

MINUTES OF ACCOMMODATION REVIEW COMMITTEE (ARC) Central Whitby MEETING

Wednesday, January 21, 2009
3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Education Centre - Room 2007

In Attendance:

Chair: Joe Hircock
Secretary: David Visser

Members (alpha by school):

Monique deVillers (Principal, Capt. M. VandenBos)
Debra Hayes (Non-teaching Rep, Capt. M. VandenBos)
Linda Lyons (Parent Rep, Capt. M. VandenBos)
Carole McLeod (Teacher Rep, Capt. M. VandenBos)
Chris Montgomery (Parent Rep, Florence M. Heard)
Sharon Murdoch (Parent Rep, Florence M. Heard)
Brigitte Sopher (Principal, Florence M. Heard)
Carol Bell (Teacher Rep, Jack Miner)
Trudy Collins (Principal, Jack Miner)
Gail Dyson (Non-teaching Rep, Jack Miner)
Cathy Wade (Parent Rep, Jack Miner)
Jacquie Weber (Parent Rep, Jack Miner)
Lynda Darling (Teacher Rep, Leslie McFarlane)
Scott Irwin (Parent Rep, Leslie McFarlane)
Jim Olson (Principal, Leslie McFarlane)
Kirsty Sinclair (Parent Rep, Leslie McFarlane)
Judy Whiteman (Non-teaching Rep, Leslie McFarlane)
Marion Fulcher (Non-teaching Rep, Palmerston)
Sylvia Land (Parent Rep, Palmerston)
Leilah McBride (Teacher Rep, Palmerston)
Tim Ralph (Principal, Palmerston)
Angie Weiss (Parent Rep, Palmerston)
Joe Hamilton (Non-teaching Rep, Pringle Creek)
Sue Lunn (Principal, Pringle Creek)
Jill MacCharles-Crain (Teacher Rep, Pringle Creek)
Steven Misner (Parent Rep, Pringle Creek)

Facilitator: Lygia Dallip

ARC Resource Staff: Carey Trombino, Senior Planner
Janet Edwards, Administrative Officer – Whitby/Oshawa
Danielle Pépin, Administrative Assistant

Regrets: Monica Porteous (Non-teaching Rep, Florence M. Heard)
Daniel Del Bianco, Consultant:

Absent: Alana Browne (Teacher Rep, Florence M. Heard)
Judy Wityszyn (Parent Rep, Capt. M. VandenBos)

Minutes of ARC Central Whitby Meeting, January 21, 2009 pg 2

Joe Hircock, ARC Chair, called the meeting to order. He welcomed the ARC members and referred the group to the handout of today's working documents and reminded them to sign in. He noted the change of meeting rooms for today's meeting.

The Chair requested that the membership review today's agenda. There were no additions to the agenda.

Motion to accept the January 21, 2009 Agenda
Moved: Linda Lyons (Parent Rep, Capt. M. VandenBos)
Seconded: Kirsty Sinclair (Parent Rep, Leslie McFarlane)
Carried

The Chair requested that the ARC review the Minutes of January 14, 2009 (6ff). There were no comments resulting from the review of the minutes.

Motion to accept the Minutes of January 14, 2009
Moved: Steven Misner (Parent Rep, Pringle Creek)
Seconded: Judy Whiteman (Non-teaching Rep, Leslie McFarlane)
Carried

Joe Hircock, ARC Chair, stated that in order to maximize the ARC's feedback regarding the Draft Report to the Director (binder item 29), he suggested the members arrange themselves in groups based on their ARC group representation. There were five groups in total consisting of Principals, Teachers, Non-Teachers, and two Parent groups. The ARC was then charged with the task of reviewing the draft report to the Director as broken down into sections. They were asked to review each section for spelling and grammar, and, for content. He requested there be one recorder per group and that Janet Edwards, ARC resource staff, would collect their written comments once the feedback from the entire ARC was received.

SECTION 1 (pages 1 – 8)

Principals:

Page 1 – The date June 25, 2007 should read the year as being June 25, **2008**.

Page 3, Section 2.1.2, 2nd paragraph - requested clarification of the sentence starting with "The Ministry of Education assessed any school with an FCI of 65% or greater.....funding by the Ministry."

Under the same section, they sought clarification on "Future" percentages under the FCI chart and recommended that the year be added to each column.

David Visser, ARC Secretary, stated that clarification will be provided.

Page 4, Section 2.2.1, paragraph 3 – add specifics as to why these schools were included (enrolment pressures at Captain Michael VandenBos PS, declining enrolment at Pringle Creek PS, due to new school).

