

# **Unnamed Coughlan Public School Boundary Review Consultation**

October 22, 2024 to January 10, 2025

# Land Acknowledgement

The Durham District School Board acknowledges that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships, both historic and modern, with the territories upon which our school board and schools are located. Today, this area is home to many Indigenous peoples from across Turtle Island. We acknowledge that the Durham Region forms a part of the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, the Mississauga Peoples and the treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation. It is on these ancestral and treaty lands that we teach, live and learn.

This statement was co-created in partnership with the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation and the Chippewas of Georgina Island.

# Indigenous Rights and Human Rights

The Durham District School Board recognizes Indigenous rights are distinct. In the exercise of those rights, Indigenous staff and students shall not be subjected to actions with the aim or effect of depriving these distinct rights.

The Durham District School Board is committed to providing learning and working environments that centre human rights and equity and are safe, welcoming, respectful, equitable, accessible, inclusive and free from all forms of discrimination, oppression, harassment and harm.

# Overview

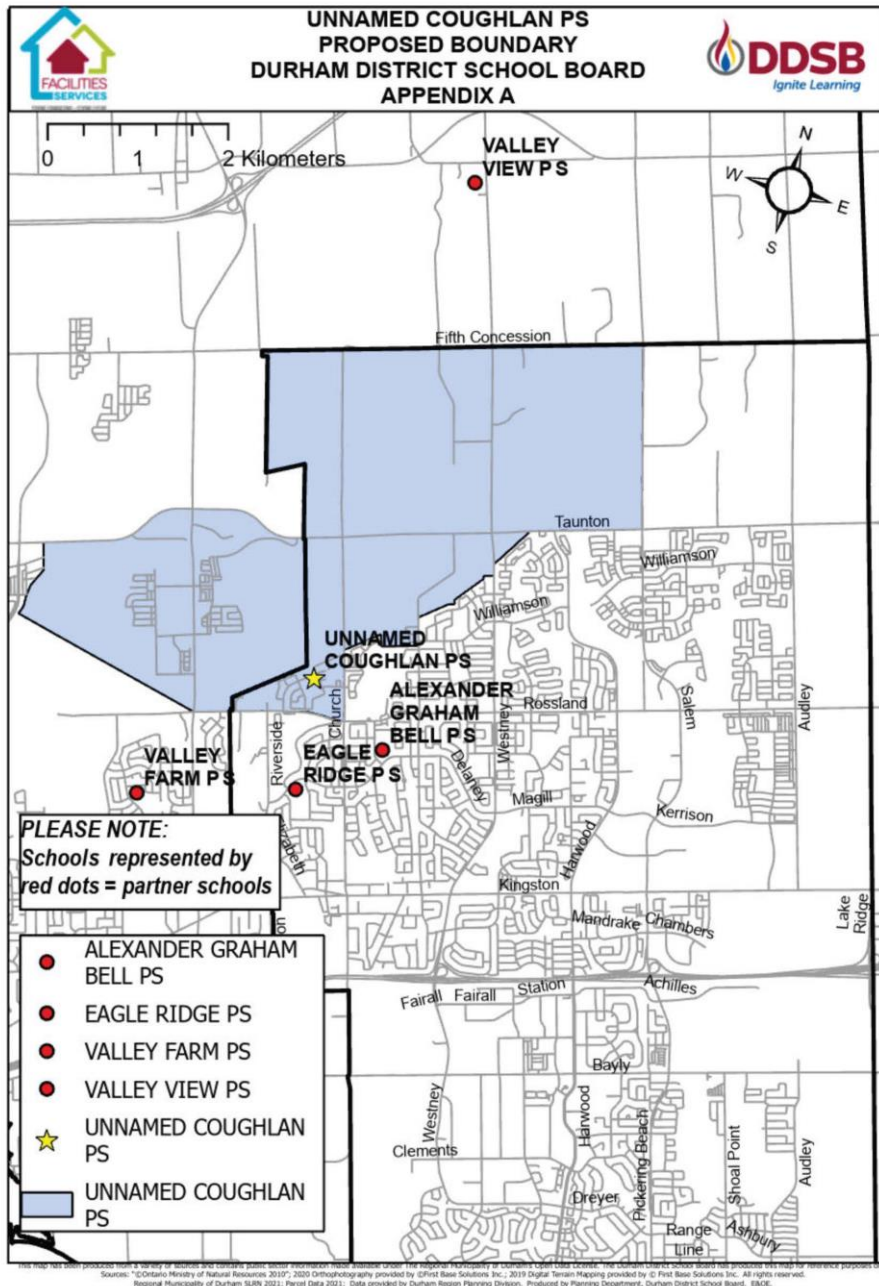
- An information report on the proposed boundary review for Unnamed Coughlan Public School was presented to Trustees at the October 21, 2024, Board Meeting.
  - The purpose of the report was to initiate this consultation process to gather community input on the proposed boundary for Unnamed Coughlan PS, located at Stannardville Drive and Hurst Drive, Ajax, scheduled to open for the 2025-2026 school year.
- An In-person Public Meeting will be held to solicit public input on November 13, 2024, at 7pm. Notices of this meeting will be provided on DDSB's and partner schools' websites.
- A Virtual Public Meeting will be held to gather community input early in December 2024, at 7pm. Notices of this meeting will be provided on DDSB's and partner schools' websites.

