

Centretown, Glebe, Old Ottawa South Accommodation Study

Working Group Meeting

Tuesday, 8 November 2011

6:30 pm - 10:00 pm*

First Avenue Public School Library

- 6:30 p.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks
Comments from the trustees (TBC)
- 7:00 Staff Feedback
- Ministry response to Option 2 (with MFI in 2012)
 - facilities - First Ave build
 - staff recommendation to board
- 7:20 Summary of Comments Received
- 7:50 Statements from schools and community associations (2 min each)
- 8:30 Decision Time - with reference to TOR (next page)
1. Review of TOR mandate and criteria
 2. Scenario 1
 - a. Enhancements?
 - b. TOR Criteria
 3. Scenario 2
 - a. Enhancements?
 - b. TOR Criteria
 4. Vote scenario 1 or 2
 5. If scenario 2
 - a. Criteria to determine best building location
 6. Recommendations
 - a. Potential recommendations
 - b. Vote on recommendations (if necessary)

Public Question Period

* Plan to attend the meeting for its entirety – if you cannot, please elect a proxy.

Terms of Reference

Page 2, para. 2

Study Mandate

“This accommodation study will endeavour to develop recommendations to the board which support the goal of improving student achievement through the provision of strong educational programming, in safe healthy, secure and accessible learning environments. In doing so, the Working Committee should have regard for alternatives which, where possible, provide long-term accommodation stability to students and the larger community, make effective use of district facilities, and improve student access to viable programming and appropriate instructional resources.

In addition to the foregoing, the Working Committee will have regard to the implementation of Full-Day Kindergarten Programming.”

Page 5, para 6

Reference Criteria

The Working Committee is to examine the school or group of schools under review from the perspective of the following criteria as the criteria relates to the existing situation- both physical and pedagogical at the school or group of schools to better understand the rationale for the accommodation review.

The Working Committee is also to examine the school or group of schools under review from the perspective of the following criteria as it considers the impact of accommodation options that would improve the school experience for the students in the school or group of schools under review.

- the presence of low school enrolments (which may limit a student's educational and social opportunity);
- the presence of low program enrolments (which may impact the delivery and provision of a fulsome educational program);
- issues of student accessibility to programs (which may require the creation of a new program, the relocation of an existing program or the revision of an existing attendance area);
- significant changes to board and/or ministerial policy related to student program delivery (e.g. full-day kindergarten program);
- the absence of sufficient instruction space within a school or a group of schools (which may impact a student's access to programming and physical resources e.g. gym / library allocation);
- the presence of a significantly large amount of surplus instructional space within a school or a group of schools (which impacts the district's use of limited resources); and

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- issues related to the physical condition of a school or group of schools (which may impact the provision of a safe and healthy learning student environment and may unduly impact the equitable distribution of District resources).

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Potential Enhancements (Previously Discussed)

(from Oct 2 meeting)

Enhancements

- Add MFI to Mutchmor for scenario 1
- Make Glebe optional area for English intermediates to go to either Glashan or Hopewell
- Add EFI to Glashan for 2012 and redirect First Ave and Elgin St graduates to Glashan
- Enhance the Mutchmor field so that it does not close in spring (proper drainage of yard needs to be part of any renovation to ensure sufficient usable yard space)
- Make OOS optional area for junior English so that parents can choose neighbourhood school or strong program. (from Oct 20 meeting)
- Maintain status quo EFI catchment area for Elgin St. P.S.
- Allow all EFI children from Elgin to remain with cohort and go to Glashan (area east of canal, north of Queensway)
- Introduce MFI to Mutchmor in 2012 (if scenario 2 chosen).
- Grandfathering

Potential Recommendations

- Amend transfer policy for more flexibility with MFI program
- Recommend school board do a study on strength of English programs since many schools with dual track have very small English classroom size (see request to staff June 2011)
- Share design plans with the community
- Give current First Avenue P.S. EFI teachers priority when filling new EFI spots at Mutchmor / give current teachers at First Ave and Mutchmor priority in transition to new site.

Recommendations re: Low Program Enrolments in English (from Oct 20 meeting)

- Implement the following recommendations to strengthen English programming in the school board):
 - enhance communications and marketing of program;
 - improve Core French program to increase French language outcomes;
 - review board policy with respect to:
 - transfer policy;
 - flexible entry points into immersion programs;
 - embrace the notion of integrated classrooms such that children in different programs are taught in the same classroom when the language of instruction is the same; and

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- set specific, measurable goals on program viability and actions to take when goals are not met.

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