

2017 Attendance Area Review

Pierre Elliott Trudeau Subcommittee Report

December 10, 2017

1 Executive Summary

The AARC committee is made up of 7 parents from Pierre Elliott Trudeau, which were selected to be the liaison between the planning committee and the Pierre Elliott community. The committee held a meeting with the community on November 6, 2017 to share the options that were brought forward by the Thames Valley District School Board Senior Administration and to receive feedback from parents. Parents expressed concerns regarding the move, the location, and the options that were suggested. Parents had submitted some questions, shared their concerns, and a couple of parents had decided to create other options that they felt would better support the community. These options (8 in total) were compiled into a survey and sent out to the parent community. A copy of the survey is included in Appendix 2. Based on the final survey results, although there was no unanimous consensus, the original proposed option 1 received the most overall support by the community, and Sparta appeared to be the most popular choice for final destination (we believe this is because making 2 moves is not well supported by the community).

2 Committee Members

Jessi Linn Davies, FDK

Debbie Gandon, Primary

Dawne Dopp, Primary

Christa McMahon, Junior

Travis Sandham, Junior - Not a contributor on report

Melanie Power, PTA Chair

Ken McLaughlin, School Council Chair

3 Summary of Feedback from School Level Meeting

At the school level meeting held November 6, 2017, we presented the options that the board had outlined for us, and allowed the parents time to discuss, in groups, and provide feedback. We also posted the feedback sheets (see Appendix 1) on the school website and the TVDSB Engage site, so that parents who didn't attend the meeting could review the options on their own and provide feedback. Feedback response was quite low, however it did spark up some communication in the community regarding the presented options, the location of the move, and the possibility of moving twice.

3.1 Summary of Concerns Raised at School Level Meeting

Many parents expressed some concerns around the move. With options 1 & 3, the community is concerned about bussing city children to the country. There is concern not only about the distance, but they are worried about segregating the youth from their community and neighbourhood. For some children there will be an increased time on the bus, so there is a concern around having the time to get them to extracurricular activities outside of the school. They are also worried about school involvement with parents and children, especially after school.

Regarding the final location, in the initial feedback, New Sarum seemed to be the preferred location, however there was great concern expressed around moving twice, and the upgrades that would be done to the current facility, especially if it wasn't the final destination. Parents are worried that Sparta will not get the necessary upgrades should it not be the final destination, and therefore the facility would not meet the required needs, beyond the bare minimum. They are worried that financially the TVDSB couldn't afford, or that it wouldn't make sense, to upgrade both facilities, should New Serum be the final destination.

Many parents are worried that the results of the attendance area review will cause current families to take their children out of the French Immersion program or seek out alternate programs.

4 Survey Sent Home to Parents

After the November 6 school community meeting, the community came back to us with alternate options on how the divide could be made. Once we reviewed this feedback and alternate options, we thought it was necessary to make the community aware of what other parents were thinking, and get the feedback from the entire community in terms of a survey sent to all parents.

As a committee we put together a new survey with all of the options, the 3 provided by senior administration, along with 5 other options given to us by the community (we submitted the options for review by the planning committee, but had to get our survey out before we had received a response regarding the viability of each option.) The community had also expressed an option of keeping the grade 8's together at Pierre Elliott Trudeau to graduate as group (in June 2019), so we also asked for feedback regarding that as an option.

As a committee we felt that the community may have different opinions on the options they preferred depending on what the final location was going to be for the new FI school. In the survey given to the community we decided to ask what option they preferred depending on the final destination of the school. We also requested that the community provide us with their first and second choices.

A copy of the Survey Sent Home can be found in Appendix 2

5 Final Results of Survey Sent Home

The following is a breakdown and detailed analysis of survey results.

