

Facilities Town Hall Meeting

November 6, 2014

Group feedback – Raw

Option #3: All schools PK - 8

Questions:

- What is the commitment to renovate the other schools?
- Where would French fit in?
- What is the effect on J.H Sissons neighbourhood?
- Are the cost savings significant?
- What is the net cost savings in each of the four options?
- What is the cost of maintaining an empty J.H. Sissons building?
- Ask students which grade configuration they prefer – PK-8 or Middle School?
- What are the finances and benefits to the kids?
- Can we keep the land and give up a building?

Comment:

- YK1 should use a separate set of data
- J.H Sissons will not be accepted by the French board
- Maintain quality of school or facilities
- Middle school has more bullying and other challenges with inclusion
- J.H Sissons is a community school
- Options should be open for voting

Pros:

- William Macdonald School would remain a true French Immersion school
- Mildred Hall School would retain a distinct Aboriginal program
- Families can send multi-age children to one school
- Maintains French Immersion in a larger school
- No more middle school
- Aboriginal education with gain recognition with French education
- Opens up financial resources for the District
- Creates leverage with the GNWT
- Beneficial multi-age learning environment
- The least disruptive
- Some N.J. Macpherson students could move to Range Lake North School
- A parent will stay at YK1 and not go to St. Joseph's
- Range Lake North School enrollment pressures would be relieved
- Opportunity for Montessori to Grade 8

- Continue to grow utilization of neighbourhood school
- Cost saving for French Immersion program
- Protect French Immersion
- Keep students together
- There is a big buddy system at Range Lake North School
- There is still some choice. Better utilization of schools means more money.

Cons:

- Huge spread of ages at all schools
- William Macdonald School is not laid out for Elementary school
- French Board will not accept J.H Sissons
- Range Lake North School is over capacity, and this would not be addressed
- If all schools are full there is not room for emergency space
- No more middle school
- Less facilities for options (Industrial Arts, CTS)
- Middle school prepares for High School and this would be lost
- Giving up asset with nothing in return
- Limit future growth
- No money to renovate N.J Macpherson
- Staffing, is there enough for French Immersion?
- Location for Old Town and Niven Students with J.H Sissons is closed
- Staffing placement
- Loss of shop for middle school students (specialty programming for middle school students)
- William Macdonald School is not walkable or a neighbourhood school.
- Busing costs
- More J.H Sissons students would have to bus
- Catchment area is not properly services
- Franco-Ghetto in one area with no catchment area
- Issues with playground/facilities for PK – 5 and programs