

DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

REPORT TO: Durham District School Board **DATE:** December 4, 2023

SUBJECT: Vincent Massey PS - Boundary Review **PAGE:** 1 of 10

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1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Trustees with information on the public consultation and boundary review process for Vincent Massey Public School (PS) in accordance with the Durham District School Board's (DDSB) School Boundaries Regulation. A boundary revision at Vincent Massey PS is required due to ongoing accommodation pressures at the school.

The boundary review process is scheduled to begin December 5, 2023. The new Vincent Massey PS boundary would be effective for the 2024-2025 school year pending approval by the Board of Trustees at the conclusion of the boundary review process.

2.0 Ignite Learning Strategic Priority/Operational Goals

Well-being – *Create safe, welcoming, inclusive learning spaces to promote well-being for all students and staff.*

3.0 Background

Vincent Massey PS has a Ministry Rated Capacity (MRC) of 441, offering a Junior Kindergarten - Grade 8 regular program and before and after school childcare. The school has been experiencing enrolment pressures over the last few years. For the 2022-2023 school year, Vincent Massey PS had 8 portables on site to accommodate its enrolment. In the current school year, 4 additional portables were added to the site, as well as the use of the library for regular classroom instruction. There has also been an increase in traffic and safety concerns given the larger school enrolment.

3.1 Overview

Vincent Massey PS, located at 211 Harmony Road North in Oshawa is in a campus setting located directly south of Eastdale CVI. The boundary for Vincent Massey PS is provided in Appendix A. The school is located on a 6.98-acre site that is long and narrow with one frontage onto Harmony Road North.

The school, until recently, served a mature neighbourhood with stable enrolment. Over the past few years, Vincent Massey PS has experienced and continues to experience a regeneration of the neighbourhood, with new families moving into the area. At the same time, there are pockets of new residential development, in the north and south end of the Vincent Massey PS boundary, adding to the school’s enrolment pressures.

Nearby schools are also experiencing increased enrolment. Section 3.6 provides an analysis of nearby schools:

Table 1a:

Vincent Massey PS & Nearby Elementary Schools					
School	October 2023 Enrolment	Ministry Rated Capacity	Portables - 2023-2024	Utilization	Avg. 5-Yr. Utilization - 2023 to 2027
Vincent Massey PS	787	441	12	178%	163%
Coronation PS	454	377	2	120%	106%
Gordon B. Attersley PS	482	481	0	100%	98%
Harmony Heights PS	343	317	0	108%	103%
Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS	726	495	8	147%	136%

3.2 Enrolment Pressures

Enrolment growth within Vincent Massey PS boundary is from migration into the area (people moving into existing homes) and new residential development, as identified in Appendix A. Enrolment resulting from development is factored into the Board’s enrolment projections based upon information provided from registered plans of subdivision.

Table 1b: Vincent Massey PS 2023 Official Enrolment Projection (OEP) 5-year projections:

City of Oshawa

MRC: 441

	Total Enrolment	Utilization	Portables Needed *
October 2022	658	149%	8
<i>October 2023 (actuals)</i>	787	178%	12
October 2024	703	159%	16
October 2025	703	159%	16
October 2026	706	160%	16
October 2027	705	160%	16

* 2024 - 2027 Portable needs based upon actual increased enrolment - increase of approx. 100 students requiring an additional 4 portables

To accommodate the increased number of classes required due to the enrolment of 787 students, the school has 12 portables on site. Given the limited number of portables available in the 2023-24 school year, the school is also using an alternative instructional space – the learning commons. The site can currently accommodate up to 16 portables. Projected enrolment, based upon actual increased data, suggests the need for 16 portables on site for the 2024-2025 school year. However, with the limited number of portables available, it may not be possible to increase the number of portables for the coming school year. Additionally, the school was designed to accommodate 441 students.

The current size of the student population is not projected to decrease noticeably over the coming years and will continue to present accommodation and safety challenges.

