



CBE Area I/II - Schools Impacted by New Schools Openings

North Haven School

Session Notes and Evaluation

October 27, 2016

This summary of the feedback from the North Haven School engagement session on the Area I/II Scenario opportunities, challenges and other questions and comments was compiled and summarized by Stantec Consulting Ltd.

November 22, 2016



Number of Attendees: 28

Participating Schools:

Georges P. Vanier
North Haven
Cambrian Heights
Kenneth D. Taylor

Buchanan
Thorncliffe
Rosemount
Simons Valley

Scenario 1 Discussion

OPPORTUNITIES

- Would serve the area between TB Riley and Balmoral.
- Would allow expansion of TLC program.
- Keeps our young kids away from city core
- Since no more than 2 grade levels will ride bus together, it minimizes bullying risks from wider age spread

CHALLENGES

- Long bus rides will lead to attrition from Midnapore School and could make the south program unsustainable. Far north parents are also not interested in busing to Col. Macleod. No Mandarin program parents want this option.
- French Immersion – will there be room for new students? i.e. King George student from home area.
- Faith in the CBE's projections – have under-predicted every year.
- Maturity level of Grade 5 students on the same school as Grade 9.
- Coming from Simons Valley School, scenario seems most disruptive for our school. Seems like a disjointed plan.
- Lose chance to turn Georges P. Vanier into Immersion Centre of Excellence for all immersions kids in Area. Kids in alternate programs expect to bus farther than regular stream kids.

Scenario 2 Discussion

OPPORTUNITIES

- Transportation is easier. Students can walk to school.
- Keeps Kincora/Simons Valley and MacEwan student cohort together at Simon Fraser.
- Would allow Mandarin program to stay at Colonel Irvine.

CHALLENGES

- A majority of Midnapore school parents have indicated they will not bus their children to Colonel Irvine. It is 30 km. from our current school. Deerfoot Trail is the fastest route to Colonel Irvine. This creates safety concerns. Many parents have said they will remove their children from the south program if junior high is in the north. Particularly if Midnapore Mandarin is changed from a K-4.
- Now the kids need to travel farther past 2-3 communities for grades 5-9.
- Distance to Colonel Macleod is too far for student to travel.



- Location of school undesirable - Colonel Macleod on 16th Ave NE.
- Evanston students have a greater distance to travel to and from school – currently at Georges P. Vanier.
- Colonel Macleod has few community students. Transient population at the school due to it being used as an overflow school.
- Challenges for students attending Colonel Macleod who have after school programs, i.e. team sports.
- Keeping students (cohorts) together in a regular program combined with an alternative program.
- Maturity level of Grade 6 students challenging to enter a school with Grades 7-9.
- No benefit to sending Evanston kids to Colonel Macleod
- Too far away to allow kids to participate in any after-school activity (even academic support)
- Long bus ride with wide age spread encourages bullying
- School has no local kids so there can be no sense of community spirit which is a major reason we chose a regular community school over TLC or Charter program
- Too far away for parents to support school

Scenario 3 Discussion

OPPORTUNITIES

- Students are more mature in Grade 7 to be entering junior high at Tom Baines.
- To fill all classrooms at Tom Baines.
- Shorter bus ride for Evanston students.
- Shorter bus ride, therefore, less opportunity for bullying with only Grades 5 & 6 on the bus.
- Simon Fraser is a well-established school community and needed resources.
- Hamptons to absorb Edgemont elementary students.
- Would allow Mandarin program to stay at Colonel Irvine.
- Best scenario for Evanston kids. Sending kids to two established schools in safe neighbourhoods. Comparatively short drive would allow kids to participate in after-school activity. Only two grades in bus discourages bullying. Close enough for parents (or at closest option) to support school

CHALLENGES

- Students are concerned about being moved. Students want input. Grade 5 students are looking forward to Grade 6 at their current school.
- Grade 5 students not ready to integrate with older students in junior high.
- Break up the community feel of a school (Rosemont parent)
- Keep Kincora and Simons Valley students together for elementary and junior high.
- Evanston kids will be unable to stay with friends in other communities that they make in grades 5 and 6. While I sympathize. This loss is worth it to keep them in safe areas, closer to home.



Other Questions and Comments

GENERAL

- Implementation: would this process be phased in or all at once?
- Would students with one year remaining at a school be allowed to stay at that school?
- Will students moving to junior high still have recess, a home room, outdoor school?
- What will be involved in the logistics of Grade 6 students moving to a junior high school? One teacher per home room? Do they have to move rooms for each subject class?
- What is the time frame for the CBE to commit to the scenarios that are chosen?
- What will the bus route be from Evanston to Colonel Macleod be? On Deerfoot Trail? Calgary Transit?
- North Haven School has no changes but is showing as under-capacity. What is the plan for this school? Will enrollment increase due to population changes or is this school slated for closure? Please don't close our school. There are lots of families in the neighbourhood.
- Kincora students would attend K-6 vs. K-4?
- North Haven School is under capacity in all scenarios. Will the enrollment increase or decrease at that school? Projected numbers, please.
- Will this process start over again when more new schools are built? What is the longevity of decisions?
- Appreciation that Simon Fraser is an option for Evanston students.
- What is the time frame for implementation of each scenario?
- Helpful to have the information available well ahead of the sessions.

SCENARIO 1

- Will there be room for new students in French Immersion, i.e. King George student from home area?
- Regarding moving the Hampton's kids to Grades 5-9, is there any separation for the Grade 5-6 kids or are they grouped together with the junior high kids?
- Could Simon Fraser be considered as a TLC middle school?

SCENARIO 2

- Will students have the opportunity to stay at their school for their last year in that division i.e. Grade 9?
- Edgemont is not over capacity so why change it?
- Instead of separating Hampton's to two different schools (Grade 5-6 at Captain John Palliser and Grades 7-9 at Simon Fraser) can you just consolidate them together (Grades 5 – 9) at one school?

SCENARIO 3

- Does this scenario allow room for growth?
- Is there an opportunity for them to go to Tom Baines?
- Will there be student engagement with regards to Grade 5 students staying at their current school for Grade 6? Desires – to be top dog at school, safety patrols, cookie day. Would Grade 6 student at Tom Baines have these same opportunities?
- Would Grade 5's and 6's at Tom Baines be separated from Grade 7-9 students?



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dialogue)))

- Students are concerned about being moved and they want input. Grade 5 students are looking forward to Grade 6 at their current school
- How will the CBE assist with the transition of students integrating into a junior high school? Will there be school tours? How will the CBE equip those students for the transition?
- Can we look at the Hampton's taking Edgemont K-6 overflow and then Tom Baines taking Hampton's 7-9 as is?
- Parents may choose an alternative program if the outcome is undesirable for their child's community/regular program (Rosemont parent)