removing contaminants. But if we are serious about having a new building on that site, we should promptly follow up with construction. To do that construction, we need to have a vision. We need to know what we are building there. Are we returning it to the 900 pupil places, or are we expanding it to 1300 pupil places and including those specialized spaces like shops? That is what required us to do this pupil accommodation review, establishing that vision, to get the board decision so that we can move on the York Memorial site.</p>	
Speaker 22	22. There are several questions about programming. If George Harvey and York Memo consolidate, will the George Harvey students be allowed to take the York Memo programs that George Harvey currently has, like the RUSH program and the dance program, and the extensive music programs?	
Andrew Gowdy	It will be one school, so students will be able to create their course options from all the courses that are available. They are not going to be restricted to just George Harvey students, or York Memorial students. There will be no identifying the students as George Harvey or York Memorial. Some programs have special enrollment requirements, so some programs like the Rush might not be available to everybody right away, but other course offerings that don't have those special enrollment requirements would be available.	

Item / Presenter	Discussion	Attachments / Actions / Results
Speaker 23	<p>23. I think there's no world where scenario 2 should even be considered. The kids at our school have had to go through fire, two moves, and a pandemic where majority of our students are in hot spots. I am at a hot spot. The mental health crises that our students have gone through are nowhere near to where you think they are. They gave us mental health professionals for a few days after the initial fire two years ago. Mental health issues do not last only a few days.</p> <p>You mentioned in the presentation that some of the DD kids will be directly affected from this scenario. The DD kids are our kids and their situation should be given an equal, equitable amount of consideration. I could not imagine my siblings going through what I had to go through plus more. If the TDSB actually prioritized the mental health and well-being of our students, I feel that this should have been taken into more consideration. Your actions will speak louder than your words.</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>Thank you, Emily. We hear the concern in your voice and we really appreciate you expressing yourself. The developmental disability program is a group of students that are part of this consolidation. We are definitely planning for them to be part of the consolidated school at York Memorial.</p> <p>Mental health is one of one of our top considerations. We are going to take your comments to heart. So thank you for sharing.</p>	
Speaker 24	<p>24. There are several questions about the lawsuit. Has this gone public to try to silence the community or deter from the process?</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>The lawsuit is independent of the Pupil Accommodation Review. It is a result of the fire. Our insurance company is working on the settlement and this is an action that they believe they had to take.</p>	
Speaker 25	<p>25. I am a current Memo student and every time I'm in one of these meetings my chest tightens up and I get anxious. Both student and teacher mental health had been suffering over the pandemic, during the fire, and during the moves. Moving to Harvey is just going to keep this train going. We remember everything that happened, and the teachers are still overwhelmed as well as students. Some are even uncomfortable speaking to adults that they're not familiar with, so some of the mental health support students are not able to access. Teachers also need to be in a good headspace for students to learn as best as possible.</p> <p>I don't understand why we're still going through these scenarios when we made it loud and clear in previous meetings what we want. How are you putting students and staff 's mental health first if we keep having these discussions? Also, George Harvey and York Memorial are rival schools, so how are we going to prevent future problems if we do merge?</p>	

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
Andrew Gowdy	<p>Thank you very much for expressing yourself so eloquently. We are going to take your thoughts into considerations, so thank you for sharing. In terms of having two schools come together as one, that is what the year of transition is for. That is where we are going to consider ways to unite the student body. When we have a consolidated school, there will be a large school staff assigned to it. The school will be composed of teachers, support staff, and administrators. All of them will be working together to support student achievement, student mental health and well-being, as well as providing a safe and secure learning environment This is something that is very important to the TDSB and essential for our school operations. In addition to the school staff, we have central departments that can assist. We have a caring and safe schools Department and a Professional Support Students Department, so safety and security are not lost on us.</p>	
Vicky Branco	<p>I want to add that if a consolidation is voted on by the trustees for September 2022, virtually all the students that experienced the fire would have graduated.</p>	
Speaker 26	<p>26. With all the money spent in renovating Scarlett Heights and with all the money and the renovations of George Harvey, what will happen if a new building is built on York Memo in 2026?</p>	
Andrew Gowdy	<p>The future of those two buildings has yet to be determined. It all depends on what the decision of the board is: if we are going to consolidate, and when we're going to consolidate. Scarlett Heights will continue to be used by York Memorial until they vacate the site. It is when the students have left those buildings that we will conduct a property review. We'll look at the sites and determine what the needs for the TDSB are. There are three possibilities when we do a property review. We could be determining that the TDSB needs to keep the building and use it for an immediate TDSB need. A good example of that is Scarlett Heights itself. We had closed it in 2017, and when the fire happened it was fortunate that we had that building there and we were able to use it for the York Memorial students right away. That is an example of using a building that was closed for an immediate TDSB need.</p> <p>Secondly, a property review could determine that there is not an immediate need now for the school for TDSB purposes, but there might be in the distant future. That is based on a demographic analysis. So that scenario might lead the TDSB to keep ownership of the property. Until the TDSB needs it, we then put it into a leasing program. We have an arms-length real estate company for that, called the Toronto Lands Corporation. They take management of our closed properties, and they lease them out.</p> <p>The third conclusion from a property review could be that a property is truly redundant to the needs of the TDSB. It could then be sold. When the Board sells a property, it goes through a process that is governed by the Education Act and a regulation called 444/98. It basically requires that the school property be offered to co-terminus boards and public agencies first to take a crack at acquiring it for fair market value. That would be the City of Toronto, colleges and universities, and the three other public school boards, as well as a variety of</p>	

