

ACCOMMODATION REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

PETAWAWA FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 13, 2008

At HERMAN STREET PUBLIC SCHOOL

PRESENTATIONS BY

Pinecrest P.S. and Herman Street P.S.

PRESENT: Supt. Roger Clarke, Chair Trustee Therese Hein; Bob Sweet Mayor of Petawawa 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.)

ABSENT: Lt.-Col. Bill Moore, Base Commander; Roy Reiche (Vice-Chairperson) (with regret)

Mr Clarke opened the meeting and introduced members of the committee.

Mr. Clarke reviewed the timeline for the committee and invited those present to visit the board website at www.renfrew.edu.on.ca.

PINECREST P.S.

Presentation Committee:

School Council (Parent) Rep -	Debbie Illingworth
Student -	Taylor Congdon
Teacher -	Tricia Horning
Community Rep -	Rob Leblanc

Value to the Student

Quality of the learning environment at the school

- Smaller class size allows for instructional leadership across divisions
- Teacher collaboration and reflection occurs frequently

Specialized teaching and support staff

- Early literacy
- Special Education classes
- Deployment counsellor

Adequacy of the school's physical space to support learning for all students

- Parent run library, book room, computer lab, gymnasium, special education rooms, school on one level

Proximity of the school to students

- Most students within walking distance to school (North Side)
- Few students are bussed
- Little instruction time lost to inclement weather
- Sense of community as many parents walk to school with children

Proximity to community resources and facilities

- Dundonald Hall - skate park, field house, outdoor track, gymnasium, pool
- Rec Plex – before and after school care, child-oriented programming, large playground
- Silver Dart Arena – skating
- Proximity to High School allows access to co op students

Student Outcomes at the School

- High expectations for students
- Engaged students
- Respectful learning environment
- Character Education

Adequacy of the school's grounds for healthy physical activity and extracurricular activities

- Large playground

Safety of the school including yard and bus safety

- Safe school (from students' perspective)

Value to the Community:

Dedicated community offer to each school

D.A.R.E. program

Victim services

Fast response times for emergency calls

Positive Enhancements

Social and emotional needs

- Proximity to residential area
- Military support and services
- Communication between school and military community
- S.S.C. and Deployment counsellors

Health Needs

- Space and facilities to operate a breakfast program
- Promote physical activity during nutrition breaks

Programming/ Facility Needs

- Theatre
- French Immersion
- Specialist teachers (i.e. gym and arts)
- Large gym with change room and showers

Programming/Facility Needs (continued)

- Large play fields for soccer, baseball and football
- Cafeteria
- School nurse
- Pool

Question and Answer Portion of the Presentation

- Ms. Montgomery: How many teachers are on staff?
Ms. Horning: There are 12 teachers and two special education classes.
- Mr. Clarke: How much space would be required for the book room?
Ms. Horning: A classroom would be suitable.
- Ms. Deschambault: It is evident that proximity is an issue, but to what extent?
Ms. Illingworth: If the school was off the north side, then my children would be going to the catholic school.
- Mr. Clarke: What special classrooms exist at Pinecrest?
Ms. Illingworth: Art, music and drama are in the same room. There are separate French. Literacy and Special Education rooms.
- Ms. Montgomery: What sort of facilities do you have to prepare hot lunches?
Ms. Illingworth: We work out of the staff room. Otherwise we cook things that can be brought into the school?
- Ms. Deschambault: How often is the pool at Dundonald Hall used?
Ms. Horning: Grades 3 and up go to the pool every other week.
- Mayor Sweet: Does all of the enrolment at Pinecrest come from the North Side?
Ms. Illingworth: If they live on the North Side then they walk. Kindergarten children are bussed. Enrolment is primarily from the North Side.
- Mr. Clarke: Are there any final statements?
Ms. Illingworth: If the kids are bussed off the North Side, then there would be a lot of traffic (at the gate). You are hitting the main population of the

military at that time. Between 8 and 9, guys head back to work and there would be a lot of traffic

HERMAN STREET PUBLIC SC HOOL

Presentation Committee:

School Council Vice Chair: Jennifer Armstrong

Secretary: Heather Cotnam

Teacher: Nancy Slepica- Stewart

Value to the Students

Quality of the learning environment

- Primary/junior teams; rotary team (6,7 and 8); FSL
- Collaborative staff

Student outcomes

- Character development – Herman Street Hero Program (monthly character trait)
- School involvement in social awareness projects i.e. Walk for the Cure: World Vision coin drive; food bank; snowsuit drive

Extracurricular activities

- Sports teams R.C.E.I.A.A.

