

ANGLOPHONE WEST
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Excited.

Involved.

Prepared.

Leo Hayes High School Catchment Area Review

Superintendent Recommendations
December 8, 2016

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide to the District Education Council of Anglophone West School District information and reasoning for the recommendations resulting from the superintendent's review of the Leo Hayes High School (LHHS) catchment area.



History

- Interest in reviewing enrolment at LHHS by the District Education Council (DEC)
- Expansion conversations
- Ernst & Young (EY), an independent consulting firm, conducted a study on behalf of Anglophone West School District (ASD-W) and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD)
- EY report presented at a public session in December 2015
- Contained a number of recommendations to address the issue of overcrowding at LHHS



Objective

Address Overcrowding at Leo Hayes High School

- Functional capacity **with** the modular classrooms is **92.2% (2015)**.
- Functional capacity **without** the modular classrooms is **101.6% (2015)**.
- At **80%** a school has reached a point where it is considered **“full”**.



Following the EY Report

- The DEC assumed responsibility for reviewing the catchment area and making subsequent decisions
- The DEC formed a sub-committee of councilors and staff to analyze the EY Report and come up with recommendations for Council
- The sub-committee presented to DEC in May 2016
- These catchment area recommendations aligned with the EY Report
- There were four major recommendations from the sub-committee
 - ❖ Movement of students in the area below Portobello Drive and the Burton Bridge
 - ❖ Movement of students in the area between the Princess Margaret Bridge and Portobello Drive (including Portobello)
 - ❖ Movement of students in the Durham Bridge area
 - ❖ Movement of students in the Keswick Valley area



DEC Action

- At the May 2016 public DEC meeting, the Council adopted the report and approved the recommendations
- At this same meeting, the DEC also approved an addition to LHHS as its #1 priority for major capital construction. The addition would be for a skilled trades area and estimated to cost \$1.9 million
- LHHS is a P3 facility...a public-private partnership
- At the September 2016 public DEC meeting, the superintendent submitted a proposed action plan for DEC's consideration and approval
- Within this action plan, there was a determination that the superintendent would host three public meetings to share information and provide opportunity for parents to participate in the discussion
- These meetings, which were similar in nature, occurred on:
 - ❖ October 13 at Nashwaak Valley Elementary School
 - ❖ November 9 at Keswick Valley Memorial School
 - ❖ November 28 at Leo Hayes High School
- Superintendent will submit recommendations to the Council on December 8, 2016, at the regularly scheduled public DEC meeting.



Citizen Engagement Responses



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Public Meeting #1

- October 13, 2016 at Nashwaak Valley Elementary School
- Approximately 55-60 members of the public in attendance
- In addition to the meeting – received 12 pieces of correspondence from 9 people/families who reside in the areas of Taymouth/Durham Bridge

What was heard:

- Concerns about movement away from the City of Fredericton where people work, attend appointments, conduct business, shop, use child care services, and participate in activities
- Division of the community of Taymouth/Durham Bridge
- Perceived negative impact on Nashwaak Valley Elementary School
- Varying academic options of large high school versus smaller high school setting
- Perceived impact on student well-being
- Perceived differences in treatment for rural vs urban communities
- Boundary change disrupts families
- Travel time on buses longer for some students, shorter for others
- Support for Stanley Consolidated School



Public Meeting #2

- November 9, 2016 at Keswick Valley Memorial School
- Approximately 18-20 members of the public in attendance
- In addition to the meeting - No correspondence was received from people/families who reside in the Keswick Valley area

What was heard:

- Concerns about movement away from the City of Fredericton where people work, attend appointments, conduct business, shop, and participate in activities
- Varying academic options of large high school versus smaller high school, including Education Support Services (ESS)
- Perceived impact on student well-being
- Boundary change disrupts families
- Travel time on buses longer for some students, shorter for others
- Perceived poor road conditions, especially in the winters



Public Meeting #3

- November 28, 2016 at Leo Hayes High School
- Approximately 20-25 members of the public in attendance
- This meeting provided an opportunity for all stakeholders, in particular Maugerville residents, to participate in the discussion
 - ❖ (this meeting was in addition to a community meeting held June 14, 2016 in Maugerville that was attended by the superintendent and two DEC members upon invitation)
- In addition to this meeting – received 8 pieces of correspondence from 7 people/families who reside in the Maugerville area



Public Meeting #3 (cont.)

