



2018 JUNE 14

ANNUAL MEETING
COMMUNITY PLANNING & FACILITY
COLLABORATION
BETWEEN TVDSB AND ELGIN COUNTY



Introduction

Chair: Trustee, Chris Goodall, Elgin County

TVDSB Personnel: S. Mark, *Superintendent of Facility Services & Capital Planning*

C.Henriquez, *Manager, Capital Projects*

D.Kettle, *Planning Analyst*

L. Cutler, *GIS Planning Technician*

K. Gleeson, *Administrative Assistant*

H. Gerrits, *Manager, Early Years*

L. Munro, *Learning Supervisor, Learning Support Services*

Community Organization and Municipal Representatives in attendance:

City of St.Thomas	Joan Rymal
Community Living Elgin	Bev Fellows
County of Elgin	Julie Gonyou and Dave Marr
Municipality of Bayham	Margaret Underhill
Next to Mom Inc.	Laura Morris
St.Thomas-Elgin Consolidated Municipal Service Manger	Irma Pedersen, Mandy Koroniak and John Fitzgibbons
Township of Malahide	Michelle Casavecchia-Somers

TVDSB shared planning information through a PowerPoint presentation: outlining Ministry of Education Initiatives; TVDSB Initiatives and Updates and TVDSB Planning Information.



Listed Community Organization Questions and Discussion

Joan Rymal: *I live in St. Thomas and I am wondering if you have the same relationship with developers in Elgin County that you mentioned having with Middlesex?*

As a commenting agency, we are circulated on all plans of subdivisions from the municipality before the development is draft plan approved. We discuss residential growth with the planners throughout TVDSB. We do site visits to determine how many houses are being built over a timeframe. We determine the phasing through the site visits and building permit information, we use MPAC (Municipal Property Assessment Data) to determine student yields based on different attendance areas. With EPAR01, we split the development located in southeast St. Thomas when creating the new attendance areas. Part of the development will go to Mitchell Hepburn PS and part will go to the New Southeast St. Thomas PS. This is because we know that we have higher student yields in new development that will balance the decline in the existing communities.

Joan Rymal: *When you mentioned the new school (Southeast St. Thomas) you said pending approval, can you elaborate?*

With the new Government coming in, we have no way of knowing when we'll be able to submit our plans for approval.

Joan Rymal: *Do you have to use FTE when reporting to the Ministry? Is that what the Ministry uses? Is that what they use to base which schools have different extra-curricular activities?*

We are funded on ADE (actual daily enrolment.) A snapshot is taken at the end of October and again at the end of March. That number is added together and divided by two to get the ADE which is what the Ministry uses for funding.

This is challenging in the Secondary Panel where typically more students are registered in September/October than in March. We plan to address this with Rethink Secondary.

Joan Rymal: *Can you comment on the plans for Secondary?*

Before the Ministry applied the moratorium on PAR's in summer 2017, our priority was to do a Secondary Review. Arthur Voaden has been on our radar as well as dual track programming. We've been working with planners for the potential of building another school but all of this depends on funding and the new government.

David Marr: *When you mention the new Belmont School, you said 2021-2022. Is that when the school will open or when construction will start?*



Our intention was to have the school opened in that timeframe. With the new government, we don't know if/when approval will happen or construction will start.

David Marr: *When you're naming a school, who do you ask? There are a lot of people who would have liked input for the new school names in Elgin County.*

Our normal process is we use public channels. Anyone can sign up for that. It goes out through the schools and on our website. It was out for a few weeks and we received over 100 name options.

David Marr: *3 weeks is kind of a short period of time. If this information was sent to municipal administration, we could make it part of our agendas. Maybe people who've attended the schools would like input.*

We will certainly look at adding this as part of our procedures.

Irma Pederson: *I just have a question about how the Board determines priorities. I know there are a lot of factors and you did a wonderful job presenting that. I just want to point out that a lot of the priorities end up in London. In Elgin, we have one new build coming along and it does include the EarlyOn. I am just wondering if there's any method to distribute those new buildings in regards to childcare centres?*

On a monthly basis, the Catholic School Board, Consolidated Municipal Service Managers, TVDSB and other partners. We know that the Ministry like our business cases that include childcare. Where we go next with it, is hard to know. The Ministry watches our empty pupil places very closely. We need to address the areas with the most pressure. This time, the Ministry decided the greatest needs were in London. We had Belmont and a new St. Thomas school on our list but we were not successful in receiving funding for these. These schools are one of the priorities for the Board and will hopefully be readdressed in the near future.

David Marr: *One more topic, joint effort between school boards. When are we going to pressure the government into using one building to accommodate two school boards if that's what it takes? All the core subjects are the same. There's only one thing that's different, religion, and that could easily be separated. If you're both in need, why can we not get the province to say work together to make one school. We have to get them working towards that.*

There is one school that houses both boards (Strathroy District Collegiate Institute). We have reached out to the Catholic Board however; they don't have the need for further collaboration at this time. The Ministry is looking at this issue.



Bev Fellows: *I'd like to get back to declining enrolment. I am a part of the EarlyOn. system and we have space for parent support groups but we have issues because we don't pay for our space. We have teachers and other staff who use the space and we're left cleaning up after them. It's hard when other people don't see us as a collaborative partner. Can you please explain the process of what we'd do to put a fee to that space so we can provide families the support?*

We have a variety of different lease and licence agreements depending on the use of space. In your circumstance, you could talk to the principal about identifying space specifically for you. If you only require the space part-time, it'd be shared space. If you want a full day, it becomes an exclusive room with a lease agreement.

John Rymal: *When you talk about collaborative opportunities, are businesses eligible that aren't directly related to child care or education?*

That becomes a community school. The ministry is looking at space that goes beyond the use for a school. They're looking at options like seniors housing, nutrition, office space but there's a lot to consider because we need to ensure safety for students is first and foremost.

Julie Gonyou: *There seems to be the distinct possibility that the school board will end up with surplus space. A lot of times, these buildings are evaluated and are out of reach for municipalities. Can you comment on how you evaluate your surplus space?*

We evaluate based on an appraisal done to ensure fair market value. The process is outlined in the Disposition of Surplus Property, Ontario Regulations 444/98.