5.1 With SPARTA as the Final Destination:

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5	Option 6	Option 7	Option 8
Vote %	30%	20%	14%	7%	5%	3%	12%	10%
Total Votes	46	30	21	10	7	4	19	16
Number of 1st Choice Parent Votes	34	15	9	4	3	4	6	8
Number of 2nd Choice Parent Votes	12	15	12	6	4	0	13	8

Total Number of Votes: 153

- Option 1 was leader (30% of votes), Option 2 (20% of the votes) and Option 3 (14% of the votes)
- Options 4, 5, 6, 8 didn't have significant support
- Option 7, the banana split, also had decent support at 12% of the votes
- Most popular first and second choice:
 - When you break the data down further, Option 1 was most popular first choice of most respondents (34 total).
 - Most popular second choice was close between Option 2 (15 votes for 2nd), Option 1 (12 votes for 2nd), and Option 3 (12 votes for 2nd)

Complete survey results can be found in Appendix 3

5.2 With NEW SARUM as the Final Destination:

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5	Option 6	Option 7	Option 8
Vote %	20%	20%	16%	6%	6%	4%	21%	8%
Total Votes	24	24	19	7	7	5	25	10
Number of 1st Choice Parent Votes	22	16	9	4	2	2	7	7
Number of 2nd Choice Parent Votes	2	8	9	3	5	3	18	3

Total Number of Votes: 121

- Option 7, the banana split, had the most support with 21%, however, for most parents this was their second choice (18 votes)
- Options 1 and 2 were tied with 20% of votes each, however Option 1 had 22 votes as first choice and Option 2 had 16 votes as first choice
- Option 3 was close behind at 16% of votes
- Most popular first and second choice:
 - When you break the data down further, Option 1 was most popular first choice of most respondents (22 total).
 - Option 7 was the most popular second choice of most respondents (18 total).

Complete survey results can be found in Appendix 3

5.3 With No Stated Preference of SPARTA or NEW SARUM as the Final Destination:

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5	Option 6	Option 7	Option 8
Vote %	23%	19%	19%	8%	0%	8%	19%	4%
Total Votes	6	5	5	2	0	2	5	1
Number of 1st Choice Parent Votes	5	3	1	1	0	1	2	1
Number of 2nd Choice Parent Votes	1	2	4	1	0	1	3	0

Total Number of Votes: 26

- There wasn't a significant number of respondents (26) vs. Sparta as end school (153) and New Sarum (121)
- Option 1 was the leader (23% of votes) vs. Option 2 and Option 3 (both tied at 19% of votes)
- Most popular first and second choice:
 - When you break the data down further, Option 1 was most popular first choice of most respondents (5 total).
 - Option 3 was the most popular second choice of most respondents (4 total).

Complete survey results can be found in Appendix 3

5.4 Regarding Keeping Grade 8 Class Together

Yes = 135 Votes

No = 22 Votes

No Preference = 16 Votes

Complete survey results can be found in Appendix 3

6 Final Summary

Based on the final survey results, although there was no unanimous consensus, the original proposed option 1 received the most overall support by the community, and Sparta appeared to be the most popular choice for final destination (we believe this is because making 2 moves is not well supported by the community).

Although Option 7 was deemed not viable by the planning committee, this option did receive the most votes with 21%, if New Sarum were to be the final destination. Majority of these votes consisted of 2nd choice votes (voting 2nd for both the school and the boundary). With Sparta as the final destination, it received 12% of the votes.

Change is always difficult; however, the amount of change the French Immersion school community in Elgin County has gone through has been significant over the past few years. We would highly recommend that TVDSB listen to the concerns of the parents regarding the transition and investment into the final “new school”. It’s important that whatever the final outcome, that students within Elgin County have comparable and equitable access to the French Immersion program.

Thank you,

AAR Committee

Appendix 1 – FEEDBACK SHEETS

Elgin County French Immersion Attendance Area Review Pierre Elliott Trudeau, November 2017

Feedback Sheet

The purpose of this form is to collect information from parents in the Pierre Elliott Trudeau school community regarding the Elgin County French Immersion Attendance Area Review. The information collected will be aggregated and may be included in the report to the Board by the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Attendance Area Review sub committee.

What is your English track school?