3.4 Traffic Congestion and Safety Concerns

The increased enrolment has added to the traffic congestion on the Vincent Massey PS site, along with the adjacent school, Eastdale CVI. The schools are in a campus setting that allows for some flexibility in shared driveways and parking. Concerns regarding the increased traffic, and a recent traffic review, have identified congestion from Vincent Massey PS families utilizing the Eastdale CVI site resulting in a bottleneck of traffic onto Adelaide Avenue. The traffic review confirmed that congestion leads to a 35 minutes exit time from the Eastdale CVI site, blocking access points to the secondary school.

Other concerns witnessed, during the recent traffic review, included parents/children from Vincent Massey PS dodging through traffic to access their cars on the Eastdale CVI site.

3.5 Staff Recommended Boundary Review for Community Consultation

Staff recommend a boundary review be undertaken for Vincent Massey PS as of December 5, 2023. The review will include consulting with the community to realign the boundaries between Vincent Massey PS and Gordon B. Attersley PS (see Appendix B for proposed realignment boundaries). Pending consultation and approval, the new boundaries for the two schools would be effective for the 2024-2025 school year.

Scenario for Community Consultation

For September 2024, it is proposed that all JK to Grade 7 students residing west of Autumnwood Trail; south and east of Harmony Conservation Area, north of the middle of Margate Drive, would attend Gordon B. Attersley PS. The proposed boundary area is set out in Appendix B.

It is contemplated that Grade 8 students be given the choice to remain at Vincent Massey PS or attend Gordon B. Attersley PS for their graduating year. These students are the current (2023-2024) Grade 7 students.

Based on the proposed scenario, over the 4-year projection period beginning the 2024-2025 school year, the number of portables required at Vincent Massey PS is projected to decrease to approximately 8 portables for the 2024-2025 school year and remain stable through to the 2027-2028 school year.

Gordon B. Attersley PS is a 481-pupil place school on a 5.03-acre site and currently has no portables on site. The existing boundary is outlined in Appendix A.

Under this proposed scenario, the boundary realignment would result in approximately 6 portables required at Gordon B. Attersley for the 2024-2025 school year with 6 projected through to the 2027-2028 school year.

Table 2a - Anticipated Impact of the Boundary Realignment at Vincent Massey PS

Vincent Massey PS

City of Oshawa

MRC: 441

				Impact on Enrolment with Boundary Adjustment		
	Total Enrolment	Utilization	Portables Needed *	Total Enrolment	Utilization	Portables Needed**
October 2022	658	149%	8			
October 2023 (actuals)	787	178%	12			
October 2024	703	159%	16	629	143%	8
October 2025	703	159%	16	618	140%	8
October 2026	706	160%	16	616	140%	8
October 2027	705	160%	16	616	140%	8

* 2024 - 2027 Portable needs based upon actual increased enrolment -

increase of approx. 100 students requiring an additional 4 portables

**Portable needs assumes that with portable shortage library will be utilized for classroom space.

Vincent Massey PS experienced a 14% increase in 2023 enrolment compared to projected data. Vincent Massey PS baseline data, from 2024 to 2027, have been adjusted to recognize the increase in enrolment at the school.

The projected portable need for the school assumes, given the limited availability of portables across the system, that Vincent Massey PS will continue to utilize their library for classroom space. If additional portables become available it would result in 1 additional portable, based on projected enrolment each year, for Vincent Massey PS.

Table 2b - Anticipated Impact of the Boundary Realignment at Gordon B. Attersley PS

Gordon B Attersley PS

City of Oshawa

MRC: 481

				Impact on Enrolment with Boundary Adjustment		
	Total Enrolment	Utilization	Portables Needed	Total Enrolment	Utilization	Portables Needed
October 2022	476	99%	0			
October 2023 (actuals)	482	100%	0			
October 2024	474	99%	0	625	130%	6
October 2025	475	99%	0	636	132%	7
October 2026	464	96%	0	630	131%	6
October 2027	468	97%	0	633	132%	7

As previously stated, this data does not impact the current Grade 7 students, who would be in Grade 8 and preparing to enter secondary school and who may choose to graduate with their current cohort of peers. If Grade 7 students decide to transition to Gordon B. Attersley PS, the updated enrolment data will be reflected in the spring.

