



CBE Area V - Schools Impacted by New Schools Openings

**New Options for Woodlands and Woodbine Communities
Engagement Summary**

January 19, 2017

This summary of the feedback from the John Ware School engagement session on the Area V Scenario opportunities, challenges and other questions and comments was compiled and summarized by CBE.

January 29, 2017



Number of Attendees: 57

Affected Schools: Woodman School
Harold Panabaker School
John Ware School

Group 1

Option 1

Opportunity

- If the lottery doesn't come into play, could be a great way for kids to go together from both communities

Challenge

- Could see siblings going to both schools due to lottery
- Looks like enrolment will still be low enough at Harold Panabaker that having good options will be an issue
- Not sure that the overcrowding issue in the survey was valid
- Harold Panabaker never had a rep as a regular program school – good to have principal here
- Have already seen that with the high schools
- Creates have / have not schools

Questions

- How does lottery affect younger siblings wanting to follow?
- Since most parents engaged will have kids through the schools by 2020, couldn't we just try the October scenario and make the change later if necessary?
- What happens to kids that already at Woodman? Do they still get transportation?
- Could siblings still qualify for grandfathering at Woodman?

Option 2

Opportunity

- Option 2 keeps kids together and diminishes unfairness of lottery
- Keeps kids together – great established sense of community
- Lottery seems very stressful, much better to have the certainty of a clear feeder system

Challenge

- Not enough time for good engagement compared to other schools
- Both communities very integrated, would have been nice to keep both together as per the October scenario
- Sees a lot of challenges with so many different communities in one school on Option 2

Questions

- Does the orange line show capacity? Why were we presented an option that hit capacity in five years?



- How can we be certain options won't change again?
- Would which neighbourhood is designated to which school going to be presented as part of the survey?

Group 2

Option 1

Opportunity

- Where students go now (Woodman) is further than either John Ware or Harold Panabaker
- Harold Panabaker slightly closer to Woodlands
- People like that John Ware closer to home and close to Southland Leisure Centre (SLC). SLC provides extra benefit and makes John Ware possibly a preferred choice.
- Friends nice but more important for each student to focus on what is best for their individual learning
- Many may choose the closer John Ware
- Transitional meetings and opportunities for smooth

Challenge

- Not knowing for sure where child will go to school is a challenge with Option 1
- May be perception one school is closer than another (John Ware closer than Harold Panabaker perception)

Option 2

Opportunity

- Where students go now (Woodman) is further than either John Ware or Harold Panabaker
- Would work better, not split students from same school to different schools
- Good for keeping students together
- Best not to exceed 85% for any school

Challenge

- Concern that we could be looking at change again without knowing more about – minimum number of students, bottom threshold?

General Questions / Comments

- Why would we think there would be an even split between two schools?
- How are projections created?
- How will we decide which community goes to which school?
- Possible for Woodlands and Woodbine to attend Harold Panabaker together?
- What would happen with students currently at Woodman?
 - Space available at Woodman, haven't decided re: grandfathering
 - Kids with one year left at Woodman could likely stay for final year
- We will ensure registration kept open to allow students to register for program and school they want



- Minimum number of students, bottom threshold?
- When will we know more about Mandarin?

Group 3

Option 1

Opportunity

- John Ware good reputation and it is close to Southland Leisure Centre
- Alleviates the numbers – getting to capacity
- At 85% utilization rates – get resources / more options / benefits
- Value on having cohorts staying together (40-50 per grade planning)
- Choice is good! Preference is good. If student has a close friend – you can plan together
- Keep cohorts together
- Both schools have strong athletics / drama
- Kids close to home

Challenge

- Nobody wants to travel Anderson Road
- Concern John Ware is space – when numbers get high will start to have to use library etc., class size would go up
- Most parents do not want lottery process – could break up cohorts - negative
- Nervousness around the lottery
- Not an awareness of what Harold Panabaker has to offer
- Both schools stand to change – John Ware and Harold Panabaker
- Very random on how students (out of bounds) get into John Ware (not uniform – very inconsistent – no lottery process)
 - Want a choice with lottery as the last resort
- Worry about the option because most know John Ware so most would pick John Ware and then we will be in a lottery process
- Worry about one community going to Panabaker with other communities going in
- Lottery is most fair but scary