1. What is your preferred option? (please check)

☐ Option 1 ☐ Option 2 ☐ Option 3 ☐ Other

2. Explain why this is your preferred option.

4. Do you have any other options that the Board could consider?

3. If you are required to move to Sparta in September 2018, what is your preference for 2020?

☐ Remain at Sparta ☐ Move to New Sarum

Please Explain:

5. What questions or concerns do you still have?

Appendix 2 – SURVEY SENT HOME TO PARENTS

Elgin County French Immersion Attendance Area Review Pierre Elliott Trudeau, November 2017

We have received 5 alternate options suggested by members of the school community and would like to take a final survey of your preferred options.

Please review the attached 8 options (which include the original TVDSB proposed options). They show which English track attendance areas would attend each school (options 7 & 8 are geographical boundaries, not based on English track school). The enrollment numbers (based on October 31, 2016 enrollment) and capacity for each school have been provided to help you understand the impact of each option. Keep in mind that enrollment needs to be balanced between the 2 schools.

The last page is the survey where you can provide your first and second choice. Please return this page to the school by Wednesday November 29. Alternatively it can be emailed to TrudeauAARC@gmail.com.

It has also been suggested that the current grade 7 students be allowed to remain together next year for grade 8 (most likely at Pierre Elliott Trudeau) so they can graduate with the cohort they have been with all through elementary school. The last question of the survey is to indicate your agreement with this.

Option 1

Original option

Pierre Elliott Trudeau		New FI School	
Aldborough	17	Davenport/McGregor	19
Dunwich-Dutton	12	Locke's	100
Elgin Court	107	Port Stanley	46
Forest Park	61	Summer's Corners	12
John Wise	98	SE St. Thomas	35
J.R Callwood	38	Belmont	24
Mitchell Hepburn	67	Port Burwell/Straffordville	7
Southwold	64		
7/8 Extended	24		
Total	488	Total	243
OTG	530	Sparta OTG	305
Capacity	92%	Capacity	80%
		New Sarum OTG	257
		Capacity	95%

Option 2

Original option

Pierre Elliott Trudeau		New FI School	
Elgin Court	107	Aldborough	17
Forest Park	61	Davenport/McGregor	19
John Wise	98	Dunwich-Dutton	12
J.R Callwood	38	Port Stanley	46
Locke's	100	Southwold	64
Mitchell Hepburn	67	Summer's Corners	12
		SE St. Thomas	35
		Belmont	24
		Port Burwell/Straffordville	7
7/8 Extended	24		
Total	495	Total	236
OTG	530	Sparta OTG	305
Capacity	93%	Capacity	77%
		New Sarum OTG	257
		Capacity	92%

Option 3

Original option

Pierre Elliott Trudeau		New FI School	
Aldborough	17	Davenport/McGregor	19
Dunwich-Dutton	12	Mitchell Hepburn	67
Elgin Court	107	Port Stanley	46
Forest Park	61	Summer's Corners	12
John Wise	98	SE St. Thomas	35
J.R Callwood	38	Belmont	24
Locke's	100	Port Burwell/Straffordville	7
Southwold	64		
7/8 Extended	24		
Total	521	Total	210
OTG	530	Sparta OTG	305
Capacity	98%	Capacity	69%
		New Sarum OTG	257
		Capacity	82%

Option 4

This is a variation of option 1, switching Port Stanley and June Rose Callwood.

Pierre Elliott Trudeau		New FI School	
Aldborough	17	Davenport/McGregor	19
Dunwich-Dutton	12	Locke's	100
Elgin Court	107	J.R Callwood	38
Forest Park	61	Summer's Corners	12
John Wise	98	SE St. Thomas	35
Port Stanley	46	Belmont	24
Mitchell Hepburn	67	Port Burwell/Straffordville	7
Southwold	64		
7/8 Extended	24		
Total	496	Total	235
OTG	530	Sparta OTG	305
Capacity	94%	Capacity	77%
		New Sarum OTG	257
		Capacity	91%

Option 5

This is also a variation of option 1, moving Port Stanley to Pierre Elliott Trudeau and the 7/8 Extended program to the new FI school.