Item / Presenter	Discussion	Attachments / Actions / Results
Speaker 27	<p>medical and social service providers. They would all be able to express interest in the property first, and they have 180 days to consider it. If none of them are interested in acquiring it, then it can be offered on the open market and then any group could submit a bid, developers included.</p> <p>That is the process we would go through once the buildings are vacated.</p> <p>27. Firstly, a comment for Trustee Tonks: it is not correct to say that the main issue was only the name of the school. From the beginning, the main issue for students and the community of York Memorial was also the merge, right now. They don't want to move.</p> <p>Another comment would be in response to something Ms. Vicky Branco said about the mental impact only applying to the students who experienced the fire, meaning the ones who are graduating this year. That is not true either. I have a son who also went through that same process, although he was not at York Memorial yet. He is there now, so he went through that process too, as are many other siblings of students who were there.</p> <p>My question is, taking into consideration that \$500,000.00 is needed to retrofit George Harvey to accommodate New York Memorial students, and wouldn't it be cheaper just to stay where they are until 2026? Please, don't give me an answer that George Harvey students will not be able to access the courses and extracurricular that York Memorial has, because that is not really a valid answer for me.</p>	
Chris Tonks	<p>Thanks for your comments. I did not say that the name was the only issue. It was an issue that staff had responded to. It is not the only issue. One of the most important other issues has been to build a school that is going to serve the Keele & Eglinton area, as I have said, for the next 50 to 75 years.</p> <p>I know there are very many different issues to address in this process, and I hear you loud and clear not wanting to have your children relocate again. I take those comments into consideration.</p>	
Vicky Branco	<p>I would also like to thank Ms Flores for pointing out her scenario to us. I apologize for not including the DD class, as those students will be there because past 2021.</p> <p><i>We have answered approximately 96 questions, and we have about 50 left. We will answer those 50 in a Q&A if they are unaddressed.</i></p>	
Speaker 28	<p>28. What will happen now, if a consolidation is decided? And what happens with all the information that you have collected from all the meetings and the surveys?</p>	

<i>Item / Presenter</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Attachments / Actions / Results</i>
<p>Andrew Gowdy</p> <p>Speaker 28</p> <p>Safiyyah Omar-Saleh</p>	<p>From here we prepare the final Staff Report which will document this consultation process. We will write up all the scenarios. We will be reporting on each of the community engagements that we have organized, and what have been the overall themes and findings. We have had two online surveys, one from before the pandemic and the one we reopened after we revised the scenarios. They will be part of the final Staff Report as well.</p> <p>Staff will be meeting over the next couple weeks to debrief on this process, everything that we've heard. The report will contain a recommendation for one of these scenarios. We have already indicated as well that we will be recommending the name of the consolidated school to be York Memorial, so that is one recommendation we know will be there.</p> <p>What happens to all the questions asked during registration of this presentation?</p> <p>All questions have been collected and put into a Q&A document that has been posted right now on the TDSB website, under helpful information. That being said, we are receiving questions as we move along with this review so that document will be continuously be updated over time.</p>	
<p>Next Steps:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on this review is available on the TDSB public website at www.tdsb.on.ca: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 (deadline 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. 	
<p>Next Meetings:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 26, 2021 – Post Final Staff Report on TDSB public website • June 14, 2021 – Special Board of Trustees Committee of the Whole meeting (delegations are received at this meeting) • June 30, 2021 –Board of Trustees meeting for final decision making/g 	
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Thanks everybody for participating!</p>	