



QUESTIONS AND NOTES
Public Meeting
Conducted by YK1 Education District

Planning Future Programs and Facility Use

April 16, 2014
École William McDonald Middle School

QUESTIONS

1. École Sir John Franklin High School's (SJF) enrolment is not included in the numbers. Why?
 - a. SJF is the one school this will more than likely not affect
2. What is the capacity of École Allain St-Cyr (EASC)?
 - a. Approximately 150
3. How does Education, Culture & Employment (ECE) come to enrolment assumptions based on Kindergarten enrolment?
 - a. These numbers are based on current Kindergarten enrolment and moved forward through the years
4. Are there any existing YK1 programs that would easily fit into EASC?
 - a. Montessori, preschool etc but there are pros and cons
5. What is the status of the École J.H. Sissons (JHS) renovations?
 - a. It has been on and off of the Capital Plan and is currently down the list. There is no renovation in the near future.
6. Why would ECE wait two years to address this issue?
 - a. This is not something we are able to answer. ECE would need to address this.
7. Can the Commission scolaire francophone (CSFTNO) take over JHS?
 - a. It is a possibility. ECE has requested the transfer of any YK1 School to meet the intent of the Court Order.
8. Are we being pitted against CSFTNO?
 - a. No, the court order has been a catalyst for YK1 considerations of this matter
 - b. YK1 does not consider there is any conflict with Commission scolaire over this issue.
 - c. The discussions on the ECE proposal are a matter between ECE and YK1.
9. Do utilizations referred to in schools account for staff areas?

- a. No
 - b. Shouldn't that be considered?
 - i. There is an allocation in the Capital Standards to address this.
10. Does YK1 own the facilities?
- a. Yes, except for SJF
 - b. EASC is owned by the GNWT
11. Who pays for the renovations at JHS?
- a. GNWT would pay but first it needs to be in the capital plan.
12. Has ECE included funding for Junior Kindergarten?
- a. In 2016-2017
13. What about the money YK1 makes from Preschool?
- a. YK1 does not profit from the preschool
 - b. In 2016-2017 we will be receiving fewer dollars to implement an extra grade. For more information regarding JK please see our document on our website:
<http://www.yk1.nt.ca/view.php?action=object&id=3879&stream=District%20News>
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14. Will there be more meetings regarding future District programs and facility use?
- a. Yes, the Board's Facilities Committee will take the information received and develop possible scenarios. There will be meeting to present these scenarios in May.
15. How has it worked in the past sharing schools?
- a. We always try to accommodate
 - b. We now share with EASC and have offered gym times
 - c. Overall, from YK1's perspective, it works well.
16. When YK1 looks at capacity numbers are they the same as ECE's?
- a. ECE and YK1 use different approaches to calculate utilization and the numbers are somewhat different. Please see the document "Utilization Comparison" available here:
<http://www.yk1.nt.ca/documents/general/Capacity%20and%20Utilization%20Intro%20%20chart.pdf>
17. Does YK1 submit a Capital Plan to ECE for projects besides JHS?
- a. Yes, every year and we have to then prioritize that list
18. If we own the schools, could we sell one?
- a. Yes, we own the elementary schools
 - b. This will be looked at next meeting

- c. There could be some benefits to having fewer school buildings
19. Could we look at something like a 3 year lease?
- a. This may be an option that could be explored
20. Do we have the option to say, "No"?
- a. The Board has said no as of now
21. What will happen with EASC?
- a. EASC is a GNWT owed building. They will retain ownership and determine how it will be used.
22. Some schools do not make sense to transfer.
- a. Anything is possible – we need to look at what is best for YK1 students and staff
 - b. We can also look at grade configurations of existing schools
 - c. In all likelihood, any scenario will require some renovations

Comment box submissions

1. I don't want WMS to be closed because EASC needs a gym.
2. Thanks for listening. Please ensure that your web survey is widely publicized (ie: through every school & every email list). No ThoughtStream, just a regular survey.
3. If NJM would be selected to be moved to GNWT ownership, I would not be opposed to the Montessori program being moved to MHS or an addition of a limited amount of 6-8 grade students at NJM & an extension of the Montessori program to Grade 8. We will await the report of your 'data' collected on April 16 meeting.
4. Don't give away William Mac.