Pierre Elliott Trudeau		New FI School	
Aldborough	17	Davenport/McGregor	19
Dunwich-Dutton	12	Locke's	100
Elgin Court	107	Summer's Corners	12
Forest Park	61	SE St. Thomas	35
John Wise	98	Belmont	24
J.R Callwood	38	Port Burwell/Straffordville	7
Mitchell Hepburn	67	7/8 Extended	24
Southwold	64		
Port Stanley	46		
Total	510	Total	221
OTG	530	Sparta OTG	305
Capacity	96%	Capacity	72%
		New Sarum OTG	257
		Capacity	86%

Option 6

This is a variation of option 3, moving Southwold to the new FI school.

Pierre Elliott Trudeau		New FI School	
Aldborough	17	Davenport/McGregor	19
Dunwich-Dutton	12	Mitchell Hepburn	67
Elgin Court	107	Port Stanley	46
Forest Park	61	Southwold	64
John Wise	98	Summer's Corners	12
J.R Callwood	38	SE St. Thomas	35
Locke's	100	Belmont	24
7/8 Extended	24	Port Burwell/Straffordville	7
Total	457	Total	274
OTG	530	Sparta OTG	305
Capacity	86%	Capacity	90%
		New Sarum OTG	257
		Capacity	107%

Option 7

This is an East/West boundary split (Banana Split!), using Fairview/Burwell/Highbury as a dividing line.

Pierre Elliott Trudeau		New FI School	
West of Fairview/Burwell/Highbury	496	East of Fairview/Burwell/Highbury	208
		7/8 Extended	24
Total	496	Total	232
OTG	530	Sparta OTG	305
Capacity	94%	Capacity	76%
		New Sarum OTG	257
		Capacity	90%

Option 8

This is a North/South split using Elm St as a dividing line in the city. Counties would be separated by east or west of the city.

Pierre Elliott Trudeau		New FI School	
North of Elm and Aldborough/Dunwich-Dutton/Southwold		South of Elm (including Port Stanley)	
Aldborough	17	Davenport/McGregor	19
Dunwich-Dutton	12	Summer's Corners	12
Southwold	64	Port Burwell/Straffordville	7
John Wise north of Elm	79	Port Stanley	46
Elgin Court north of Elm	10	John Wise south of Elm	19
Mitchell Hepburn north of Elm	37	Elgin Court south of Elm	97
SE St. Thomas	14	Mitchell Hepburn south of Elm	30
Locke's	100	SE St. Thomas	21
Forest Park	61		
J.R Callwood	38		
Belmont	24		
7/8 Extended	24		
Total	480	Total	251
OTG	530	Sparta OTG	305
Capacity	91%	Capacity	82%
		New Sarum OTG	257
		Capacity	98%

AAR Survey (Please return by November 29)

Given the attached 8 options, please indicated your first and second choice (with a “1” and “2”) as your preferred options for attendance area and final school location.

Please note – The new French Immersion school WILL be located at Sparta in 2018. If New Sarum is chosen as the final location, it will involve a move of the whole school community in 2020. Keeping the status quo and moving only once to New Sarum is NOT an option.

☐ Remain at Sparta with the following attendance area:

__ Option 1

__ Option 2

__ Option 3

__ Option 4

__ Option 5

__ Option 6

__ Option 7

__ Option 8

☐ Move to New Sarum with the following attendance area:

__ Option 1

__ Option 2

__ Option 3

__ Option 4

__ Option 5

__ Option 6

__ Option 7

__ Option 8

Should the current grade 7 students remain together for grade 8 in 2018, regardless of boundary?

☐ YES ☐ NO

Appendix 3 – SURVEY RESULTS

WITH SPARTA AS THE FINAL LOCATION

[illegible]

WITH NO END SCHOOL PREFERENCE

Vote %	23%	19%	19%	8%	0%	8%	19%	4%			
Total Votes	6	5	5	2	0	2	5	1		Total	26
# of 1st Choice	5	3	1	1	0	1	2	1			
# of 2nd Choice	1	2	4	1	0	1	3	0			
	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5	Option 6	Option 7	Option 8			
	2	2	2	1		1	1	1			
	1	1	2	2		2	1				
	1	2	2				2				
	1	1	1				2				
	1	1	2				2				
	1										

KEEPING THE GRADE 8'S TOGETHER

Keep Grade 8 class together for final year		
Yes	No	No preference
135	22	16