

Western Middlesex Attendance Area Review Committee
School Level Meeting for Valleyview Public School- February 13, 2019
Executive Summary

Background

On Wednesday, February 13, 2019, the Valleyview Public School AARC committee held a public meeting to discuss the current Western Middlesex Attendance Area Review. The following is a summary of the public input we received from those in attendance. While some of the suggestions were not supported unanimously, all input is being brought forward for your review.

Public Recommendations

1. Welcome all students that may be redirected as a result of the AARC, providing relief for Oxbow and Parkview which currently are experiencing an over-capacity issue.
2. Should a boundary change occur and students be redirected to Valleyview, the community would like to see consideration given to the existing facilities at Valleyview, mindful of the additional strain an influx of students could potentially create. The possibilities for expansion of learning spaces, updates to the washrooms, and renovating the very small gymnasium would all need to be considered. There is some concern about the potential addition of portables, should it be warranted, and the change it may bring to the atmosphere and culture already found at Valleyview.
3. The suggestion of moving the boundary in Section N of the Watson Report, (page 2-14), to the Timberwalk Subdivision (West Ilderton Holding Zone), making this area part of the Valleyview boundary permanently, would allow these families to stay at the school they currently attend. This, along with the movement of the M and O sections would provide relief to Oxbow, while creating a more viable opportunity for Valleyview.

4. If recommendation 3 is not considered, families of the West Ilderton Holding Zone already attending Valleyview should be provided the opportunity to remain at Valleyview.
5. The concern with moving Sections N, M, O, as well as Section K to Valleyview is the potential for Valleyview to become over-capacity. The suggestion was made that either sections N, M and O are moved from Oxbow or section K is moved from Parkview, but not all.
6. The length of potential bus rides is also an important consideration. Students, as young as three years old, would be adversely affected by being on the bus for great lengths of time to and from school. Altering boundaries to maintain reasonable travel distances is the preferred option.
7. The option of “grandfathering” students in grades 7 & 8 should be considered reducing stress and anxiety in their graduating year.

Summary

The Valleyview community unanimously agreed that we will be welcoming of any and all students that may be redirected as a result of this AARC. The Valleyview students already participate in many different activities outside of our immediate school community, with students from both Oxbow and Parkview. Athletics, clubs, and organizations have already established relationships amongst the school patrons, providing diverse, well rounded, co-operative young individuals. Both Valleyview and East Williams would benefit from a boundary change. Ensuring both these schools remain open long term creates more viability for the future if, and when, the current moratorium is lifted, and would also provide pressure relief for surrounding schools with an over capacity issue. All schools should be considered equal, with equal opportunities and learning environments.

We appreciate the opportunity to be heard, and to share the thoughts and opinions of the Valleyview community involved in this process. We look forward to the resolution and any potential outcome.

