

**CHATHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW PUBLIC MEETING #2
MINUTES / RECORD OF ACTION**

Date: February 23, 2017

Location: Tecumseh Public School, 287 McNaughton Ave. W, Chatham, Ontario, N7L 1R8

Present: Resource Personnel: Gary Girardi, Superintendent of Education – Capital Planning and Accommodation, Helen Lane, Superintendent of Education – Program: Leadership and Equity, Angie Barrese, Superintendent of Education – Program: Special Education, Daphne Zondag, Principal, John N. Given Public School, Erin Van De Wiele, Principal, McNaughton Ave. Public School, Kari Aubertin, Vice Principal, Tecumseh Public School, Mike Sereda, Moderator, Jaime Gudrie, Recorder

Regrets: Darlene Penney, Principal, Tecumseh Public School

Note: This document is not a verbatim transcript. Questions and answers have been paraphrased for the sake of clarity and brevity

Item	Discussion	Action/Responsibility
Welcome	<p>Mike Sereda, Moderator of the Public Meeting, welcomed the audience to the Chatham Area Accommodation Review Public Meeting #2. He explained that the meeting was being held to discuss the proposed consolidation of John N. Given Public School Kindergarten to Grade 8 English Language Program at Tecumseh Public School and the Relocation of the John N. Given Public School Grade 7 and 8 French Immersion Program to McNaughton Avenue Public School. Superintendent Girardi, Superintendent Barrese, Superintendent Lane, Chair Trustee Bryce, Vice-Chair Trustee Hudie, Trustee Dodman, Trustee Sasseville, Trustee Fletcher, Trustee Campbell, and the Chatham Area School Principals: Daphne Zondag and Erin Van De Wiele, and Vice-Principal Kari Aubertin, were introduced.</p> <p>Mike Sereda remarked that the Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) wanted to hear from them, as members of the public, and answer any questions or address any concerns they may have. He explained that during the question period, if information was not readily available it would be posted on the</p>	

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	<p>Accommodation Review website for the Chatham Area under the “Frequently Asked Questions” section. He said that the meeting could run longer than the 8 p.m. end time if the audience had more questions, and that the LKDSB appreciated the audience’s cooperation in ensuring an equitable process.</p>	
<p>Overview of Working Meeting #1</p>	<p>Superintendent Girardi provided an overview of Working Meeting #1, held on January 19, 2017.</p> <p>Superintendent Girardi reminded the audience that Pupil Accommodation Review Public Meetings and Pupil Accommodation Review Working Meetings are two different types of meetings.</p> <p>All Records of Action, agendas, and corresponding documents from the meetings can be found on the LKDSB website.</p>	
<p>No Delegation Requests Submitted</p>	<p>Superintendent Girardi explained to the audience that Senior Administration received no delegation requests for Public Meeting #2.</p>	
<p>Questions from the Public</p>	<p>Question: ARC member Kevin Hadlock asked if the consolidation occurs, would John N. Given Public School students be kept together for the first bit, or integrated throughout the school.</p> <p>Response: Superintendent Girardi explained that normally consolidated student populations are intermingled and that he didn’t know if there has ever been consideration given to keeping students separate. He suggested that it could be a discussion with the Transition Committee. He said that it is important that students be placed together so they don’t feel overwhelmed by the changes and the need to have familiar faces in the classroom. School staff can assist with this process.</p> <p>Question: ARC Member Laurie Willick asked if there is a possibility that the police service could be brought in to the schools for a property assessment for safety.</p> <p>Response: Superintendent Girardi said that the LKDSB has a good relationship with the Chatham-Kent Police and could speak to them about this.</p>	

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	<p>Question: ARC member Janet Raddatz explained that the Tecumseh Public School Parent Committee reviewed the minutes from Working Meeting #1 and had some questions about the process for funding and whether some money would come from the Board and if the Board would have to wait for money from the province for major changes.</p> <p>Response: Superintendent Girardi explained that the plan is to apply to the Ministry of Education for funding to make some changes within the building: to the parking lot; FDK rooms; and other areas in regard to reorganization of space. In order to do that the Trustees would first have to vote in favour of the Final Staff Report as it is presented. If the Final Staff Report is similar to the Initial Staff Report and the Trustees vote in favour, then Senior Administration would apply to the Ministry and the outcome of the application would be known in the Fall of 2017. If students from John N. Given Public School are consolidated in September 2017 then construction would have to take place to accommodate the increase to the overall population of the school. If students are not consolidated until September 2018 then construction could be completed prior to students moving into the building from John N Given Public School. This has been a topic of conversation at Working Meeting #1. There is also planned work to be done this summer at Tecumseh Public School regardless of whether the consolidation takes place.</p> <p>Question: ARC member Janet Raddatz thanked Senior Administration for acknowledging a letter that was submitted by the Tecumseh Public School Parent Committee, and asked, if there are any further thoughts, what the process to submit these thoughts is. She provided an example of the sound system in the gymnasium, saying that it is hard to hear.</p> <p>Response: Superintendent Girardi responded that there are multiple pathways. It is recommended to pass these thoughts on to ARC members to bring forward at the next Working Meeting.</p> <p>Superintendent Girardi asked the audience if there were any thoughts on the transition timeline.</p> <p>Question: ARC member Kevin Hadlock asked if the school is ready as it sits with no problem in taking the extra 100 and so students from John N. Given?</p>	

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	<p>Response: Superintendent Girardi responded that it is possible, the Board could move students in, but we would have to accommodate the construction. Some community members suggested waiting for consolidation until after all construction had taken place. Both timelines are possible.</p> <p>Superintendent Girardi remarked that if the audience had any further questions they can be emailed to arc@lkdsb.net.</p>	
Next Meeting	<p>Mike Sereda thanked the audience for their questions and comments and for their ongoing participation in this process. He reminded everyone that if there were any questions that were not answered at the meeting, Senior LKDSB Administration would post the answers to the Board website (www.lkdsb.net), and if there are other questions they would like answered, they can email arc@lkdsb.net.</p> <p>The next Chatham Area ARC Members Working Meeting is on March 7, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Chatham Regional Education Centre. These meetings are open to the public for observation. As well, there will be a Board Meeting on April 11, 2017 where the Final Staff Report will be presented. This meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Chatham Education Centre. Requests to Delegate at the Board Meeting must be submitted by April 4, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. More information about submitting a request to delegate is on the LKDSB website under the "Accommodation Review" section. The presentation of the Addendum to the Final Staff Report and the Vote by Trustees will be held on May 9, 2017 at 7 p.m. at the Chatham Regional Education Centre.</p>	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.	