3.6 Other Boundary Scenarios Examined:

Staff examined other potential boundary solutions to address the enrolment pressures at Vincent Massey PS. Neighbouring schools were examined to determine if they were an option to accommodate additional enrolment currently located at Vincent Massey PS. The following is an overview of the analysis of the neighbouring schools identified in Table 1 above:

Realign the enrolment boundaries between Vincent Massey PS and Coronation PS:

- Coronation PS is a 377-pupil place dual track school offering JK to Grade 8 Regular program and Grade 4 to Grade 8 Gifted program. It is located on a 6.8-acre site.
- The October 2023 preliminary actual enrolment at the school, including Inclusive Student Services (ISS) students, is 454 students.
- Coronation PS is the overflow school for Northern Dancer PS, which is unable to accommodate additional students as it has reached its portable maximum. Northern Dancer PS is not projected to have enrolment relief and therefore there will be continued enrolment pressures for Coronation PS as an identified overflow school.
- The library at Coronation PS is currently being utilized for classroom space. Renovations are scheduled to the library and have been delayed for the past two years to accommodate the use of the library for classroom space. The library renovations are now scheduled to occur during the 2024-2025 school year.

Realign the enrolment boundaries between Vincent Massey PS and Harmony Heights PS:

- Harmony Heights PS is a 317-pupil place school located on a 5.0. acre site.
- The bus loop is small, and expansion would interfere with the existing cross walk and is limited by the location of the main hydro service at the street. There is no option to create a secondary drop off on the north side of the school due to the steep grade drop off.
- The parking lot structure is maximized as far as width goes and the site does not lend itself to creating a turn-around space for cars.

Realign the enrolment boundaries between Vincent Massey PS and Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS:

- Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS is a 495-pupil places school with an October 2023 preliminary enrolment of 726.
- For the 2023-2024 school year there are 8 portables on site to accommodate the school's in-boundary enrolment.

- As outlined in section 3.8 of the report, a small block south of Taunton Road, being held at Gordon B. Attersley PS is proposed by staff to be part of the Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS home school boundary for future students.
- Given the current and projected enrolment for Pierre Elliott PS there is insufficient space to accommodate additional enrolment pressures.

Table 3: 2023-24 OEP and 4-year projections for other schools considered:

Harmony Heights P.S.		
City of Oshawa		
MRC:	317	
Portables:	0	
	Total Enrolment	Utilization
October 2022	324	102%
October 2023	343	108%
October 2024	326	103%
October 2025	317	100%
October 2026	316	100%
October 2027	326	103%

Coronation P.S.		
City of Oshawa		
MRC:	377	
Portables:	2	
	Total Enrolment	Utilization
October 2022	363	96%
October 2023	454	120%
October 2024	385	102%
October 2025	385	102%
October 2026	388	103%
October 2027	391	104%

Pierre Elliott Trudeau P.S.		
City of Oshawa		
MRC:	495	
Portables:	8	
	Total Enrolment	Utilization
October 2022	713	144%
October 2023	726	147%
October 2024	705	142%
October 2025	671	136%
October 2026	644	130%
October 2027	622	126%

3.7 School Community Concerns

With the increased enrolment at Vincent Massey PS there has been concern with increased traffic and congestion from Vincent Massey PS parents/guardians driving students to school. Facilities Services staff have been out to the site to review traffic and have retained an independent consultant to conduct a review and look at alternative solutions to address the traffic both on Harmony Road North, entering onto the Eastdale site (used by Vincent Massey PS) and leaving the Eastdale property bottlenecked while waiting to make a left onto Adelaide Avenue East.

