



News Release

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ADMINISTRATION RESPONDS TO ARCS' RECOMMEDATIONS

Administration's response to the reports submitted by the Petrolia Area of Schools Accommodation Review Committee (ARC), the Dresden Area of Schools Accommodation Review Committee and the Ridgeway Area of Schools Accommodation Review Committee was presented to Trustees at the April 27, 2010 Regular Board Meeting held at Lambton-Kent Composite School in Dresden.

Representatives from the three ARCs presented their reports and recommendations to the Trustees at the April 13, 2010 Board Meeting.

The Petrolia Area of Schools Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) included Hillcrest Public School, Queen Elizabeth II Public School, Lambton Centennial Public School and Lambton Central Collegiate Vocational Institute. Administration submitted the following recommendations in response to the ARC's recommendation.

Recommendation #1:

"That the Board approve the building of a 6 classroom addition at Hillcrest Public School to accommodate existing student enrolment and projected future growth; this would be contingent upon the Ministry of Education approving a funding plan for the estimated cost of \$2.8 million."

Recommendation #2:

"That the Board approve the building of a 4 classroom addition, including a new gymnasium at Queen Elizabeth II Public School (Petrolia) to accommodate existing student enrolment and projected future growth; this would be contingent upon the Ministry of Education approving a funding plan for the estimated cost of \$3.4 million."

The Dresden Area of Schools Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) included Dresden Area Central School, Thamesville Area Central School, Dawn-Euphemia Public School, Zone Township Central School and Lambton-Kent Composite School. Administration submitted the following recommendations in response to the ARC's recommendation.

Recommendation #1:

"That the Board, at this time, continue to support the viability of all of the schools within the Dresden Area Accommodation Review, including Dresden Area Central School, Thamesville Area Central School, Dawn-Euphemia School, Zone Township Central School and Lambton-Kent Composite School."

Recommendation #2:

"That the Board support the development of School/Community Committees where initiated by community members."

Recommendation #3:

"That the Board welcome viable education, municipal and business partnerships."

Recommendation #4:

"That the Board offer adult courses in rural schools where the number of participants supports the identified need."

Recommendation #5:

"That the Board consider the Twinning of Schools where student enrolment drops below 150."

The Ridgetown Area of Schools Accommodation Review Committee included Ridgetown District High School, Ridgetown Public School and Ridgeview Moravian Elementary School. Administration submitted the following recommendations in response to the ARC's recommendation.

Recommendation #1:

"That the Board close Ridgetown Public School in June 2011 and consolidate students with Ridgeview Moravian Elementary School and to re-organize the two remaining schools into a JK-6 school at the current Ridgeview Moravian Elementary School site and a Grade 7 and 8 school within the Ridgetown District High School."

Recommendation #2

"That the Board renovate science labs at Ridgetown District High School and install an outdoor asphalt "play area" for grade 7 and 8 students."

Recommendation #3

"That the Board commit proceeds from the sale of Ridgetown Public School to the addition of a new gym at the JK-6 school."

Trustees will be asked to vote on recommendations at the June 22, 2010 Regular Board Meeting.

It should be recognized that new information provided by the public or Board staff could cause modifications to these recommendations.

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Lambton Kent District School Board

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