



## SUMMARY OF POLICY 409 CONSULTATIONS

### Centennial School

### JANUARY 2018 – APRIL 2018

Meeting Date & School Name	Numbers Attending	Questions
Centennial School February 12, 2018	6 Community/family members including 2 staff 9 DEC members 3 District Staff	<p>Mr. Fowler welcomed all in attendance and introduced DEC and staff. He advised that Council and staff were here to discuss the sustainability of their school and the Ernst &amp; Young report that outlined options for seven schools in the city. He provided information on Policy 409 including: the public consultation process, school sustainability criteria and triggers, Minister's approval, long term planning, the Ernst &amp; Young option supported by the DEC - to build a new K-5 school to replace Centennial and Hazen-White/St. Francis. He advised that the second meeting would take place on March 19, 2018 and advised of the many ways to provide feedback. A handout was circulated with the website for the information and Mr. Fowler's address at District Office.</p> <p>Mrs. Watson provided information including: quick facts about the school district; major challenges with aging infrastructure and declining enrolments; functional capacity, and historical enrolments.</p> <p>Ms. Thomas spoke about the school boundaries, staffing at the school, operational costs, transportation, capital improvements required and projects completed over the last five years, community support programs (PALS), lunch and after school programs offered, after hours groups using the school, businesses located in or near the school community.</p> <p>Summary slides were then reviewed on the criteria that determine a school's sustainability.</p> <p>Mr. Fowler then called for any questions. None were expressed.</p>



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		<p>Mr. Fowler offered to provide a tour of Seaside Park Elementary School for the school community to see exactly what a new state of the art school has to offer. He explained the Ernst &amp; Young report will be posted on the ASD-S website and information was given on how to submit feedback to the DEC - via email or regular mail. The date of the second meeting was given.</p> <p>Mr. Fowler noted that the location of a new school would be up to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure. He noted that DEC ask for a central location. The status quo remains if we do not get approval for a new school and the necessary repairs would continue to happen as required.</p> <p>Mr. Fowler once again offered an opportunity for any questions. None were expressed.</p>
<p>Centennial School March 19,2018</p>	<p>7 Community/family members and Acting Principal 8 DEC members 2 District staff</p>	<p>DEC Chair Rob Fowler welcomed everyone to the 2<sup>nd</sup> scheduled 409 sustainability review for Centennial School. An explanation was given for the purpose of the meeting; to receive feedback on the proposed options for the school. He also advised that there would be another opportunity to meet with the DEC and staff on March 28, 2018 at the Nick Nicolle Centre at 10:30 am. He noted that a tour of Seaside Park Elementary School had been offered to anyone wanting to see all that a new school has to offer. The tour took place on March 16<sup>th</sup> and 14 people from Centennial and Hazen-White/St. Francis participated.</p> <p>Mrs. Watson explained that the power point from the first meeting could be found on the ASD-S website.</p> <p>Mrs. Watson spoke about the features of a new school including accessibility for special needs children, specialized equipment, etc.</p> <p>Mr. Fowler mentioned that we are often asked about programs and community partners and that</p>



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	<p>we find our partners do want to support the children.</p> <p>Mr. Mabey spoke of the importance of all working together.</p> <p>Mr. Fowler opened the floor for comments as there were no scheduled speakers registered with the office. Three people addressed the DEC.</p> <p>One speaker noted that she had not attended the first meeting and asked “why are we doing this?” Mr. Fowler explained the background for the Ernst &amp; Young study, the 7 schools involved, the declining enrolments in Saint John, our aging school buildings and the capital improvement work required to bring them up to code.</p> <p>A speaker asked how many students would be in a class.</p> <p>A parent asked about walking distance from school. Mr. Fowler explained that it is now 1.5 km.</p> <p>A PSSC representative mentioned that she had not heard any negative comments and as far as she knew, everyone was in agreement with the proposal.</p> <p>The following comments are grouped based on the eight categories below identified within Policy 409.</p> <p><b>Enrolment:</b> Centennial Elementary School enrolment has increased slightly over the last few years; however, overall long term enrolment is down. ASD-S historical enrolment data shows a 21% drop in the last 15 years (6,233 students) and in the Saint John Education a 24% drop over the same time period (3,422 students). Centennial School enrolment was 227 in 2017, that is a drop of 120 students since 2000, or 34.6%. Maximum capacity of the school is 318 students.</p>
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	<p><b>Health and Safety:</b> Centennial School was built in 1966 and has a number of critical capital improvements projects outstanding including a new ventilation system, electrical panel upgrade, bathroom upgrades and an accessibility lift at an estimated cost of \$830,000. Over the last five years capital improvements have included work to the water supply and sewage; and exterior doors at a cost of \$175,000.</p> <p><b>Quality of Programs:</b> Both Centennial School and Hazen-White/St. Francis Schools have strong education programs. The quality of education programs would be enhanced in a new facility with additional work spaces for students and community partners.</p> <p>Centennial School has a significant number of key community and PALS partners. There is also a Lunch Club; Ambassador Program; Choir; Noon/Recess activities; and after school there is Judo; Sistema is available at Millidgeville North; ELF; Jamborees; Boys and Girls Adventure Program and Soap Box Derby. There is a daycare in the school. Bee Me Kidz is an important program where 65 children attend on Saturdays at the Nick Nicolle Centre. They offer summer camps as well.</p> <p><b>Transportation:</b> There are currently 223 K-5 students at Centennial School and 16 take the bus. The average distance from the school for all students is 1.07 km and for the bused students it is 1.24 km. The average time on the bus is 5 minutes, 34 seconds. Currently there are three buses serving Centennial School.</p> <p>The boundaries of Centennial and Hazen-White/St. Francis border on each other and can easily be combined for transportation purposes. Currently, only 16 students at Centennial ride on a bus.</p>
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		<p><b>Finances:</b> As noted in the District’s power point presentation, there are currently 33.64 full time equivalents staffing the school. The total yearly operating costs are \$2,151,556. There could be savings in operating expenses and some in salaries. Future capital repair costs would be avoided.</p> <p><b>Community Impact:</b> Expectation would be that a new K-5 school with up to date facilities would be a huge benefit to the local community and may draw families with young children to the north end of the city.</p> <p><b>Impact on other schools:</b> Centennial School and Hazen-White/St. Francis School would be closed with this proposal. Middle level students at Hazen-White/St. Francis School would be rezoned for Millidgeville North School. No other impact noted on other schools.</p> <p><b>Economic Development:</b> If a new school is able to draw in new families, it would have a positive economic impact on the City of Saint John, in particular, the north end.</p>
<p>Nick Nicolle Centre March 28, 2018 10:30 am</p>	<p>1 parent 2 DEC members 2 District Staff</p>	<p>Mrs. Watson spoke with the parent and addressed any of the comments that were made.</p>