# Overview, Continued

- The Board Report, PowerPoint presentation, and a survey are posted to the DDSB's website and are accessible through the partner schools' websites (Eagle Ridge Public School, Alexander Graham Bell Public School, Valley Farm Public School and Valley View Public School) and DDSB@Home.
- Staff will collect feedback through email at [CPSBoundaryReview@ddsb.ca](mailto:CPSBoundaryReview@ddsb.ca), phone 905-666-6308 & survey at: <https://survey.sogolytics.com/r/HOA7gz> until January 10, 2025.
- All input will be summarized in the February 18, 2025, Recommendation Report to Trustees.
  - Trustees will make a boundary decision at the February 2025 Board Meeting.

# Boundary Review

- Unnamed Coughlan Public School (CPS) received Ministry of Education Capital Priorities funding in 2022. The school is currently under construction and scheduled to open for the 2025-2026 school year.
- Unnamed CPS has a Ministry Rated Capacity (MRC) of 536 pupil places, will accommodate students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8, and includes a Child Care Centre.
- The neighbourhood is part of a greenfield development that attracts new families.
- Four partner schools; Eagle Ridge PS, Alexander Graham Bell PS, Valley Farm PS and Valley View PS have been accommodating the growth from the area until the school opens for the 2025-2026 school year.



# Unnamed Coughlan PS Partner Schools and Growth Boundary

The proposed boundary of the Unnamed Coughlan PS would cross beyond the border of Ajax, including a portion of the Seaton Community in Pickering. The Pickering portion of the proposed boundary is currently partnering at Valley Farm PS and Valley View PS. The north part of the Ajax portion of the proposed boundary is also currently partnering at Valley View PS, while the south part is partnering at Eagle Ridge PS and Alexander Graham Bell PS. The proposed boundary encompasses the area west of Salem Road, north of Rossland Road West, south of 5th Concession Road and east of Aquarius Trail.



# Partner Schools

- Partner schools are determined based on factors including the following:
  - Space to accommodate students (in school, portables and site size)
  - Transportation (distance to school and space to accommodate buses)
  - Adequate parking and washrooms.
- Students and their siblings attend their designated partner school (as long as they remain at their current address) until such time as the new school is opened with a boundary in place.



# Proposed Unnamed Coughlan PS Boundary For Consultation

- The proposed boundary for CPS encompasses the area west of Salem Road, north of Rossland Road West, south of 5th Concession Road and east of Aquarius Trail.
- The proposed boundary aligns with the multiple growth boundaries currently in place since development in the area began.
- For the 2025-2026 school year, the proposal includes JK to Grade 7 students residing within the proposed boundary. Current Grade 7 students would be given the choice to remain at their designated partner school with transportation provided or transition to the Unnamed Coughlan PS for Grade 8.

# Unnamed Coughlan PS Enrolment Projections

- Based upon previous new DDSB school openings, a new facility attracts students from other sources, including other publicly funded schools, private schools and DDSB families within the proposed boundary that decided to remain at their previous home school. CPS will continue to attract new students as development in the neighbourhood picks up.
- The opening of Unnamed Coughlan PS for the 2025-2026 school year will open with portables but will result in a reduction of portables at the four schools currently accommodating the growth.