3.8 Gordon B. Attersley PS Holding

An area located south of Taunton Road, including the streets MacInally Court, Glenbourne Drive and Benson Street (as identified in Appendix C), has been holding at Gordon B. Attersley PS since the area was developed. This block is within Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS boundary; however, at the time of development, Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS was unable to accommodate families living there due to enrolment pressures.

The block is transported to Gordon B. Attersley PS and is within walking distance to Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS. There are currently approximately 12 students attending Gordon B. Attersley PS from this area.

It is proposed that the block, identified in Appendix C, be added to the Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS boundary area as of the 2024-2025 school year. Students and their siblings currently residing within this area and attending Gordon B. Attersley PS, will be given the option to remain at Gordon B. Attersley PS and be provided transportation or attend Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS as of September 2024. Any new families registering, pending Board of Trustee approval, will attend Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS.

This boundary revision allows families to attend school within their home school boundary. From a transportation perspective and continued bus driver shortage, this frees up bus space to allow for the scheduling and transporting of other DDSB students.

4. **Analysis**

4.1 Boundary Review Process

The DDSB School Boundaries Regulation (Appendix D) outlines the parameters used for creating new and revising current school boundaries. The Regulation includes a consultation process to gather feedback from the community.

4.2 Proposed Timing

A consultation period would begin on December 5, 2023, and end on January 12, 2024. Following consultation, a final recommendation report will be brought forward to the Board of Trustees for their consideration of the recommended solution and for a decision at the February 20, 2024, Board Meeting.

5. **Financial Implications**

N/A

6. Evidence of Impact

Should the boundary revisions, resulting from consultation, occur at Vincent Massey PS, there will be a noticeable reduction in enrolment pressures at the school, a reduction in the number of portables on site, and it is expected that there will also be a reduction of traffic congestion and safety concerns.

7. Communication Plan

The School Boundaries process is a community consultation process that includes a variety of communications including board reports, PowerPoint presentations available on DDSB's website, communications utilizing the affected schools' and DDSB's websites, as well as other forms of school notifications, i.e., SchoolMessenger email and telephone notices.

In preparing for this consultation, DDSB staff have engaged with trustees for the consultation area to discuss the need for a solution to best support student learning.

The consultation process includes opportunities for community input through email, voicemail, a survey as well as a webinar and School Community Council executive meetings with affected schools. A dedicated email address and phone line will be established to gather community input.

All information resulting from the consultation process will be summarized and provided to the Board of Trustees in a final report with a recommendation for consideration.

Key dates for consultation as noted above are as follows:

November 2023:

- Development of Boundary Review Information Report
 - Internal staff discussions
 - Meeting with Oshawa area Trustees to understand community needs
 - Meeting with Principals of individual schools included in the Boundary Review

December 2023:

- December 4
 - The Boundary Review Information Report is presented at the Board Meeting to begin the community consultation process.

Community Consultation – December 5, 2023, to 5:00 pm, January 12, 2024.

- December 5
 - The Boundary Review Information Report and a PowerPoint presentation, that provides an overview of the boundary review and communication timelines, including community consultation details, is available on the DDSB website (Location TBD)
 - Communications messaging is provided to individual schools included in the Boundary Review.
 - Survey @ <https://survey.sogolytics.com/r/CncU8t> is open until 5:00 p.m. January 12, 2024.

- December 2023 or January 2024 (date and time TBD)
 - SCC Executive Meetings for schools included in the Boundary Review will be scheduled to accommodate the SCC Executive calendars. An overview of the Report and the community consultation will be provided with a focus on feedback from the SCC Executive. The SCC Executive will also be asked to share the details of the process, consultation opportunities and timelines to ensure feedback is gathered through the process.
- December 12, 2023 Webinar will be held to gather community feedback. There will be a formal presentation; however, the focus will be on community feedback. Participants will be required to sign up prior to the event and details will be advertised through the schools' and the DDSB's website and social media.
- January 2024
 - Consultation ends January 12, 2024 @ 5:00 p.m. DDSB staff to review all input received.
- Throughout the community consultation period of December 5, 2023, to 5:00 pm, January 12, 2024, community feedback, which will be shared with local area Trustees, may be provided through:

Email: VMPSBoundaryReview@ddsb.ca
Phone: 905-666-6473

All input received via the Webinar, email, phone, and survey will be summarized and included in the Final Boundary Review Recommendation Report to Trustees for their consideration and decision. Any community recommended alternative options to address the accommodation pressures will be analyzed by staff and the alternative option and analysis will be included in the Final Boundary Review Recommendation Report to Trustees for their consideration and decision.

