

Proposed Secondary Program Strategy 2013

Implications for Ward 1 and 2

Trustees had their first look at this Monday March 25. It proposes boundary changes and changed program offerings to begin in three years time. It was discussed at April's Standing Committee and trustees will debate the recommendations in June 2013.

Student Movement amongst schools will be restricted to the ability to attend system programs or Tier 3 programs, defined as programs only offered at a few schools.

Staff stated the changes are being driven by a desire to have a range of programs available in each school, to provide supports for students in every school, and, where possible, to have school boundaries "designed to include a wide range of students from diverse socio-economic backgrounds."

Implications for Ward 1 and 2 are the largest in the Board. Except for Westdale and the new North (replacing Sir John A Macdonald, Parkview and Delta), most secondary school boundaries remain the same. Westdale is losing the size of some of its programs and gaining system ESL and ALPHA programs. An entirely new program is being proposed for new North.

Boundary Changes:

Westdale's current boundaries include Prince Philip, George R.Allan, Earl Kitchener, Central, Strathcona, and the two middle schools Ryerson and Dalewood. It is proposed that Hess Street, Bennetto, and Dr. Davey be added and these 593 students attend Westdale High School.

Only Queen Victoria s students in Ward 2 will attend the New North secondary school to be located near the Pan Am Games site, near Scott Park, although ESL students from Queen Victoria will go to Westdale

Proposed Programs for new North High School

New North on-the -ground capacity 1,250, predicted to be at 1,282 in 2016, 1,345 in 2020. Drawn from some of Delta and SJAM's boundaries. SJAM has 37% of its students from households living below the low income cut off, Delta has 21%.

Will employ and learn from a new digital approach to student learning, which will have its own broad consultation, beyond the Program Strategy consultation. North will offer Arts and Culture, Digital Media, and Hospitality Secondary Skills High School Majors (SSHMs) as well as NYAWEH, Ontario Public Service Program -- co-op opportunities in the civil service-- , Graduated Support programs for those who need a special education program that helps prepare students for the work place or community, and Extensive Support where students require intensive, continuous, and individualized support. The Wilson Reading program, Jump Math, credit recovery, workplace placements, and a mental health program will be offered if there are enough students who require them. Where there is interest , other programs from SJAM, Parkview, and Delta will continue to be offered.

The Advisory Committee designed to help with the transition of Parkview students to this school will be set up as soon as this Program strategy is approved by trustees.

Proposed Programs for Westdale

Westdale on- the- ground capacity 1,521, predicted 1,769.2. in 2016, 1,687.6 in 2020. Currently 17% of all students live in households below the low income cut off.

Westdale, presently with 450 French Immersion students, will continue to offer **French Immersion**. However, in 2016 French Immersion will commence at Sherwood in Grade 9 with a projected 121 students. The boundary for French Immersion for Westdale students will then be only extended to Dundas and Waterdown. Westdale in 2016 is projected have 416 students . By 2020 Sherwood is projected to have 492 students , and Westdale 406 students.

International Baccalaureate, currently at 284 students, 153 within the present Westdale boundaries, will only be open to students who live within the new Westdale boundaries and Dundas and Waterdown. Ancaster (137 in catchment and 7 out of catchment) and Glendale (23) will be the centres for the system IB programs.

Programs such as Latin, Spanish and Strings will be offered only to those within Westdale's boundaries and where there is interest. They will not be seen as system programs anymore.

New programs will be English –as-a-second language and ALPHA – a program for ESL students who have had interrupted schooling. The Wilson Reading program, Jump Math, credit recovery, workplace placements, and a mental health program will be offered if there are enough students who require them.