What was heard:

- Concerns for those below Portobello Drive about movement away from the City of Fredericton where people work, attend appointments, conduct business, shop, use child care services and participate in activities (impact of related fees)
- Division of the community of Maugerville/Lower St. Mary's; impact below Portobello is minimal in numbers...doesn't impact overall enrolment at LHHS
- Zones for weather related cancellations differ
- Concern about capacity at Bliss Carman Middle School
- Target of rural areas
- Perceived impact on student well-being
- Boundary change disrupts families



Recurring Themes

- Why change the catchment area now? Enrolment is projected to decline at LHHS until 2022-23 and then start increasing again
- Construction of a new academic wing at LHHS, in addition to a skilled trades wing
- French Immersion
- Grandfathering
- DEC decision to proceed with EY and sub-committee reports without public consultation
- Many statements were about personal circumstances, outside academics
- Goal of project seems to be about adding to the enrolment at Nackawic High School, Stanley Consolidated School, and the Oromocto schools...all with lower functional capacity



2016 Enrolment and Functional Capacity

School	2016 Enrolment	2016 Functional Capacity
Leo Hayes High School	1,686	89.44%, with modular classrooms 98.5% without modular classrooms
Fredericton High School	1,900	67.54%
Oromocto High School	1,079	60.01%
Nackawic High School	257	44.31%
Stanley Consolidated School	250	48.20%
Devon Middle School	530	76.15%
Bliss Carman Middle School	583	83.76%
Ridgeview Middle School	289	33.22%
Harold Peterson Middle School	337	38.74%
Keswick Valley Memorial School	225	57.69%
Nashwaak Valley Elementary School	121	72.02%
Barker's Point Elementary School	347	80.32%
Assiniboine Avenue Elementary School	251	66.40%
Hubbard Avenue Elementary School	298	59.13%



Recommendations

The following recommendations will be presented as individual recommendations.

The DEC is asked to consider each recommendation on its own accord in addressing the objective of the project.



Recommendation A

Leave the applicable Nashwaak Valley catchment area as it is at the present time, with students staying at Devon Middle School and Leo Hayes High School.

Rationale

- Feedback from the consultation indicated there is a general movement of families towards the City of Fredericton as opposed to the Village of Stanley
- Some students would have a longer travel time to Stanley
- Impact on the community



Recommendation B

Examine the area of Zionville Road in greater depth and in collaboration with the families to determine a possible move to Stanley Consolidated School in the future.

Rationale

- Area is closer to Stanley than Fredericton
- 20 students (K-12) currently in this zone, with 7 attending Stanley Consolidated School at this time
- Enrolment count doesn't significantly impact the objective of this study



Recommendation C

Move the high school catchment area for Keswick Valley Memorial School (KVMS) students currently at LHHS to Fredericton High School (FHS). Students in current Grades 8 to 12 would be grandfathered until graduation from LHHS.

Rationale

- Feedback from the consultation indicated there is a general movement of families towards the City of Fredericton as opposed to the Town of Nackawic
- Some students would have a longer travel time to Nackawic High School
- Impact on the community
- Current catchment area for KVMS students attending LHHS is adjacent to the FHS catchment area, allowing for an easy transition
- Current Grades 4 to 7 at KVMS under the current LHHS area amount to 62 students; this is an approximate impact of movement once grandfathering is completed



Recommendation D

Not divide the community of Maugerville at Portobello Drive, resulting in students attending school in Fredericton.

Rationale

- Feedback from the consultation indicated there is a general movement of families towards the City of Fredericton as opposed to the Town of Oromocto
- Impact on the community
- 25 students (K-12) currently in this zone, with 2 attending school in Oromocto
- Current Grades 4 to 7 students from Portobello Drive to the Burton Bridge under the current LHHS catchment area amount to 6 students; this is an approximate impact of movement once grandfathering is completed



Recommendation E

Move the high school catchment area between Burton Bridge and Princess Margaret Bridge (currently at LHHS) to FHS.

Middle and elementary students would continue to attend Devon Middle School and Barker's Point Elementary School as opposed to Bliss Carman Middle School and schools in the Town of Oromocto. Students in current Grades 8 to 12 would be grandfathered until graduation from LHHS.



Recommendation E (cont.)