Page 8, top of page – change the sentence starting with "It was anticipated...." with "The ARC members were asked to review the compilation.....months."

Minutes of ARC Central Whitby Meeting, January 21, 2009 pg 3

Teaching Staff:

Page 4, Section 2.2.1 3rd paragraph - include why Captain Michael VandenBos PS, Jack Miner PS and Pringle Creek PS were included – rather than CE Broughton PS or EA Fairman PS, for instance, overcrowding, space, growing programs.

Non-teaching Staff:

No comments

Parent groups:

Page 5, Section 2.2.3 First sentence – add the word “**school**” before the word “*community*” so it now reads “The ARC was to have been comprised of a number of **school** community....”

Also, add a line which states that the Trustees were excluded from the ARC process. Page 6, Section 2.3.1 – include the names of the schools where the Public Meetings were held and why they were selected.

David Visser, ARC Secretary, replied that the selection was based on accessibility and will be reflected in the report.

Pages 7 & 8, Section 2.5.1 – include a breakdown for transportation/bussing, walking population for all programs, total population, and, boundaries and changes happening outside the ARC.

Joe Hircock, ARC Chair, explained that the ARC was informed from the onset that they would be provided with information as requested. It was important for the resource staff to not provide information which would appear to demonstrate bias.

SECTION 2 (pages 9 - 12)

Principals:

Pg 9, Section 3.2, second bullet – replace the words ‘*Provision of*’ with ‘*Provide*’

Page 9 – describe how the customization process works.

Page 10 – be consistent with the term ‘First’ rather than ‘1st’

Page 10 – capitalize ‘School Valuation Framework’ throughout document.

Page 10, Section 3.3, 1st paragraph – change the word ‘provides’ to ‘provided’

Page 10, Section under October 8, 2008 – remove capital from the word ‘valuation’

Page 11, Section under Second Public Meeting – reword the second paragraph to be less judgmental.

David Visser, ARC Secretary, stated that this committee had recognized that the wording appeared in the minutes. It was agreed that the words “Progression was made at each meeting” be adopted in place.

Teaching Staff:

Page 9, Section 3.2, 2nd paragraph – change the words ‘to ARC’s’ to now read ‘to an ARC’

Page 9, 6th bullet – replace the comma with a period and remove the word ‘and’ after board

Page 10, under First Public Meeting – change the sentence to now read “...there were 184 participants signed in.” Also, place a period after “presented.” and start a new sentence with “Feedback.....at that meeting.”

Page 10, Section 3.2, last line - capitalize ‘School Valuation Framework’

Minutes of ARC Central Whitby Meeting, January 21, 2009 pg 4

Page 10, Section 3.2, last line – change the words to now read ‘was finalized and adopted by the ARC’

Page 10, Section 3.3, first paragraph – remove the last two words “for consideration”.

Page 11, first arrow, last line – remove the comma after the word ‘relevant’.

Page 11, 2nd arrow – remove the word ‘and’ in the last sentence before the word ‘Value’.

Page 11, Section 3.4, 1st line – insert a comma after the word ‘Wednesday’

Non-teaching Staff:

Page 11, 2nd arrow, second-last line - remove the word ‘and’ before “Value”

Page 13, Scenario 4a, second-last line – insert the word ‘to’ before ‘Pringle Creek PS’

Page 14, Scenario 9 – clarify with punctuation

Parent Groups:

Page 9, Section 3.1 – requested clarification on the phrase ‘was structured around....Meetings.’

Page 9, Section 3.2 - place a comma after the word “Tuesday”

Page 9, Section 3.2 – expand on how the Framework was created.

Joe Hircock, ARC Chair, stated it was created by a large representation of community members.

Page 9, second-last bullet – change the words ‘Commenced with’ to ‘Reviewed’

Page 9, last bullet – change the word ‘Continued’ with ‘Commenced’

Page 10, und the September 17 section – add the words ‘Finalized and’ before ‘Approved’

SECTION 3 (pages 13 - 16)

Principals:

Page 13 scenario 4, 5 and 6 – replace the word ‘rebuild’ with ‘build’

Page 14, 1st full paragraph – change the word ‘criteria’ to ‘parameters’

Teaching Staff:

Page 12, last sentence – change the word ‘were’ to ‘was’

Page 13 Scenario 8 – add the word ‘to’ before ‘Pringle Creek’

Page 13 – **Bold** and *italicize* the scenarios and school names

Page 13 and 14 – maintain consistency with capitalization of Gifted, FI, etc

Page 14, Scenario 9 - address where the students will go

Page 14, last bullet – add space between ‘5a’ and ‘to’

Non-teaching Staff:

Page 14, 2nd paragraph – add punctuation to add clarification

Parent Groups:

Page 13 - suggestion to include the words ‘submitted by’ before the mention of each school in the scenarios.

