

TO: The Chairperson and Members of the
Business and Facilities Standing Committee

FROM: Superintendent of Facility Services

SUBJECT: **ATTENDANCE AREA REVIEWS STATUS: HOLLY MEADOWS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL/FERNDALE WOODS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND
ALCONA GLEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL/GOODFELLOW PUBLIC
SCHOOL/INNISFIL CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL/KILLARNEY BEACH
PUBLIC SCHOOL AND SUNNYBRAE PUBLIC SCHOOL**

1. Background

The Board approved that two attendance area reviews be undertaken, commencing September 2012, one being Holly Meadows Elementary School and Ferndale Woods Elementary School, and the other, Alcona Glen Elementary School, Goodfellow Public School, Innisfil Central Public School, Killarney Beach Public School and Sunnybrae Public School (Alcona Elementary Schools), as set out in Report BF-D-4, Capital Plan – 2011, dated January 11, 2012.

Staff undertook a review and held two public meetings on November 26, 2012 and January 30, 2013 with the Holly Meadows Elementary School community to discuss the proposed transfer of approximately 100 students to Ferndale Woods Elementary School to balance enrolment in preparation for the implementation of Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) in 2014 at Holly Meadows Elementary School.

Staff undertook a review and held two public meetings on November 13, 2012 and November 22, 2012 with Alcona Glen Elementary School and Goodfellow Public School communities to discuss the proposed transfer of approximately 400 students between Goodfellow Public School, Innisfil Central Public School and Sunnybrae Public School in preparation for the implementation of FDK at Alcona Glen Elementary School, Goodfellow Public School and Innisfil Central Public School in 2014.

2. Current Status

a) Holly Meadows Elementary School and Ferndale Woods Elementary School

The initiation of Grade 5 Extended French as a Second Language and Grade 1 French Immersion programs at Ardagh Bluffs Public School has attracted a substantial number of applications from students attending Ferndale Woods Elementary School and Holly Meadows Elementary School. The impact of these French program offerings require monitoring over the next few years. The consideration to return approximately 20 out of area students to their home schools needs to be monitored. These factors bring into question the need for an attendance area change as enrolment at Holly Meadows Elementary School may decline to a more balanced enrolment, even including the impact of accommodating FDK in 2014.

The attendance area review has been placed in abeyance until September 2013 so that final enrolments can be verified and projections undertaken due to these emerging conditions. It is important to fully analyze the impact of the verified French program transfers to Ardagh Bluffs Public School next school year and out of area students on the schools' enrolment.

b) Alcona Elementary Schools

The location of the Extended French as a Second Language program and the initiation of a French Immersion program at Goodfellow Public School has attracted a substantial number of applications from students attending other schools in the Alcona area. The impact of the French programs brings into question the degree to which attendance area changes are required until these changes can be analyzed. Enrolment at Goodfellow Public School requires ongoing monitoring in order to determine the number and location of students required to balance enrolment at all area schools with school capacities. The focus of this continuing review will be whether additional student moves are required between Alcona Glen Elementary School, Goodfellow Public School, Innisfil Central Public School and Sunnybrae Public School.

The attendance area review has been placed in abeyance until September 2013 so that final enrolments can be verified and projections undertaken, having regard for the impact of the verified French program transfers to Goodfellow Public School next school year.

3. Next Steps

Staff will update enrolments and potential impacts of the offering of the French programs on schools identified in both attendance area reviews. Communication will be shared with the communities as to the findings and status of the reviews.

4. Report Status

This report is provided for information.

Respectfully submitted by:

John Dance
Superintendent of Facility Services