February 2024

- Final Report to Board of Trustees for Consideration – Standing Committee
- Final decision by Board of Trustees – Board Meeting

8. **Conclusion**

Over the past few years, Vincent Massey PS has been experiencing enrolment pressures which are projected to continue. The increased enrolment has led to traffic congestion and safety concerns.

A boundary review and adjustment pending trustee approval of Vincent Massey PS and Gordon B. Attersley PS will allow for enrolment relief at Vincent Massey PS for the 2024-2025 school year and beyond.

This report is provided to the Board of Trustees for information.

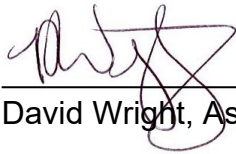
Appendices:

- Appendix A: Vincent Massey PS and Gordon B. Attersley PS - Existing Boundary Map
- Appendix B: Vincent Massey PS and Gordon B. Attersley PS - Proposed Boundary Map
- Appendix C: Gordon B. Attersley PS holding boundary for Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS
- Appendix D: Regulation: School Boundaries

Report reviewed and submitted by:



Camille Williams-Taylor, Director of Education and Secretary to the Board

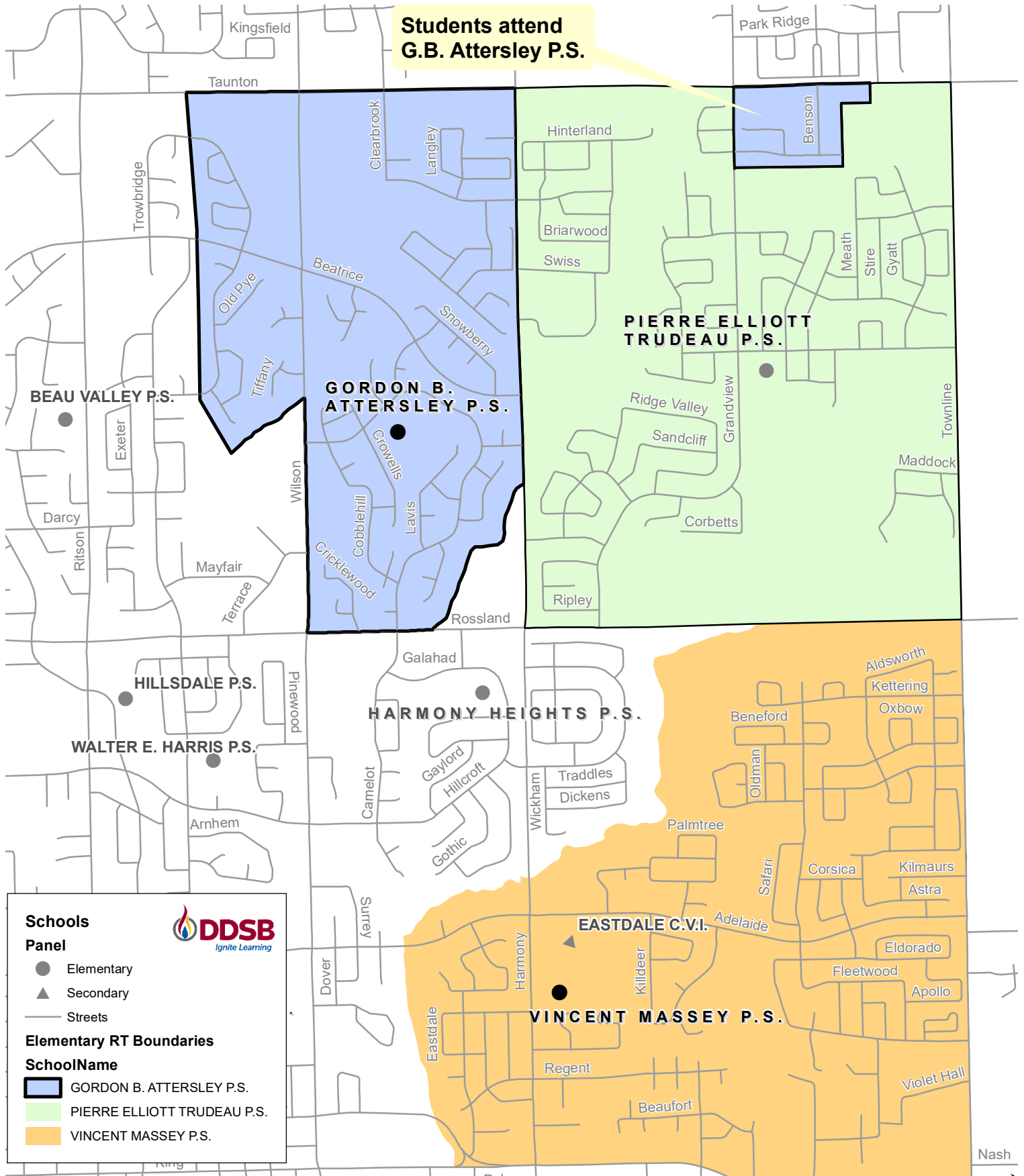


David Wright, Associate Director of Corporate Services and Treasurer of the Board

Existing Vincent Massey and G.B. Attersley Boundaries

APPENDIX A

Students attend
G.B. Attersley P.S.



