

TO: Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board

TOPIC: **City of Peterborough Secondary Schools – Group Pupil Accommodation Review**

INITIATOR: W.R. (Rusty) Hick, Director of Education  
Peter Mangold, Superintendent, Student Achievement

**BACKGROUND**

1. The Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board approved the following motions on December 16, 2010:
  - (a) That, in accordance with Board Policy No. BA-1.2, Pupil Accommodation Review: School Closure/Consolidation, which relates to pupil accommodation reviews, Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute and Intermediate School, Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute and Intermediate School, Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational School, and Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School, be identified for a group review and possible closure(s).
  - (b) That, in accordance with Board Policy No. BA-1.2, Pupil Accommodation Review: School Closure/Consolidation, an Accommodation Review Committee be formed to conduct a review of Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute and Intermediate School, Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute and Intermediate School, Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational School, and Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School.
2. This accommodation review was initially referenced in March 2007 as part of the Board's Ten Year Capital Needs Assessment, and was made for two key reasons: the impact of fewer students on programming, and the excess capacity of the four secondary schools.
3. In accordance with Ministry of Education and Board policy, the committee was comprised of a cross-section of stakeholders representing the four school communities, and held four public meetings: February 3, 2011, February 28, 2011, April 7, 2011, and May 12, 2011. The committee heard 59 public delegations and received extensive information regarding enrolment, growth projections, and the capacity of the schools in relation to the issues and concerns considered as part of the review.

Trustees have been provided with all information made available to the committee.
4. On May 26, 2011 a final report from the Accommodation Review Committee was submitted to the Board, and included the following recommendations, that:

1. The programming in the four secondary schools offered in the City of Peterborough be consolidated into three secondary schools.
  2. In order to maximize program opportunities for students, the committee further recommends that:
    - 2.1 A closure of a school be the last resort in order to address programming issues.
    - 2.2 If a school were to be closed and sold, the monies from the sale would be distributed proportionately among the three remaining secondary schools based on enrolments.
  3. The Board review its policies and procedures which govern the organizational structure and proceedings of Accommodation Review Committees.
5. At the June 23, 2011 Board meeting an administrative report was presented on the City of Peterborough Secondary Schools – Group Pupil Accommodation Review, with recommendations for decision at the September 29, 2011 Board meeting.

The report included the following supported options:

- 5.1 The closure of Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School, as detailed within Scenario D, effective September 2012.
- 5.2 The phasing out, over two years, of Kenner Intermediate School, beginning in September 2012. Keith Wightman Public School, Otonabee Valley Public School, and Roger Neilson Public School would move to a Kindergarten to Grade 7 model in September 2012, and to Kindergarten to Grade 8 by September 2013.
- 5.3 The re-purposing, contingent upon feasibility, of the Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School site to house our Board's Education Centre, as well as be the home for a specialized school learning environment for elementary and secondary students.

This specialized school will be focused on intensive science/technology and environmental science programming for students from across our jurisdiction. The school will also allow for experiential learning opportunities for Grade 7 and 8 students, as well as a combined staff and student leadership centre.

- 5.4 The disposal of the Board's property at 1994 Fisher Drive, Peterborough, Ontario. Further enhancements to existing Peterborough secondary school facilities will be explored.

Alternative courses of action:

- 5.5 Closure of Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational School, with dispersal of students as detailed in scenario within Section 9. above.
- 5.6 Retention of Peterborough Collegiate Vocational School site for use in providing alternative student programming.

Least preferred course of action:

- 5.7 Closure of Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute or Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute.
6. An interim report was provided to the Board at its August 25, 2011 meeting. This report included updates on:
    - the status of the feasibility study being conducted to explore the possibility of relocating the Education Centre to the Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School site;
    - the potential capital expenses related to upgrading accessibility provisions at Peterborough Collegiate Vocational School; and,
    - the potential real estate value of the Education Centre.
  7. On September 16, 2011, the feasibility study on the possible move of the Education Centre to the Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School site was received by administration and released publicly. As a result of this study, administration no longer deems it to be financially feasible to relocate the Education Centre.

