



REPORT TO:	Board Supervisor
	Public or In-Camera (for Board Meetings only): Public
TITLE OF REPORT:	East Oxford Attendance Area Review – Initial Attendance Area Review Report
PRESENTERS: <i>(list ONLY those attending the meeting)</i>	Cathy Lynd, Senior Superintendent of Corporate Services and Treasurer
	Ben Puzanov, Manager, Planning
REPORT AUTHORS:	Ben Puzanov, Manager, Planning Christopher Harris, Planner Patrick Matkowski, Planner Karla Peña-Mendez, Data and Visualization Specialist
PRESENTED FOR:	Approval
Recommendations: <i>(only required when presented for approval)</i>	THAT Administration proceed with the East Oxford Attendance Area Review and establish an Attendance Area Review Committee for the purpose of obtaining public feedback regarding the accommodation options included in the Initial Attendance Area Review Report.
Purpose: <i>(include context)</i>	To provide an overview of the accommodation options for addressing the enrolment pressure at East Oxford Central PS and seek approval to proceed with this attendance area review.
Content:	Background This report provides an examination of the accommodation pressure at East Oxford Central PS. There are two portables currently on site and additional portables may not be added given the size of the current septic system. The option of expanding or adding to the existing septic system was thoroughly evaluated. Based on professional assessments, regulatory requirements, and cost analysis, expanding the septic system is not a feasible solution. An attendance area review is thus necessary in order to manage enrolment at the school. The full Initial Attendance Area Review Report is included in Appendix A. A summary of the septic system review is included in Appendix B. To address the accommodation pressure at East Oxford Central PS, the initial report includes two potential options for reassigning portions of the East Oxford Central PS attendance area to either Emily Stowe PS or Central PS.

School Council Feedback

As part of the preparation of the Initial Attendance Area Review Report, TVDSB met with school councils of East Oxford Central PS, Emily Stowe PS, and Central PS. Below is a summary of the feedback that was received as part of the meetings. A detailed summary of the comments and questions addressed at the meetings is included in Appendix C.

- Questions were asked regarding the status of the current septic system as well as whether options for expanding or relocating the existing system have been evaluated.
- Participants asked whether recent historical enrolment trends, local demographic factors, and board share were sufficiently reflected in the projections.
- Questions were received regarding the Attendance Area Review process, specifically about how community feedback would be collected and whether that feedback would impact the final decision.
- Concerns were expressed regarding the consideration of additional enrolment at schools already operating near capacity, particularly Emily Stowe PS, and how that enrolment would be managed on site.
- Rationale for selecting potential receiving schools and whether other schools with available capacity were considered.
- Feedback related to an addition to Emily Stowe PS being preferred to portables, availability of outdoor amenity space, suitability of receiving schools to accommodate additional students, and site-specific constraints related to septic system capacity.
- Concerns related to traffic congestion, student drop-off and pick-up, busing logistics, and the timing of potential student transitions to new schools.
- Participants asked whether funding would increase if additional students were moved to their school.

A number of schools were evaluated as potential options to relieve enrolment pressure at East Oxford Central PS. However, many of these schools are already operating above capacity or have limited space to accommodate additional portables and/or building additions. Central PS and Emily Stowe PS were identified as the most viable options as both schools are adjacent to the East Oxford Central PS attendance area and have sufficient capacity to accommodate additional students either through existing space at the school or

through a building addition via a future business case to the Ministry of Education.

When formulating enrolment projections, Administration analyzes numerous factors to ensure accuracy and long-term reliability. Key considerations include the number of births within each school attendance area, broader demographic and population trends, historical student progression patterns, and anticipated residential development activity based on discussions with municipal partners. Administration also considers board share, which is the proportion of all school-age children who attend TVDSB schools and informs understanding of shifts in family preferences and enrolment patterns over time. This has been on the decline in recent years and is reflected in TVDSB's enrolment projections.

