

**Written Questions and Comments placed in ARC Box from Public during the ARC
Working Meeting
February 16, 2016**

Association with ARC Process: taxpayer – public meeting attended on February 16, 2016

Question 1) What is the cost savings per year of closing?

- a) **Confederation Central P.S.**
- b) **Lakeroad P.S.**

There have been no specific costs done with these schools as they have not been included in an Initial Staff Report. A comparison could be to look at the savings for closing South Plympton Public School. This is conservatively estimated at \$150K per year with additional savings from the decrease in school administration and the partial reduction of some duplicated support staff.

Question 2) On p.24 of the LKDSB Accommodation Report 2015/2016 of Nov 24th 2015, you/the report says at the bottom “There has been no interest....in SCITS”. What “community partners” have you approached to date re “interest”?

The LKDSB invited the following entities regarding community planning and/or facility partnerships. The meeting and process is to allow community organizations to work together to optimize the use of our public assets. At this meeting we offered space in our schools to partners with the hope to strengthen the role of schools in the community. We went through our list of schools with low enrolment. Media was present at this meeting as well.

- Conseil Scolaire Viamonde (116 Cornelius Parkway, Toronto, ON. M6L 2K5)
- St. Clair Catholic DSB (420 Creek Street, Wallaceburg, ON. N8A 4C4)
- Conseil Scolaire Catholique Providence (7515, promenade Forest Glade, Windsor, ON. N8T 3P5)
- St. Clair College
- Lambton College
- College Boreal (21, boulevard Lasalle, Sudbury, ON. P3A 6B1)
- University of Guelph (Ridgetown Campus)
- University of Western (Research Branch, Sarnia)
- Crown Right of Ontario - Infrastructure Ontario (One Dundas Street West, Suite 2000, Toronto, ON. M5G2L5)
- Public Works and Government Services, Real Estate Services (The Crown in right of Canada) (4900 Yonge Street, 10th Floor, Toronto, ON. M2N 6A6)
- Municipality of Chatham-Kent
- City of Sarnia
- Brooke-Alvinston Township
- Dawn-Euphemia Township
- Enniskillen Township
- Municipality of Lambton Shores
- The Township of St. Clair

- Village of Oil Springs
- Town of Petrolia
- Town of Plympton-Wyoming
- Village of Point Edward
- Township of Warwick
- Warden of Lambton County
- Sarnia Lambton Children's Aid Society
- Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration Network (LHIN)
- Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit
- Lambton Public Health
- Chatham Kent Children's Services
- St. Clair Child and Youth
- Aamjiwnaang First Nation
- Walpole Island First Nation
- Delaware Nation (Moravian of the Thames)
- Kettle and Stony Point First Nation

Question 3) Northern CIVS has 1200 students. How many live outside the Northern Zone territory? If so, why are they at Northern – ie. What subject – what sport? (I understand 6 are in ESL)

NCIVS enrolment on October 31, 2015 was 1,024 students. Students living within the NCIVS boundary area = 735 (648 regular program, 87 French Immersion); SCITS boundary area = 73 (60 regular program, 13 French Immersion); SCSS boundary area = 205 (162 regular, 43 French Immersion); other boundary areas total 11 (9 regular, 2 French Immersion).

The LKDSB has Regulations on School Attendance Areas that permits students to attend a school outside of their catchment area. Reasons for choosing to attend Northern may include program choice (French Immersion), or parent/student personal choice. Transportation for students attending out of area in regular program is not guaranteed.

Question 4) Is SCITS fully air conditioned? SCSS?

The following areas at SCITS are air conditioned:

- Administrative offices
- classrooms (44)
- Library
- The cafeteria has some air conditioning

The following areas at SCSS are air conditioned:

- Administrative offices
- Science classrooms and labs
- Library
- Instrumental music room

Question 5) What is the anticipated cost of building a new elementary school in Sherwood? How much did it cost to build P.E. McGibbon P.S.? How much did it cost to demolish Johnston Memorial P.S.