Adequacy of physical space to support learning

- Expanded library
- Computer lab
- Multi-sensory room
- Gymnasium

Adequacy of school's grounds for healthy physical activity and extracurricular activities

- Great yard for soccer, baseball diamond, long jump pit, new play structure, swings
- Asphalt basketball court
- Daily Physical Activity (DPA) is facilitated
- Yard is treed – environmental focus

Safety of the school including yard safety

- Separate JK/SK yard
- Thoroughly organized bus loading and departure zone
- Duty teachers wear bright orange sashes for visibility

Proximity of school to students

- Herman Street P.S. is a neighbourhood school
- 2/3 of school population walk to school
- Short bus runs

Proximity to community facilities

- Students are in walking distance or just a short bus ride to various community places i.e. Civic Centre, library, cenotaph, local park, baseball fields

Value to School Board

Condition and location of school

- New 'Port-o-pac' wing
- New boiler system, gym floor
- Wheelchair accessible – single level construction
- Wheelchair accessible washroom

Location of school office

- Located adjacent to main entrance

Human Resources

- Collegial staff
- Administration and support staff
- Custodial staff
- Parent involvement – i.e. hot lunch program
- Dedicated School Council
- Committed volunteer
- SSC – Deployment program

Positive Enhancements for Herman Street P.S.

- Well-equipped classrooms i.e. appropriately sized desks, chairs, shelving, phone in each classroom, teacher storage space, more computers, TV/DVD...
- Smart boards in every classroom ... phased in over time
- Day Care or Kindergarten rooms must be child friendly – clear line of vision at all times, cubbies and washrooms
- Locker areas upgraded for more space and organization
- A separate functional kitchen for student learning, breakfast programming
- Larger gym space with functional stage and necessary equipment to run effective programming
- Air conditioning suggestion – at least in southern exposure classrooms
- Elevated boot during racks in hallways to assist with quick floor cleanups, wet mitt clotheslines under the bulletin boards

- Separate specialized subject rooms
- Cafetorium to keep food out of classrooms (cleanliness, anaphylaxis, breakfast program...)
- Larger library with electronic carding system
- Foam for sitting areas in primary rooms
- Recycling storage component – outdoor shed to decrease odours
- Other “green options”.
- Levelling of back yard and K yard to avoid the yearly spring thaw flooding

Question and Answer Portion of the Presentation

- Ms. Neville: Could you clarify what a port-o-pac is?
- Ms. Slepica-Stewart: Students do not have to go outside there. It is used for French and some junior grades. It is also air-conditioned. The school was built in 1966. The ‘port-o-pac’ was added last year.
- Mr. Clarke: In your survey of staff and parents, did you ask about the school format?
- Ms. Slepica-Stewart: In our survey, there were parental concerns that a K-12 school would not be their preference.
- Mr. Stewart: There are some advantages to a K-12 set up. Volunteers would be connected to the school for a longer period of time. There would be opportunities for buddy reading and academic big brothers.

Discussion re Traffic Problem

- Ms. Cotnam: It is going to be a problem whether you’re bussing children on the base or off the base.
- Mayor Sweet: The town did a transportation study on Petawawa Blvd. and at that time the traffic wasn’t an issue.
- Mr. Clarke: The transportation department with the board would do the type of study that would be required to make a decision.

Summary:

- Mr. Clarke: The process will be continued for the next two consecutive Thursdays, Nov 20th and 27th. If there are any members of the public who would like to make a presentation, they would need to submit a request in writing to pantusoj@renfrew.edu.on.ca by November 20, 2008. Please visit the Renfrew County website for more information www.renfrew.edu.on.ca. Mr. Clarke thanked both schools for their presentations and reminded the public of the next public meeting on Thursday, November 20th at General Lake Public School.