**Table 1 – 2025-2026 Projected Enrolment:**

October 2025	Total Enrolment	Utilization	Portables Needed
Unnamed Coughlan PS	736	137%	8
Alexander Graham Bell PS	555	108%	1
Eagle Ridge PS	431	99%	0
Valley Farm PS	561	83%	0
Valley View PS	90	54%	0

# Impact on Partner Schools With Unnamed Coughlan PS Overview

- The opening of Unnamed Coughlan PS for the 2025-2026 school year will result in enrolment relief and the need for minimal portables to the four partner schools (Alexander Graham Bell PS, Eagle Ridge PS, Valley Farm PS, and Valley View PS).
- For the current school year, the four partner schools have a combined 29 portables on site.
- With the opening of Unnamed Coughlan PS, there is a potential to redirect 20 portables to address other accommodation pressures and ensure there are fewer students in alternative learning spaces.
- The four partner schools will be provided some relief; however, they will be required in future years to accommodate the current and planned growth in the area.

# Considerations

- DDSB recognizes that good mental health is an important foundation for achievement and well-being.
- Schools are an ideal place for mental health promotion, the prevention of mental health concerns, and the early identification of mental health concerns through school-based prevention and intervention services. Schools provide students with the knowledge and skills to be aware of, care for, and advocate for their own mental health and well-being.
- Changes because of the proposed boundary shifts will be a transition for students and families. With this on mind, the mental health and well-being of students and their caregivers who may be affected by these changes are among the district's leading considerations.
- DDSB will be intentional in the transition supports for all students impacted by the change. Relationship building and facilitating a sense of school community, connectedness and belonging across all learning spaces will be key commitments throughout this process.

## Considerations 2

- Durham Student Transportation Services (DSTS) identify safe walking routes for all schools.
- Under the DSTS Transportation Policy, students residing more than 1.6 km from their designated school of attendance would be eligible for school bus transportation.
- Should the Board of Trustees approve this proposed new Boundary in February 2025 for implementation in September 2025:
  - DSTS will identify bus routes;
  - There will be sufficient time for decisions to be made regarding the impact of staffing for Unnamed Coughlan PS and the four partner schools, to be made.

# Communication Plan

- The Final Recommendation Report will take into consideration all community input presented to the Board of Trustees on February 18, 2025, where the Trustees will be considering the recommendation resulting from this consultation.
- Community Consultation from October 22, 2024 to January 10, 2025.
- Input to be received through various avenues:
  - SCC Executive Meeting – TBD
  - In-person Public Meeting – November 13, 2024
  - Virtual Public Meeting - December 2024
  - Email, Voicemail and Survey

# Communication Plan 2

- The following are available at <https://www.ddsb.ca/en/about-ddsb/boundary-and-program-reviews.aspx>
  - Information Report to the Board of Trustees dated October 21, 2024
  - PowerPoint Presentation dated October 22, 2024
  - Newsletter (also available on three holding school's websites)
  - An In-Person Public Meeting will be held on November 13, 2024 at 7:00 pm to solicit public input
  - A Virtual Public Meeting will be held in early December to solicit public input. More details will be posted on the DDSB's website.
- More information will be provided on DDSB's website as well as on the four partner schools' websites and DDSB@Home.
- Anyone wishing to participate in the In-Person Public Meeting are requested to register upon arrival. Anyone wishing to participate in the Virtual Public Meeting is requested to register in advance to share their input and view the public meeting. Please visit DDSB's website to register.



# Communication Plan 3

- Staff will collect feedback until January 10, 2025, via:
  - Email at [CPSBoundaryReview@DDSB.ca](mailto:CPSBoundaryReview@DDSB.ca),
  - Phone line: 905-666-6308
  - Survey at: <https://survey.sogolytics.com/r/HOA7gz>

# Conclusion

- The information contained in this presentation together with community input that is received will be included in a final report to Trustees.
- The final recommendation report will be presented to Trustees at the February 18, 2025, Board Meeting.
- The report will summarize all feedback collected and provide a recommended boundary for Trustees' consideration.

# End Of Presentation