

ACCOMMODATION REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING
PETAWAWA FAMILY OF SCHOOLS
MINUTES

January 15th, 2009
At General Panet High School

Presentation of Final Report to the Public

PRESENT: Supt. Roger Clarke, Chair; Roy Reiche, Vice-Chair; Trustee Therese Hein; Bob Sweet, Mayor of Petawawa; Lt.-Col. Bill Moore, Base Commander; Bryan Baird (Principal Rep); Sonya McLaren (General Panet H.S.); Anna Montgomery (General Lake P.S.); Don Stewart (Herman Street P.S.); Jennifer Neville (Pine View P.S.); Lynn Deschambault (Pinecrest P.S.)

Mr. Clarke welcomed those present and reviewed the agenda for the evening. Members of the committee were then introduced. Mr. Clarke stated this report summarized the valuable public input from each of the Petawawa schools. He stated that the committee was very impressed with the passion each school community presented. He continued by saying that the committee is confident that the final result reflects both these strong community held values and the board's overall outcomes of *excellence in teaching and learning, wise use of resources and safe, caring and respectful learning environment.*

Mr. Clarke then began his slide show presentation. He introduced the *Background Information* and reviewed the *Timeline and Consultation Process*

Mr. Clarke presented the *School Valuation Summary for General Lake P.S.*

Mr. Stewart presented the *School Valuation Summary for Herman Street P.S.*

Ms. Neville presented the *School Valuation Summary for Pine View P.S.*

Ms. Deschambault presented the *School Valuation Summary for Pinecrest P.S.*

Ms. McLaren presented the *School Valuation Summary for General Panet H.S.*

Mr. Clarke outlined the *Factors for Consideration in the Accommodation of Students in the Petawawa Community.* These included:

- Ministry is providing funding for 1000 spaces
- Prohibitive to Repair (PTR) solution criteria
- Accommodating students in other Petawawa schools
- Location
- Board's Three Key Outcomes

Mr. Clarke then outlined the *Recommended Option for the Petawawa School Community*.

“In applying the above factors to the recommended solutions from the consultation process, the optimal solution for the accommodation of students in the Petawawa School community is a combined elementary and secondary school with grades kindergarten to twelve.”

The rationale for the recommended option was also presented.

Mr. Baird presented the section of the report, which outlines enhancements for the new school in both the elementary and secondary teaching areas.

Although it was beyond their required mandate, the committee felt it was important to include some *Points to Consider for the Planning/Transition Process*. Many of these recommendations underscored the importance of the military/school connection. *“It is important for military families to have a school that recognizes the culture of the military and identifies with the challenges of military life.”*

Mr. Reiche thanked the public for venturing out on a very cold night to hear the recommendations. On behalf of the board, Mr. Reiche thanked the members of the committee for their ‘diligence and collegiality’. He said that he was very pleased with the final result.

Question and Answer Portion of the Programme

Question: Would the new school have ‘late immersion’. Students now have to go to Rockwood or Highview in Pembroke.

Answer: (Mr. Reiche)
It is highly unlikely. The Early French immersion program is unique to the area and supported by the strong Francophone community on the base.

(Mr. Clarke)
Furthermore, our Board Policy states that you would need a minimum of 25 students in the program and it can’t have a negative effect on English classrooms. We are experiencing a decrease in numbers in the late immersion program in other family of schools.

Question: Do you currently have a location?

Answer: (Mr. Clarke)
The Board has been looking at a few tentative sites, but nothing has been determined at this time. This report is being presented to the board on January 26th and then the Board has 60 days to review the information in the report before making a decision.

Question: Is there a timeline when it has to be completed?

Answer: (Mr. Clarke)

The technical paper talked about a two year time period when funding is available.

Answer: (Mr. Reiche)

We can anticipate a speedy response from the board. The government will be looking for ways to stimulate the economy.

Question: Do you have templates of K to 12 schools?

Answer: (Mr. Clarke)

There are K-12 schools in our coterminous boards that have this model in place. We can learn from their experiences.

Answer: (Mr. Reiche)

It will be important for us to have the flexibility in design to shift space and accommodate changes. With changing demographics careful design will mean better utilization of space resulting in more money being available for programming. Port-o-pacs are just one of many possibilities.

Mr. Clarke thanked members of the public for coming to the meeting and encouraged them to visit the board website at www.renfrew.edu.on.ca for further information and developments on this process.