Schools

Panel

- Elementary
- ▲ Secondary
- Streets

Elementary RT Boundaries

SchoolName

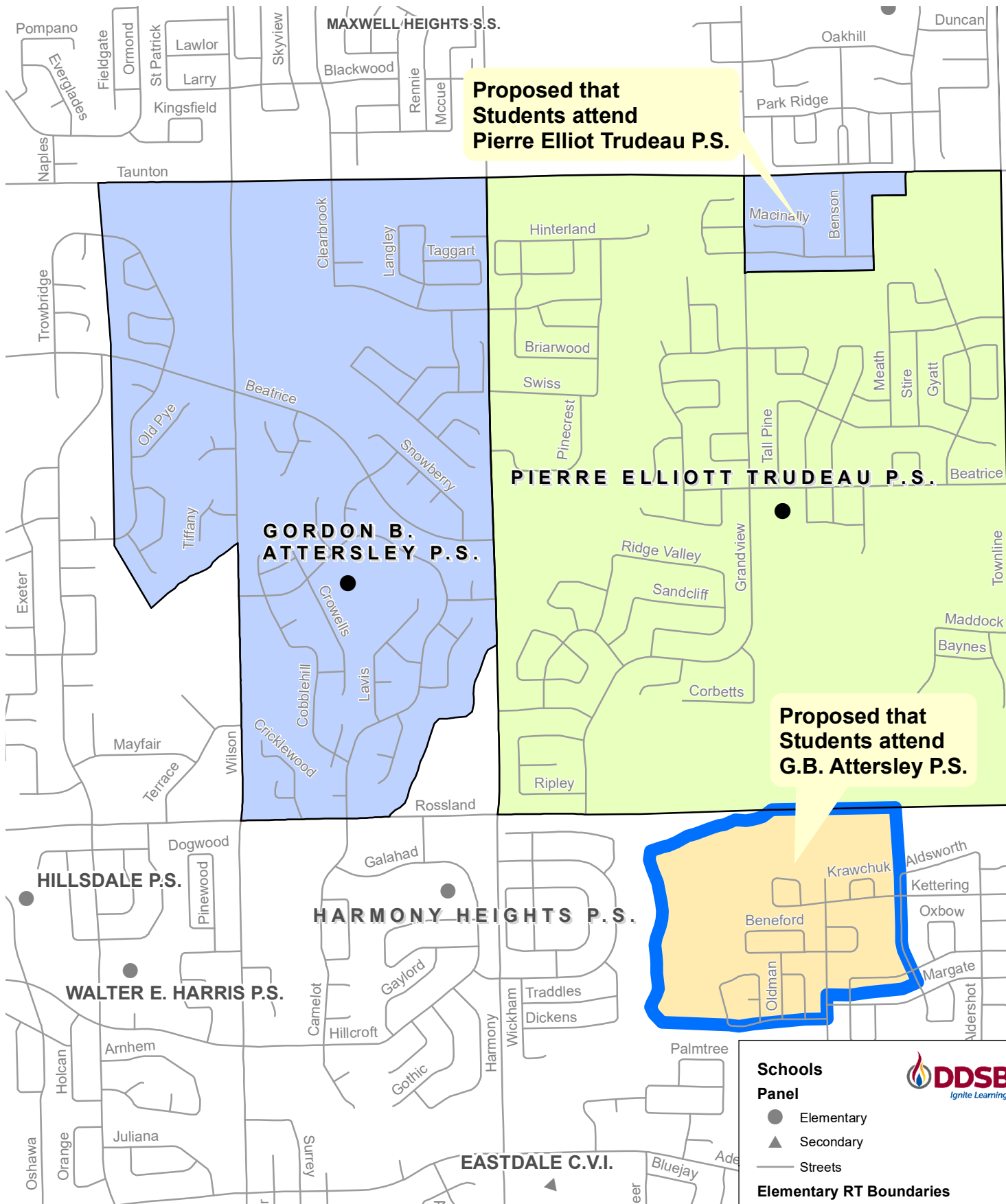
- GORDON B. ATTERSLEY P.S.
- PIERRE ELLIOTT TRUDEAU P.S.
- VINCENT MASSEY P.S.

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G.B. Attersley PS. Holding Area for Pierre Elliot Trudeau P.S.

APPENDIX C



Proposed that Students attend Pierre Elliot Trudeau P.S.

Proposed that Students attend G.B. Attersley P.S.

Schools


Panel

- Elementary
- ▲ Secondary
- Streets

Elementary RT Boundaries

SchoolName

- GORDON B. ATTERSLEY P.S.
- PIERRE ELLIOTT TRUDEAU P.S.



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School Boundaries

To provide a uniform procedure for establishing and adjusting school boundaries.

1.0 Criteria:

1.1 New School Boundaries

New school boundaries are established for newly constructed or planned schools. The locations of school sites are primarily determined at the Municipal Secondary Plan stage by Planning Staff. New school boundaries are designed to reflect the neighbourhood or community which the school is intended to serve. In a period of enrolment growth, it is expected that these boundaries will be altered to address growth related issues such as, accommodation, instruction, transportation.

Where possible, new school boundaries will be based on the following criteria:

- (a) municipal, community or neighbourhood boundaries as defined within Official, Secondary or Community plans;
- (b) local restricting parameters;
 - major roads, highways,
 - rivers,
 - rail lines,
 - hydro corridors,
 - incompatible land uses;
- (c) maximizing the walking population to the school;
- (d) accommodating both a peak population and a mature population adequately on site.

1.2 Adjustments to Existing School Boundaries

- (a) Interim Boundary Adjustments:
 - (i) **Causes:** Interim boundary adjustments are considered for a neighbourhood, school or family of schools in response to a number of problems that can arise:
 - areas where no school boundary exists;
 - in response to enrollment pressures;
 - in response to facility problems due to site constraints, temporary closure, timing of construction, damage due to fire or other catastrophes, etc.
 - (ii) **Time:** Interim boundary adjustments are temporary and should not be considered for periods exceeding three years.