## **STATUS**

8. Ministry of Education directives, as well as Board Policy No. BA-1.2, Pupil Accommodation Review: School Closure/Consolidation have been adhered to, therefore allowing for a decision in relation to a school closure to be considered at the September 29, 2011 Regular Board meeting.
9. Administration has carefully reviewed all available information, as well as the recommendations of the ARC. In order to best support our students, administration supports the recommendation of the ARC to consolidate the programming of the four city high schools into three schools.
10. It is important to note administration's strong belief that all our schools are tremendously valued by our students, staff, parents, alumni, and community. This truly is among the most difficult decisions a district school board can make, and administration has a responsibility to do what is best for both the short and the long-term interests of our students. Current and future students will be affected whichever path is chosen. If no school should close, students at all four schools will continue to see a less than optimal selection of courses that they

want and need as well as decreased extracurricular opportunities and a reduced teaching staff, which also limits programming options. There will be further erosion of programming as enrolment continues to decline.

A consolidation of the four schools into three would create better programming options for all students. In addition, it will be incumbent upon senior staff to explore significant enhancements to the existing facilities, including program needs and accessibility issues, in light of a consolidation, regardless of whether a building is eventually sold.

11. There are least preferred options for school closure, and those that are more preferred. It is the opinion of administration that the least preferred options are to close either Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute or Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute. This is for the reasons outlined in the June report, which includes the attributes of both these schools as fully composite facilities, which are accessible for disabled persons, and geographically situated well to serve existing student populations as well as possible future growth.

Either of the following two options if selected will provide enhanced programming for secondary students in the City of Peterborough:

#### **Closure of Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School**

**Consolidate existing programming at Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School into Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute, Crestwood Secondary School, Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute, and Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational School, effective September 2012.**

This option includes the following implementation aspects:

- Students living in the North Shore Public School catchment area being redirected to attend Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute.
- Students living in the Armour Heights Public School catchment area being given the option of attending either Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational School or Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute.
- Students from Omemee would be redirected to attend Crestwood Secondary School.

There are several key considerations identified as part of this option, including the following:

- current and projected enrolment
- location (not projected as growth area)
- location in connection with other four schools
- distribution of students would benefit enrolment at each of the other schools

- most significant impact on On The Ground Capacity (OTG)
- highest possible resale

### **Closure of Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational School**

**Consolidate existing programming at Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational School into Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute, Crestwood Secondary School, Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute, and Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School, effective September 2012.**

This option includes the following implementation aspects:

- The Integrated Arts program moving to Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School.
- All senior students to be given the option of moving with their fellow students to Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School for the remainder of their high school years, and be provided transportation as per Board policy.
- Junior students (currently in Grades 9 and 10, other than Integrated Arts program students) being relocated to either Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute (for those in the Highland Heights Public School and Queen Mary Public School catchment areas), Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute (for those located in the Prince of Wales Public School catchment area), or Crestwood Secondary School (for those living in the Westmount catchment area).
- \* Students will of course continue to be able to attend French Immersion at Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute and the International Baccalaureate at Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute regardless of home location. In addition, all students may apply for out-of-boundary status on an individual basis.

There are several key considerations identified as part of this option, including the following:

- projected enrolment
- size of the site
- non-composite facility
- distribution of students would benefit enrolment at each of the other schools
- strong location for alternative usage

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That existing programming at Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational School be consolidated into Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute, Crestwood Secondary School, Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute, and Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School, effective September 2012.

2. That administration consider locating alternative services and programming including the Peterborough Centre for Individual Studies, at Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational School as outlined in the administrative report of June 23, 2011, for decision at a later date.
3. That a decision regarding the future of Kenner Intermediate School be considered at the October 27, 2011 Board meeting.
4. That in accordance with Board Policy No. BA-1.2, Pupil Accommodation Review: School Closure/Consolidation, a transition implementation committee be struck for the City of Peterborough secondary schools.
5. That the City of Peterborough Secondary Schools – Group Pupil Accommodation Review report, dated September 29, 2011, be received for action and information.

W.R. (Rusty) Hick  
Director of Education