



Middle School

P.S.S.C. Presentation

December 2, 2014

Policy 409 Section 6.7

6.7 Grade reconfiguration

6.7.1 The duty to consult is less for grade reconfigurations than for school sustainability studies and so, the timeframe for consultation can be much shorter, based on the Superintendent's discretion. However, the school district must still demonstrate that the process was consistent with the principles of procedural fairness when they inform the Minister of the proposed grade reconfiguration.

Policy 409 Section 6.7

6.7 Grade reconfiguration

6.7.2 The Superintendent, on behalf of the DEC, will advise the Minister in writing when the school district intends to reconfigure grades and will then consult parents on the proposal.

6.7.3 After consultation, the Superintendent will inform the Minister of the school district's final decision on the grade reconfiguration.

Policy 409 Section 6.7

6.7 Grade reconfiguration

6.7.4 Once the Minister has been officially informed of a reconfiguration, the superintendent shall inform parents of the relocation of students. Sufficient notice must be provided to permit relocated students and their families to participate fully in the programs and activities offered in the new school.

A brief history...

- o Late 60's and early 70's (later in N.B.).
- o Grades 6-9 (different combinations).
- o N.B. chose Grades 6-8, making Grade 9 part of the high school program.
- o Designed to address the developmental needs of students (intellectual, social, emotional, physical).
- o Teacher training (Teaming, Cooperative Learning, Interdisciplinary lesson planning).

Elements of Middle School

- o Emphasis on positive self-concept
- o Considers the uniqueness of the transescent*
- o Focus on learning how to learn a body of knowledge
- o Focus on socialization
- o Emphasis on exploration of content and creativity
- o Flexible and variable
- o Individualized
- o Student-centered, integrated, and interdisciplinary learning

Fundy High - Middle Level

- o Collaborative team of teachers and students
- o Curriculum opportunities
- o Focus on socialization – age appropriate
- o Extra-curricular activities and athletics
- o Supervised mentoring by high school students
- o High school faculty
- o High school facility

Proposal

- o The current reality of Eastern Charlotte is that students from Back Bay Elementary & Pennfield Elementary have two transitions. Grade 5 students from BBES go to SGES and Grade 5 students from PES go to BHS. This proposal would allow for students in our area to all transition at the same time.
- o Grade 6 students in Eastern Charlotte would join Grade 7 & 8 students at Fundy High School and would have their own identity as a middle school.
- o There would be a dedicated Vice principal and middle level team for this reconfiguration.
- o Middle level teachers would receive professional development prior to Grade 6 students transitioning.
- o Consultation would take place with students and parents on the renaming of the middle level.

Highlights of Report conducted by Charlie Norman

- o A report was conducted by Charlie Norman in 2011.
- o After extensive consultation with all affected schools in Eastern Charlotte; it was determined that Fundy High was the best location.
- o In light of economic times; it was apparent to the community that there was not a strong likelihood of building a new school. Fundy High is currently operating at about 55% capacity; so there is ample space in this facility.
- o Drop of 26% since 2001.
- o Fundy High School is able to easily accommodate Grade 6's.

Proposed Enhancements

- o The district is looking at several school enhancements to ensure the middle level area will be welcoming and separate.
- o Some suggestions being examined are:
 - o Implementation of technology in two new classrooms. This would include smart boards, infocus machines, additional network drops and computers.
 - o A TV screen/monitor would be in the main entryway to welcome middle level students each day with announcements.
 - o Replacement of existing lockers to half lockers. This extra space will allow for a middle level milling area with benches.
 - o Murals will be painted to give identity to the middle level when entering their designated area. The murals will incorporate the identity of the four communities – Back Bay, St. George, Pennfield and Blacks Harbour.
 - o Technology lab will be enlarged.

Bussing

- o Our current transportation structure will be able to bus students from St. George Elementary and Blacks Harbour without any changes to the system.
- o This will be a positive impact on our system since there will be fewer transfer students between St. George Elementary and Fundy High School.



Welcome to Fundy High School

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Extra Curricular Opportunities



Athletic Opportunities:

- Soccer *
- Cross Country
- Golf
- Basketball*
- Curling
- Rugby *
- Volleyball *

* SGES students currently participate with grade 7 & 8 students at FHS

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Extra Curricular Opportunities



Student Club Opportunities:

- Renaissance
- Student Council
- Drama Club
- Technology Club
- Mariners in Motion
- Yearbook
- Math Club/ Math Enrichment
- Chess Club
- Book Club
- Art Club
- Best Buddies

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Bell Schedules



Grade 7 – 8

Warning Bell	8:27
Period 1-2	8:30 – 10:00
<i>BREAK</i>	<i>10:00-10:15</i>
Period 3	10:15-11:05 CTR
Period 4	11:10 – 11:50 PIFF
<i>LUNCH</i>	<i>11:50 – 12:20 (Cafeteria)</i>
Period 5-6	12:20 – 1:50
<i>BREAK</i>	<i>1:50 - 2:05</i>
<i>ASAP</i>	<i>2:10 – 3:10 (After School Activity Program)</i>

Grade 9 - 12

Warning Bell	8:27
Period 1	8:30 – 9:30
A.I. Period 2	9:35 – 10:00
<i>BREAK</i>	<i>10:00 – 10:12</i>
Period 3	10:15 – 11:15
Period 4	11:20 – 12:20
<i>LUNCH</i> Period 5	<i>12:20 – 1:05</i>
Period 6	1:05 – 2:05
Period 7	2:10 – 3:10