(iii) **Criteria:**

Preferred Alternative - Adjacent School

Where possible, interim school boundaries will take into consideration the nearest adjacent school that meets the following criteria:

- has available capacity or room for portable classrooms to accommodate students who are to be displaced;
- provides a similar program for students;
- is located within the same community or municipality;
- has a walking population component.

Other Alternatives:

Should the nearest adjacent school not meet the above criteria, the two other alternatives are:

Alternative A: a school within the same municipality which is accessible by public or Durham District School Board transportation which meets criteria 1. and 2. in section (iii).

Alternative B: a school within The Durham District School Board which meets criteria 1. and 2. in section (iii).

(b) Permanent Boundary Adjustments:

(i) **Causes:** Permanent boundary adjustments are primarily caused by:

Program Adjustments

- French Immersion or Gifted program relocation or creation;
- JK-6 to JK-8, or 7 & 8 to JK-8 school conversion;
- location of new or unique programs within the Board, etc.

School Closure and Consolidation of School Facilities

Relocation of Student Population

- where no community school will be built;
- when interim measures are extended beyond 3 years;
- in conjunction with previous two examples;
- to accommodate changes in facilities that alter school capacity, etc.

(ii) **Time:** Permanent boundary adjustments are considered for a neighbourhood, school or family of schools when an area is to be affected for a period greater than three years. Permanent boundary adjustments are major projects requiring extensive research and consultation and can have a lengthy period of implementation.

(iii) **Criteria:** Where possible, permanent boundary adjustments will be based on the following criteria:

- maintaining the educational viability of the program in question;
- school facilities must be adaptable to meet program needs and the anticipated student population;
- same criteria as listed in Section 1.1 "New School Boundaries" Sections (a) to (d).

2.0 Consultative Process:

2.1 Decisions regarding school boundaries ultimately rest with the Board. The consultative process is as follows:

- As part of the annual meeting between Planning staff and the Area Superintendents, discussions on the need for a boundary review will occur.
- The Planning Department and the appropriate Superintendent will develop a proposal in consultation with Durham Student Transportation Services. (Financial implications will be included).
- The Superintendent(s) of Education/Area, Transportation Department and the Planning Department will meet with the trustee(s) to discuss the consultative process, review the analysis and plan the public consultation process.
- An Open Session report to Trustees will be presented as information, regarding the commencement of a boundary review.
- The Superintendent(s) of Education/Area will consult with the Principal(s) and School Community Council chair(s) or Executive(s).
- The Superintendent(s) of Education/Area and the appropriate trustee(s) will initiate a public consultation process, involving a minimum of one Open House, with parents/guardians of students to be affected and involve the appropriate Principal(s), the School Community Council chair(s) or executive(s), the Planning Department and Durham Student Transportation Services. Information on the proposal will be outlined at the Open House and input from parents/guardians will be received.
- Based on staff expertise and past practice, it may be determined that a subsequent Open House is required within the process to provide additional information (ie boundary revision based on community feedback, survey results) or to create a community consultation process regarding possible transition plans.
- A dedicated email address and phone line will be set up to gather input, from the time the community are informed of the consultation process, to when an approval has occurred.
- An administrative report will be prepared by the Superintendent(s) of Education/Area in consultation with the Planning Department and Durham Student Transportation Services and presented to Administrative Council. This report will go to the Board for final approval.
- Details of the new or revised school boundaries and implementation will be communicated in writing by the Superintendent(s) of Education/Area to the school community.

2.3 Where possible, finalized details of new or adjusted boundaries will be determined and announced no later than the release of the Official Enrollment Projections preceding the school year in which the boundaries are to be enforced or phased in. This time frame allows for sufficient advance notice to parents, students, trustees, school and administrative staff.

Appendix:

None

Effective Date

98-06-26

Amended/Reviewed

2006-08-02

2012-05-22

2012-10-01

2014-12-04

2019-11-08