The initial boundary adjustment options were reviewed with Student Transportation Services (STS) to assess any potential impacts on busing. STS confirmed that there is no net change in buses expected in either option.

Accommodation Options

The following accommodation options were developed for consideration. If the attendance area review proceeds, an Attendance Area Review Committee will be formed with representatives from each school involved in the review. Feedback regarding the options will then be gathered from each school community and this will inform the final report and recommendations.

Option 1 - Emily Stowe PS

Emily Stowe PS is operating just below capacity but also has sufficient space on site to accommodate portables in the short term and if approved, a future building addition in order to manage enrolment from East Oxford Central PS.

This option proposes to designate 68 students within the southern portion of the East Oxford Central PS attendance area located between Substation Road and Highway 59 to Emily Stowe PS.

- East Oxford PS
 - By designating a portion of its boundary to Emily Stowe PS, enrolment will decrease to 96% utilization in 2027, with a slight increase to 104% by 2032.

	- Emily Stowe PS - By receiving a portion of the East Oxford Central PS attendance area, enrolment at Emily Stowe PS will increase to 111% in 2027 and decrease to 108% by 2032. <u>Option 2 – Central PS</u> With the opening of Turtle Island PS in north Woodstock, space will become available at Central PS. This space could be used to alleviate the enrolment pressure at East Oxford Central PS. In this option, 101 students residing in the northwestern portion of the East Oxford Central PS attendance area between Karn Road and Sweaburg Road would be designated to Central PS. The attendance area includes approximately 33 more students than Option 1. The Sweaburg area is relatively dense with students and an analysis did not identify a practical way to divide it to reduce the number of students proposed for reassignment. As a result, the entire area is proposed to be designated to Central PS. - East Oxford Central PS - By designating a portion of its attendance area to Central PS there will be a decrease in enrolment to 87% utilization in 2027, with an increase to 97% by 2032. - Central PS - By receiving a portion of East Oxford Central's attendance area, Central PS will increase to 106% utilization in 2027 and decrease to 94% by 2032. Two portables would have to remain on site following implementation until enrolment decreases below capacity of the school.
Financial Implications:	The costs to complete the subject Attendance Area Review will be accommodated within the 2025-2026 budget.
Timeline:	The expected timeline for the attendance area review is as follows: <u>March 2026</u>: establish website to solicit feedback and answer questions regarding the boundary options under consideration <u>March 2026</u>: establish Attendance Area Review Committee (AARC) <u>April 1, 2026</u>: Host AARC meeting at East Oxford Central PS <u>April 2026 - June 2026</u>: Coordinate school-level AARC Subcommittee meetings <u>July 2026 - August 2026</u>: Review school community feedback and prepare Final Attendance Area Review Report

	• <u>September 2026</u>: Provide Final Attendance Area Review Report to Board Supervisor • <u>September 2026/October 2026</u>: Public Delegations regarding Final Attendance Area Review Report (written) • <u>October 2026</u>: Decision of the Board Supervisor • <u>2027-2028 School Year</u>: Earliest date Implementation of the Decision of the Board Supervisor. The implementation date will be subject to refinement as part of the preparation of the Final Attendance Area Review Report and preliminary Fall 2026 enrolment numbers at East Oxford Central PS.
Communications:	Per Attendance Area Review Procedure (4015c).
Appendices:	<u>Appendix A</u> : Initial Attendance Area Review Report <u>Appendix B</u> : East Oxford Central PS Septic System Review <u>Appendix C</u> : School Council Feedback

Connection to Strategic Directions:

We value students' individual educational paths and provide the tools and resources necessary for student achievement including students with special education needs: No

To support student achievement, our schools and workplaces must be safe spaces for all: Yes

Our goal is to become Ontario's leader in education by fostering a culture of innovation and excellence: No

To inform our decision-making, we will build positive, trusting relationships across our district by increasing community engagement that is accessible, accountable, and transparent: Yes
