

Centretown, Glebe & Old Ottawa South Accommodation Study

May 9, 2011 Working Committee Meeting
Mutchmor Public School, Gymnasium

Draft Meeting Notes

Review of Staff Information

Planner Marc Labelle reviewed a Supplementary Information package which included:
i) information on the Richard Pfaff Secondary Alternate Program Site (formerly McNabb Park PS); ii) a copy of the October 29, 2010 OCDSB elementary enrolment report; and,
iii) projected enrolments for certain elementary schools outside the study as requested by the Committee.

Review of Working Committee Comments on the Discussion Scenarios

The co-chairs provided an overview of the comments compiled from the working committee regarding the staff discussion Scenarios A & B. A hard copy of these comments was included in the materials provided for this evenings meeting.

School Presentations

Schools reviewed what was important to their respective school communities. They also provided comments on the staff scenarios A & B and some schools provided alternate scenarios for the consideration of the committee.

Discussion of Dual vs Single Track Schools

The committee started a discussion of dual vs single track schools, however, no conclusions as a committee were reached on a preferred model. It was noted that single track schools expressed a preference for this model whereas dual/multi track schools expressed a preference for this model. Discussion was initiated on the topic of what does constitute “strengthening” a program both in terms of enrolment and critical mass.

Some schools expressed the view that a dual track English and Early French Immersion program offering resulted in a weak English program.

With respect to English programs, the committee asked the Board to clarify what it was doing to strengthen English programs. Board staff indicated that an answer would be forthcoming.

Next Steps

The co-chairs agreed to provide Board staff with working committee scenarios for analysis by staff and discussion at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held at on May 30th, at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Comments/Issues Noted during Committee Discussion (Co-Chair Summary)

Many parents want to keep their children in their immediate neighbourhood - particularly for primary children.(6th criteria)

Glebe parents of children in the EFI program feel that since there is such high demand for this program, there should be an offering at Mutchmor.(6th criteria)

First Avenue supports single the track model.(1st criteria)

First Ave wants to keep as many kids in their own school - over capacity at 450 would be okay (7th criteria). There is some tolerance to overcrowding.

The board say that so far they have not seen MFI impact the efi numbers.

Mutchmor is very concerned that a dual track English/EFI school will have detrimental impact on the English program.

The English program will no longer be viable (first criteria).

Questions about the location of the congregated gifted program.

McNabb should be considered as site.

Centennial wants to give its MFI another chance.

Hopewell really doesn't like Scenario A

Community willing to consider an ARC

Is there any chance of capital funding?