Rationale

- Feedback from the consultation indicated there is a general movement of families towards the City of Fredericton as opposed to the Town of Oromocto
- Impact on the community
- Current catchment area for these students attending LHHS is adjacent to the FHS catchment area, allowing for an easy transition
- Bliss Carman Middle School is fuller than Devon Middle School
- Minimal impact on students traveling by bus
- Current Grades 4 to 7 from Maugerville/Lower St. Mary's in the current LHHS catchment area amount to 35 students; this is an approximate impact of movement once grandfathering is completed



Recommendation F

Closely monitor the out of catchment transfer requests associated with attendance at LHHS to prevent inadvertent contributions to increased enrolment; an accurate tracking system is required

Rationale

- LHHS has approximately 85 students who are zoned for another school, including French Immersion students; the ASD-W tracking system shows approximately 30 students in attendance at LHHS who are zoned for another school
- There are approximately 60 high school students who are zoned for LHHS that attend another school, including French Immersion students; the ASD-W tracking system shows approximately 35 students have left LHHS for another school



General Statements

- Addressing the issue of overcrowding at LHHS is a greater focus than increasing the numbers in Stanley, Nackawic and Oromocto
- Fredericton High School has the capacity to accept more students
- Stanley Consolidated School recently underwent a consolidation of the elementary school and the middle/high school to create a K-12 school
- There has been a recent sustainability study on the three schools in Nackawic and numbers will be monitored for the future
- EY recommended looking at enrolment projections for LHHS again in 2018 to ensure accuracy
- EY recommended looking at the construction of a new wing at LHHS prior to 2021



What's Ahead

- According to EY, enrolment at LHHS is projected to decline by approximately 100-110 students in the next five years at which time enrolment is expected to increase again
- The first year enrolment projection by EY did not decrease as much as forecasted (Projections for 2016 were 1,590 untouched, 1,630 with 2.5% increase and 1,670 with 5% increase; **actual enrolment is 1,686**)
- More than 260 international students have enrolled in ASD-W schools since January 2016. 30 international students currently attend LHHS
- The #1 major capital construction priority of DEC is the addition of a \$1.9 million skilled trades wing to LHHS; this recommendation has been given to the Government of New Brunswick for consideration