SECTION 4 (pages 17 - 22)

Principals:

Page 17 – remove capitalization in the word ‘Community’ to read ‘community’

Page 18 – clarify how many groups selected Scenario 1

Page 18, last bullet, second line – change the word ‘its’ to ‘the ARC’

Teaching Staff:

Page 18, second bullet, first line – place a comma after the word ‘groups’

Page 20, second sentence – place a period after the word ‘considered’ and start a new sentence with the word ‘Based’.

Page 20, Scenario 2 section – change the word ‘rebuild’ to ‘build’

Page 21, section 2 – remove the apostrophe in the word ‘ARC’s’

Non-Teaching Staff:

Page 22 – date should read June 25, **2008** and not **2007**.

Parent groups:

Page 20 – rewrite the paragraph for clarification and remain consistent in the wording in both Scenario 1 and Scenario 2

Page 21 – change the words ‘to the Board of Trustees’ to ‘Director of the Board’

Page 21 – add a comparison of the recommended scenarios to the customized school valuation framework to show how it met each of the values.

The following comments were provided in written format by the parent groups at the end of the ARC working meeting but was not discussed as part of the working meeting.

They suggested adding the following recommendations to page 22 of the Draft Report:

- a) First priority of ARC would be to visit all school sites identified in order to increase awareness, concerns, identification issues, etc
- b) Ensure that feedback requested at Public Meetings has an identified and published deadline
- c) Have a working session for scenarios with spreadsheets available to input numbers during a meeting and spend more discussion time on scenarios
- d) Reduce the amount of time spent on the validation framework session and clarify percentage numbers.

Joe Hircock, ARC Chair, stated that this report is to come from the ARC. It will be submitted to the Director of Education. Board staff will create their own report based on the findings of the ARC’s report. Both reports will then be submitted to the Director.

In the interest of time, Joe Hircock, ARC Chair, suggested the group take the PowerPoint Presentation for the 4th Public Meeting with them for review and to provide feedback by Friday of this week. Once revised, the members can expect to have the finished product by Monday, January 26, 2009.

David Visser, ARC Secretary, reviewed the Timeline with the group.

Minutes of ARC Central Whitby Meeting, January 21, 2009 pg 6

Carey Trombino, Resource staff, referred to agenda item 6 and stated there were no emails, voicemails, or comments for ARC review and approval.

A member requested boundary information with respect to Jack Miner gifted split.

Joe Hircock, ARC Chair, stated that he was optimistic in receiving Ministry funding and as a result, staff has looked at what would be a workable timeline that would be in the best interest of students. For the time being, things will remain status quo until September, 2010. This will allow for one year of consultation with the community as to how we split this up and analyze the best case scenario. Joe Hircock went on to say that we have reserved growth at Jack Miner with no room for expansion. We need to expand.

Joe Hircock added that in the best case scenario an entire school or program would move at the same time. It is proposed that the students at Leslie McFarlane PS be moved at the start of the 2009 school year to Pringle Creek PS. He further indicated that in the interim, Leslie McFarlane PS would be torn down. Joe Hircock also stated that as students and staff are transferred to new locations, the Board would remain sensitive to ensuring a smooth transition.

David Visser, ARC Secretary, stated that at last meeting, the ARC had progressed from two scenarios to one scenario and that we were now at the stage of looking at the logistics of that scenario. We must continue to be mindful of community consultation.

Joe Hircock, ARC Chair, referred to page 21 of the Report to the Director requesting recommendations and that the group will need to spend some time at the next meeting to discuss this section as it is an important piece to the process.

A member suggested a summary of the 21 other scenarios they had considered with a brief description as to why the ARC did not bring these forward to the community as considerations. She felt it important to communicate to the public that there were very concrete reasons as to why they were not selected to move forward.

David Visser, ARC Secretary, was agreeable to providing a summary of all scenarios for the final report to the Director in February, 2009.

Joe Hircock, ARC Chair, reminded the members that the ARC working meeting of February 4th would serve to review community feedback resulting from the 4th Public Meeting. The ARC working meeting of February 11th would be to approve the ARC report to the Director.

Motion to adjourn the meeting

Moved: Lynda Darling (Teacher Rep, Leslie McFarlane)

Seconded: Jim Olson (Principal, Leslie McFarlane)

Carried:

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the ARC will take place on Wednesday, February 4, 2009 at 3:00 in the Boardroom (Room 1017) at the Education Centre.