Option 2

Opportunity

- John Ware good reputation and it is close to Southland Leisure Centre
- Alleviates the numbers – getting to capacity
- At 85% utilization rates – get resources / more options / benefits
- Both schools have strong athletics / drama
- Kids close to home



Challenge

- Nobody wants to travel Anderson Road
- Concern John Ware is space – when numbers get high will start to have to use library etc., class size would go up
- Not an awareness of what Harold Panabaker has to offer

General Questions /Comments

- Grandfathering – implementation decision to be made
 - Potential to stay for those already in the building at Woodman School
- Could we do a combination of option 1 and 2?
- Survey coming out after this survey
- Positive comments about the scenarios offered in October session
- Accuracy of numbers – rate spaces in the rooms (utilization rates – 85%)
- How to promote choice?
- Want the survey – to be able to choose where the students want to do
- Harold Panabaker has a very cohesive culture (what is there today)
- Would like a tour of Harold Panabaker
- Would like to know more about Harold Panabaker
- Are they able to provide options? – Harold Panabaker
- Both junior highs go to Henry Wise Wood High School
- Transportation issues
 - Preferred access route having city transit accessible
 - Nice option that transit is available
- Can student apply at John Ware as out of boundary student?



Participant Engagement Evaluation

In-person Session | Woodlands, Woodbine, John Ware, Woodman – January 19, 2017 at Area V Office, Haysboro Centre

Number of participants in attendance: 57

Number of evaluations completed: 39

To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements:

P1) I was encouraged to share my thoughts and/or feedback during this engagement.

33 Agree☺ **6** Somewhat Agree☺ **0** Somewhat Disagree☺ **0** Disagree☺ **0** Not Applicab☺

P2) I was able to ask questions and learn about the opportunity for input/feedback prior to my participation in this engagement.

27 Agree☺ **9** Somewhat Agree☺ **2** Somewhat Disagree☺ **0** Disagree☺ **1** Not Applicab☺

- It would have been helpful to know about the Panabaker option in advance

P3) I had the information I needed to participate in a meaningful way.

15 Agree☺ **19** Somewhat Agree☺ **5** Somewhat Disagree☺ **0** Disagree☺ **0** Not Applicab☺

- It would have been meaningful /useful to know about Panabaker option prior to tonight.
- This time, not last
- No prior awareness of the 2 options or Panabaker School

P4) I was able to provide input on the best way for me to share my thoughts and ideas.

21 Agree☺ **14** Somewhat Agree☺ **1** Somewhat Disagree☺ **0** Disagree☺ **3** Not Applicab☺

P5) I clearly understand all of the factors being considered in the decision making process and which of these factors I can and cannot influence.

17 Agree☺ **17** Somewhat Agree☺ **2** Somewhat Disagree☺ **2** Disagree☺ **0** Not Applicab☺

P6) My input was documented as part of the engagement process.

25 Agree☺ **11** Somewhat Agree☺ **1** Somewhat Disagree☺ **0** Disagree☺ **2** Not Applicab☺



P7) What did you like most about this engagement? What did you like least about this engagement?

Comment: 16 No Comment: 23

- Well led
- Choices better to help children exceed in their interests. Grandfathering important. Proximity important. Everyone voice opinion, learn a lot.
Feels a little vague? With answers as it's hard to make decisions on new information. Where are the John Ware parents? They brought up these issues...
- Where are the John Ware parents? There were only a handful of us who have kids in both
Is there the option still for both groups to go to John Ware?
500 students seems really small for a Jr. high
What about Woodman?
It feels like the existing parents and John Ware didn't want students from Woodbine/Woodlands so now only one group will get to go.
- I liked: providing graphs and numbers gives a better picture of things
I think if you had provided the information in writing it would have been more helpful. Thank you for all your help!
- Agreement of comment not reflected. Variety of comments does not equal consensus.
- Liked: Option 2
- I was unaware of the Panabaker option going into the discussion
- I would have like more technical information being available prior to the meeting, and in a take-away package.
- Very organized and run.
- Good opp. For discussion.
- It seems like the first session (Oct.) was done improperly without due diligence in preparing options. This one provided more data behind the options.
- Would like to see CBE still consider the original option of both schools feeding to John Ware.
- Sharing circle is pointless and seems silly
- Least: We don't really know how the CBE will make their final decision. Not knowing which school our community would be going to if Option 2 is the final choice.
Most: It helps to hear what other parents are thinking.
- Clear info given.
- Well done!