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After School Activity Program (ASAP)



- Homework Club
 - Christmas Crafts
 - Running/Walking Club
 - Beginner and Advanced Ping Pong
 - Trail Hiking
 - Drama
 - Scrapbooking
 - Leadership
 - Board Games
 - Tennis
 - Floor Hockey
 - Zumba
 - Crochet
 - Computer Club
 - Rugby
 - Guitar
 - Soccer
 - Environmental Awareness
-to name a few
- Activities change from month to month, with the most popular being offered multiple times.**

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After School Activity Program (ASAP)



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Mentors



Current reality:

- Grade 12 students as ASAP Leaders
- ELF Program
- Go Girls & Game On (Boys & Girls Club at FHS, BHS, SGES)
- Peer Mediation & Conflict Resolution
- Red Cross Beyond the Hurt Youth Facilitators
- Peer Tutoring
- Peer Mentoring

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Transition Planning

- Admin visit to ‘feeder schools’ to discuss students transition needs.
- Early June grade 6 students attend an orientation visit to FHS .
- First day of school reserved for grade 7 and 9 students exclusively.
- P.A.S.T. Night (Parents are Students Tonight) orientation for parents.
- Extra–Curricular Fair.
- SPRs as curriculum leaders in Middle Level.
- Teacher transition planning for curricular continuity.
- Continuity of services to students (ESS–R, Guidance, ISD).
- Grade 7&8 Language Arts classes use of OCA (Ontario Comprehension Assessment) and *Write Traits* to prepare for ELPA.
- Access to FHS Literacy Lead and Math Lead (K. Campbell & B. McShane)
- SRC Welcome committee

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On the Horizon



Some enhancements proposed for Fundy Middle School for next year include:

- Grade 8 'Moving up Celebration'
- Middle Level end-of-year trip
- Enhanced field trip schedule tied to curricular outcomes
- Citizenship and volunteerism
- Positive incentive assemblies (PBIS- monthly)

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Tour

- Third Floor or Middle Level Floor
- Library
- Gym
- Technology areas
- Cafeteria

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Questions and Answer Period

Following the tour please join us back in the Library for a Question & Answer session.

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Questions Posed by PSSC

- o What are the key drivers behind the decision to reconfigure grade 6 in the region?
- o What is the regional plan for other local schools such as Back Bay Elementary?
- o What other model schools can serve as a successful middle school/high school approach?
- o What is the impact at St. George & Blacks Harbour including budget, teaching positions etc.?
- o What are the design specifics for the proposed middle school/high school model at FHS?

Questions Posed by PSSC-cont.

- o Will a tour of FHS and proposed layout be provided?
- o How will the proposed middle school plan ensure a separation of the students throughout the school day, specifically: recesses (indoor/outdoor), lunch, gym time, recreation etc.?
- o A distinct identity is important for middle school – what is the proposal, including budget?
- o What recreation and physical activity upgrades are proposed for middle school students?

Questions Posed by PSSC-cont.

- o How will the after school activity program at FHS accommodate grade 6?
- o Will French immersion continue to be offered in grade 6?
- o How will transportation/busing be impacted? Routes, times, drop off area, dismissals, interaction with high school students etc.
- o What is the proposed administrative structure, specifically will dedicated middle school administrators and a guidance counselor be provided?
- o What is the overall fiscal budget to accommodate the proposed reconfiguration?

Questions Posed by PSSC-cont.

- o What is the timeline proposed to evaluate this proposal and will further consultation with affected communities be accommodated?
- o Do not feel that a reconfiguration is in the best interest to students.
- o In addition, we are further concerned that the proposal, compiled by Mr. Norman in 2011, for the case of reconfiguration, should it go ahead, appears to have been removed from the discussion all together.
- o Mr. Norman's proposal addressed numerous key issues and brought forward items that would need attention should grade 6 students move to FHS.?
- o In review, in the current, we are opposed to the reconfiguration of grade 6 students to Fundy High School however we are open to a direct dialogue with Mr. Fowler and or the DEC to discuss this matter further.
- o What has been looked at as far as capital money? Example: An enormous amount of capital money has been spent upgrading BHS over the last few years and yet we are running our school at well less than 50% capacity. We recently lost students from grade 5 feeding into BHS. With the proposed loss of yet another student population would it make good financial sense to put all that money into a school just to have less of a student population?
- o What is best for all students in Charlotte County? K-5 Schools with a 6-12 school...what data supports this?

Questions Posed by PSSC-cont.

- o What has been looked at from the study that was done a few years ago with Charlie Norman? What middle school concepts will be used from that study? Any? All? Some?
- o Will changes be made to FHS to accommodate grade 6 students? Are the recommendations from the study going to be implemented or will students go into the “middle” level as is? Will there be money spent to make changes to the building as suggested in the study?
- o Parents are asking “What will a school day look like for a grade 6 student?”
- o And for BHS what will be our losses? Will less of a student population mean we have less to offer our K-5 students and students entering BHS in the future?

Questions Posed by PSSC-cont.

- o The loss of students means loss of resources/employees and potentially more sharing of personnel between schools (resource, literacy, etc.).
- o What is the plan/design for the new schools (Middle and High School)?
- o How is the plan going to ensure a separation of the students of both schools throughout the whole day?
- o Is the Middle School going to have its own identity?
- o Is there enough gym time in the day to accommodate the new students?
- o Will French immersion be re-offered in grade 6 even if it was offered in grade 3 at SGES?
- o What is the budget and long term plan for the High School and Middle School?