Break-out Group #1

1. How can the District best provide programs and services based on the needs of our students?
 - a. Doing an excellent job on programs and services
 - b. Offer choices in K-5 configuration and 6-8 configuration (K-8)
 - c. Offer choice of Home Ec./Shop etc.
 - d. Programs
 - i. Specialized programs aimed at middle school
 1. Phys ed teachers
 2. Morning Wake-up
 - e. Smaller “community” school
 - f. Offer choice based on program – Fine Arts & Tech
 - g. Meeting the needs of students with Special Needs
 - i. PTR – Low numbers in classes
 - ii. PD for staff
 - iii. Montessori Program
 - iv. French Immersion School
2. What do we need to improve?
 - a. Teacher recruitment/retention
 - b. Teachers having necessary resources
 - c. Partnerships with business community (\$\$)
 - d. Nutrition Initiative
 - i. Health report card program
 - e. Communicating with parents
 - f. Tech, Tech, IT, IT!!!
 - g. Email issues with Google (lots of issues)
 - h. Get students more active in winter months
 - i. Human resources
 - i. Teachers need more help
3. What’s more important?
 - a. Middle school
 - b. Small class size
 - c. Education Assistants
 - d. Offering choices
 - i. Montessori
 - ii. French
 - iii. Sports academy etc
 - e. Freedom to choose what school to send your child to
 - f. Providing a French Immersion only school
 - g. Music – Enhanced Fine Arts
 - h. Sports
 - i. A variety of entry points for French language
4. Critical factors that make YK1 successful
 - a. Class size
 - b. Options

5. Should YK1 consider changing its grade configurations?
 - a. More school age kids of similar ages
 - b. JK-5, 6-8, 9-12
 - c. Continue to operate a middle school

6. Could YK1 transfer a facility and still meet goals?
 - a. Need all of the facts before making decision – what can we gain & lose?
 - b. Do not want larger class sizes
 - c. Might lose programming
 - d. Yes, it is a possibility
 - e. It is a balance – might lose a middle school
 - f. Lease, not give up, a school
 - g. Trade a school

7. Effectiveness & efficiency
 - a. Administration
 - i. duplication of services
 - ii. 5 school boards in YK (YK1, Dettah, N'Dilo. YCS and Commission scolaire francophone)
 - iii. More courses online
 - iv. Email system – Google – very inefficient

Break-out Group #2

1. What works well
 - a. Programs
 - i. French Immersion – separate facility
 - ii. Later Intensive French and Post-Intensive French – yes to offering both at schools
 - iii. Enhanced Arts at N.J. Macpherson School (NJM)
 - iv. Montessori partnership
 1. Danger of losing with free Junior Kindergarten (JK)
 - v. Choice between K-5 then middle school or K-8

2. Grade configurations
 - a. Yes, there is a value in considering changes
 - b. Keep it the same but open to change

3. Are there benefits to a school transfer
 - a. YES
 - i. But not as well
 - ii. Real estate for resources
 - iii. If worthwhile

4. Parents want a meeting within a month with ECE so their questions can be answered
 - a. YK1 should post the court statement of claim from the CSF, defense from ECE & decision on the website
5. Advantage to expanding middle school
 - a. Much more appropriate programming due to higher numbers
 - b. Art, music, Home EC etc
 - c. This is lacking in K-8

Break-out Group #3

1. What works well
 - a. Communication
 - b. Small classes (less than 30)
 - c. PTR
 - d. Good, quality teachers
 - e. Volunteer teachers
 - f. EA consistent – thoughtful placement
 - g. Well placed schools
 - h. Montessori, French programs
 - i. Aboriginal Language & Culture (ALC) programs infused in all schools
 - j. Improvements
 - i. Basic facts – multiplication tables
 - ii. Handwriting
 - iii. Improved enrichment program
 - iv. Tutor or homework help
 - v. Technology
 - vi. Activity levels increased – Healthy Living (morning Wake-up model)
 - vii. IA & Home Ec programs
 - viii. Ed Psych assessment process too long
 - ix. Report card structure
2. Must Keep
 - a. Middle school – 6-8 school option
 - b. WMS as a facility
3. Facility configuration
 - a. All French classes in one school
 - b. Parents like options or choice where to send child – no zoning
 - c. Combine age groups provide better programs (music/band)
 - d. Montessori
 - e. French Immersion
 - f. Teacher at a certain school
 - g. Admin

4. Transfer of a school facility
 - a. Could be workable
 - b. Configuration is key
 - c. Lower maintenance
 - d. Consolidate programs – more programs

5. Concerns
 - a. Timelines for decision/implementation
 - b. Permanent vs. temporary
 - c. Long-term plan
 - d. Renovation plan
 - e. What if CSFTNO doesn't want the school we offer?

6. District – What can we do to improve in the future
 - a. Funding, gifted, EA, music (specialties)
 - b. Technology needed to be up-to-date
 - c. Staff training – up-to-date
 - d. Balanced/consistent homework communication across district
 - e. Morning activities (long winters)
 - f. Reading club
 - g. Morning Wake-ups
 - h. Physical activities
 - i. Parent support with academics at home
 - j. Consistent support for SSP kids
 - k. PD for parents
 - l. Food program for hungry kids consistent across district