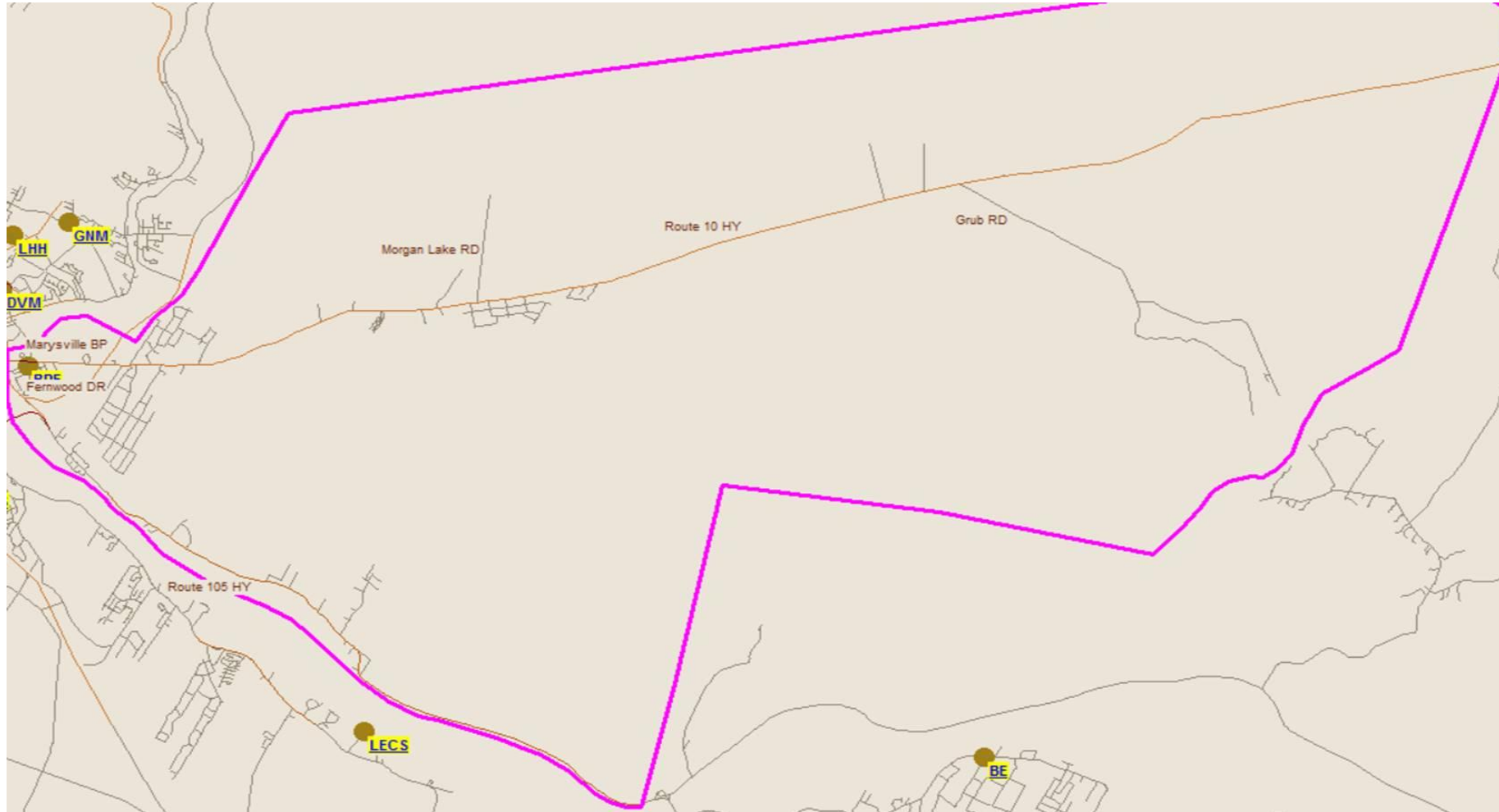


What's Ahead (cont.)

- One idea not taken into consideration in the EY Report is the concept of moving the high school students in the entire Barker's Point Elementary School catchment area (Noonan, Pepper Creek, North-East of Fredericton; not including the zone of Princess Margaret Bridge to the Burton Bridge, which has already been considered) to Fredericton High School.
 - ❖ Using today's numbers for Grades 9 to 12, this would amount to 201 students. Using current Grades 3 to 6, this would amount to 192 students in 2022-23.
- This could be a consideration for the future should LHHS require further reduction of numbers.
- The planning should include consultation with stakeholders.



Barker's Point Elementary School Catchment Area



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What's Ahead (cont.)

- If capacity at FHS became a concern in the future (2,250 students = 80.0% functional capacity), the Office of the Superintendent and Fredericton Education Centre could be relocated.



Summary of Recommendations

- **Recommendation A** - leave the applicable Nashwaak Valley catchment area as it is at the present time, with students staying at Devon Middle School and Leo Hayes High School.
- **Recommendation B** - examine the area of Zionville Road in greater depth and in collaboration with the families to determine a possible move to Stanley Consolidated School in the future.
- **Recommendation C** - move the high school catchment area for Keswick Valley Memorial School students currently at Leo Hayes High School to Fredericton High School. Students in current Grades 8 to 12 would be grandfathered until graduation from LHHS.



Summary of Recommendations (cont.)

- **Recommendation D** - not divide the Community of Maugerville at Portobello Drive, resulting in all students attending school in Fredericton.
- **Recommendation E** - move the high school catchment area for the Burton Bridge to the Princess Margaret Bridge (currently at Leo Hayes High School) to Fredericton High School. Middle school and elementary students would continue to attend Devon Middle School and Barker's Point Elementary as opposed to Bliss Carman, and schools in the Town of Oromocto. Students in current Grades 8 to 12 would be grandfathered until graduation from LHHS.
- **Recommendation F** - Closely monitor the out of catchment transfer requests associated with attendance at LHHS to prevent inadvertent contributions to increased enrolment; an accurate tracking system is required.



Next Steps

- In January 2017, the DEC will either confirm the original motion from May 2016, or make a combination of new motions should revisions to the plan be desired.
- Specific details to any changes will be communicated between February and June 2017, to all affected parties.



Conclusion

- Changing school catchment areas is a difficult process from everybody's perspective.
- It was important that people had the opportunity to voice their opinions on what was being proposed in the EY report.
- Thank all those who participated in the consultation process.



Conclusion (cont.)

- Appreciate the attention and engagement of parents and families throughout the process.
- The input received at the three public meetings and through correspondence have been extremely valuable.
- Each point made and other information was carefully considered in developing the recommendations that will now be taken under advisement by the district education council.