The cost to build P.E. McGibbon P.S. and to tear down Johnston Memorial P.S. was approximately \$9M combined. The LKDSB would apply to the Ministry to access the money set aside for school consolidation. The LKDSB would most likely be looking at \$11 to \$12M for a new school in the Sherwood area, should the decision be made to begin an ARC. At present this is still only a recommendation.

Question 6) In the past zones have been altered eg. Bright's Grove kids used to go to St. Clair. Why not just reduce the zone for Northern? No cost! No capital cost! Just continuing maintenance.

The closure of schools is necessary to reduce overall costs for the LKDSB to make up funding losses from the Ministry of Education. If alternatives are not found with through consolidation to reduce the approximately 10,000 unfunded student spaces in the LKDSB then reductions in classroom support and building operations will have to be found. This will affect students across the board. This position was outlined in the Pupil Accommodation Report delivered on November 24, 2015. Moving students from one school to another without creating efficiencies through school closures does not affect the funding cuts the LKDSB has and will continue to incur.

Question 7) How many students at Northern are from Bright's Grove?

There is a small section in the Bright's Grove area that is part of the current SCSS boundary. In the 2015-16 school year, there are 50 students (40 regular program, 10 French Immersion) who live in that section of Bright's Grove and attend NCIVS.

Association with ARC Process: Concerned Parent and Resident of Sarnia Core

Question 1) Operating costs at SCITS are higher because facility is bigger. Costs could be reduced using some of the capital saved (by not expanding at St. Clair) to update heating and mechanicals at SCITS.

The application to the Ministry of Education for money to update either high school has not occurred and cannot occur unless the LKDSB Board of Trustees votes to consolidate these schools. This is not money that would could be saved and used elsewhere, it would have to be applied for.

Statement 1: Best Solution – Close St. Clair. Move those students to SCITS. Use part of St. Clair building for elementary school and tear down un-needed portion. Sell off extra land at St. Clair site for redevelopment (much more valuable). Best Solution in my humble opinion.

Question 2) Will each trustees vote be made public information?

Trustees vote in public session once the question is called by raising their hand in favour of the motion or opposing the motion unless a recorded vote is called for.

As per LKDSB By-laws:

7.20 Recorded Vote:

The yeas and nays shall not be recorded on any question unless requested by a Trustee and such request shall be made before the Chair calls upon the members to vote. In such cases, each member present and voting shall record their vote on a ballot. The Director of Education shall collect the ballots. The Chair of the Board shall read out the votes of the individual Trustees and the Director of Education shall record the same. It shall be the duty of the Director of Education to record the same in the Minutes

Association with ARC Process: Concerned Citizen

Question: During your conversation about one of the secondary schools becoming an elementary school you had concerns about closing too many elementary schools in order to fill a secondary school building. In your projections you are already talking about building a new school in Sherwood and turning Errol Road into a single track French Immersion school (with an addition build on). Why not consider consolidating the Secondary school at SCITS and turning St. Clair into the school you planned on building in Sherwood, with a wing or large section of the school devoted to a “single-track” French Immersion program. This would then, only affect the families that you had already identified in your plan. It would also make French Immersion more accessible for students in the southern part of the City. The school could perhaps have a Principal with two Vice-Principals (one with a French background). It would fill St. Clair and save the cost of building a new school, plus an addition at Errol Road. In the future, if SCITS’ enrolment allowed, SCITS could become the school to offer French Immersion at the Secondary level. So, all students from St. Clair Elementary would attend SCITS along with all students from Corunna (instead of bussing the F.I. Corunna students to LCCVI). This may also keep more students in French Immersion with our Board (only 12 students from Corunna are being bussed to LCCVI for F.I.).

This will be added to the list of alternative options at the next working meeting for discussion by the ARC Committee. Please note at present:

- In the City of Sarnia, there are 751 students enrolled in French Immersion program who attend schools with the LKDSB. Of those 751 students, 452 live in the current NCIVS boundary area, 207 in the current SCSS boundary area and 88 in the current SCITS boundary area. There are 4 students who live in boundary areas outside of the City of Sarnia. Please note that the Ministry of Education allows students to attend any public high school in the Province of Ontario if there is room.