

Windham Ridge Public School November 23, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Present: Rose Hatzissauvas, Deb Dollery, Liz Novatsidis, Anna Landry, Abigail Eptein, Jen Bishop, Corrie McBain, Jason Snaggs, Leo Po, Starr Mills, Franklin Orquin, Carrie Hoffelner, Leon Barton, Julie Daniele, Anne-Marie Brouillet, Adrienne Ambrozic, Nadia Andonoff, Bertha DiBlasi, Collin Lewis, Deb Little, Eric Leblond, Frank Fasan, Joanne Conte Casola, Jo Leo, Lucia Kim, Martin Murphy Mary Ellen Ledbury, Rhonda McRae, Michael Sholcil, Mohammad Totah, Noel Perera, Claire Wickens, Peter Petkovic, Nancy McCoubrey, Parmo Singh, Franklin Orquin, Steve Jeffery, Janna Tcaciova, Ana Tzonev, Vicki Hamilton, Zohrey Naghavi, Jay Parappally, Dawn Adams

	Description	Action/Vote Results
1.	Welcome from School Chair and introduction of Superintendent	
2.	Superintendent	
	<p><u>Proposed Changes to the registration policy of FI schools in York Region</u></p> <p>Jay Parappally has given this presentation at all current FI schools</p> <p>York Region will provide FI to any child however it may not be at the closest home school. York Catholic board only accepts a certain number and the rest must go to an English school.</p> <p>Programming in single and dual track schools</p> <p>York Board says they are different; we accept all students in grade 1, there will be a spot but may not be at their local school.</p> <p>Lester B. Pearson in Aurora had long lineups during registration and the Board would like it to be equal for all families interested in FI.</p> <p>Therefore, the Board is proposing to end practice of first come first serve basis for certain schools in favour of online registration. PIAC</p> <p>Proposed Feb 1-14 online, link on board website, those who do not have home access to internet</p> <p>Online registration will give an equal chance to everyone no matter which day and there are checks and balances in place to ensure that no one can have an advantage or apply more than once</p> <p>Online process allows ranking 1-130 first 46 access to Pearson (example used) others are to go to overflow school.</p> <p>These changes to registration are proposed since the demand of FI exceeded</p>	<p>Board will provide internet access</p> <p>Board will make final decision in January and will post on the Board website</p>

<p>capacity</p>	<p>Superintendent will not be at the back to tell us the decision</p>
<p>3. <u>Proposed Boundary Changes to take place September 2012 due to the opening of a new FI school in south Oak Ridges.</u></p> <p>Link to website for changes in boundaries: http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/pdfs/a/depts/planning/bdry20101123-WindhamRidge.pdf New FI school in south Oakridges</p> <p>There will be input from parents but boundaries liking to change. Concern with lottery, future siblings may not be with other siblings 1 parent happy about boundary</p>	<p>Presentation and boundary changes to be available on board website at noon on November 24, 2010</p>
<p>4. <u>Parental Concerns and Question Period</u></p> <p>Children already in school.....why are they being removed? Need a process that fits all</p> <p>Comments & Questions regarding lack of Sibling Policy Toronto board gives priority to siblings. Did our Board review the Toronto policy, which presumably works, and if yes why did YRDSB decide it would not work for our Board? SI – the TDSB is different, they have excess capacity.</p> <p>Given that YRDSB cut high school bussing in an effort to contain costs, shouldn't children in the walk zone of FI schools be given priority to avoid bussing more elementary children than currently exists and therefore wasting tax dollars? Board feels because we are an optional program, if parents wished child to walk they could opt for English program.</p> <p>Board is not listening to parent and planning your growth problems with siblings' issues emotional issues.</p> <p>Siblings of students currently at the school should be given priority to entrance no matter the type of registration.</p> <p>On-line registration should have a box to check off to indicating that they have a sibling currently registered at the school.</p> <p>Siblings should take priority over the first child in a family for example even if</p>	<p>Express your opinions to trustee Giangrande</p>

<p>they live in the area, they should be sent to overflow school not a sibling. Two families with children not in the system voiced their support for this belief.</p> <p>How are families to adjust to having children at different schools? Logistically a nightmare....finding before/afterschool childcare at 1 school is difficult enough, long wait lists, even more difficult if children are at more than 1 school</p> <p>Why were parents not asked about the sibling policy? Perhaps a survey or questionnaire online</p> <p>Parents would like to see a commitment to families and siblings. Would the Board consider running numbers to solve this problem? After having heard this feedback will you attempt to amend your thinking? What can we do to asset you to make this sibling policy work?</p> <p>Planning Questions & Answers Students currently at the school in 2012 approximately 300 kids would move to new school from grades 2-6.</p> <p>Aurora does not allow for a new school but there is continuing growth in Oak Ridges</p> <p>A school of 500-600 not 1000 is expected to have portables at some time. Peak yield for a school is the first 10-15 years... pack invested if they have had portable for about 10 years.</p> <p>In September 2012 when grades 2-6 are removed, can we not keep the portables and the existing students? Does not make sense to get rid of the students so the portables can be removed?</p> <p>Presentation will be Oak Ridges West single track FI school will open Sept 2012</p> <p>In 4 years will the numbers of grade 1 goes down?</p> <p>Overflow Grade 1 students will be guaranteed to come back next year but not the years after</p> <p>How were the boundaries determined?</p>	<p>.Send the thoughts of everybody, summarize and then send to all trustees</p> <p>looked at the feeder schools and boundaries were</p>
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<p>How long can a kid from the area west of Bathurst be expected to sit on a bus coming from King,</p> <p>Any growth-plans for a FI high school?</p> <p>How why it will impact from grades 2-6</p> <p>How are these decisions made? Capital strategies Take kids out of the current schools. Change from starting as a dual track to single track.....</p> <p>Can we please have you work on a growth management plan? Predictable growth management plan with budget, road map for the future which would be helpful to parents</p> <p>Boundary Discussion</p>	<p>chosen to help build a sustainable school population (looked at King and Nobleton)</p> <p>There are difficulties in servicing rural areas in optional programs.</p> <p>As of today there is not plan to add an additional FI high school in York Region only current Aurora High</p> <p>A plan is on the way</p> <p>Will be back in January</p>
<p><u>General Questions & Comments</u></p> <p>Does our input matter? What do we do to be heard? Suggestions: Contact trustee.....deputation at the board to ensure time to talk at meeting</p> <p>How to calculate distance?</p> <p>All programming will be the same no matter what school</p> <p>Superintendent takes direction from all the trustees</p>	<p>Jay will take all information back to trustees for discussion</p> <p>Board is not sure how to do this, straight line to school or on the street using bus route</p>

<p>Parents felt it is a little late notice of the new registration policy that will take place in February 2011. They feel that a decision has already been decided and parents have had no input. Other concerns include the lack and vision, planning, empathy for the families involved. The meeting today is simply too late to apply to February's online process. The frustration of parents is due to the fact that the parents feel the Board is one year behind in planning with no consultation nor communication with parents.</p>	
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