

HALIFAX REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD
Rescind Motion for Boundary Review of
Charles P. Allen High and Sir John A Macdonald High Schools

PURPOSE: To request that the Governing Board rescind the motion for a Boundary Review that includes Hammonds Plains Consolidated, Kingswood Elementary, Madeline Symonds Middle, Charles P. Allen High, Tantallon Elementary, Five Bridges Junior High and Sir John A. Macdonald High Schools.

BACKGROUND: At the September 28, 2011 Regular Board meeting, the Governing Board approved a recommendation from report 11-08-1313 for a boundary review of schools in the Charles P. Allen High Family of Schools, specifically: Bedford South, Basinview Drive Community, Sunnyside Elementary, Kingswood Elementary, Madeline Symonds Middle and Bedford Junior High schools.

The Bedford Boundary Review was completed April 25, 2012. At that time the Governing Board approved several motions in response to staff report recommendations from the Bedford Boundary Review (report 12-04-1341). One of the motions approved a future boundary review as noted below:

It was moved and seconded (Blumenthal-Harrison/Yee) that the Board approve the recommendation from senior staff to direct staff to carry out a boundary review which would include the following schools:

*Hammonds Plains Consolidated School,
Kingswood Elementary School,
Madeline Symonds Middle School,
Charles P. Allen High School,
Tantallon Elementary School,
Five Bridges Junior High School,
Sir John A. Macdonald High School.*

Due to other boundary review priorities being completed in the last two years, and the subsequent development of a provincial School Review Policy, this Boundary review has not yet been initiated.

In October 2014 the province approved the provincial School Review Policy for use by all school boards. The Policy requires a Long-Range Outlook to be prepared by School Boards.

The policy also states that “A school board’s decision to review a group of schools is informed by, and a school review is conducted in the context of, the information contained in the Long-Range Outlook.”

The HRSB Long-Range Outlook (Report 2015-04-13) was approved by the Governing Board at the Regular Board meeting on April 22,

2015 and will inform the Board on future recommendations for processes such as school reviews, boundary reviews, grade configuration and capital construction requests.

CONTENT:

HRSB staff has developed a prioritized Long-Range Outlook Action Plan. The priorities have been determined after consideration of Board wide facility pressures such as aging infrastructure and the impacts of increasing and decreasing enrollment.

In the context of the information now available from the Long-Range Outlook, the motion of the Governing Board for the Boundary Review does not reflect the priorities evident from the Long-Range Outlook data nor does it consider alternative solutions to address some of the facility concerns in this region of the Board.

For example, the overutilization within the Sir John A Macdonald High Family of Schools might be addressed through grade reconfiguration or capital funding request without impacting the CPA Family of Schools.

It is understood that data in the Long-Range Outlook may support the requirement for a Boundary Review or School Options Committee School Review for some of the schools identified (or not identified) in the original motion. If so, initiation of a Review will be presented to the Governing Board for approval, but this would occur within the sequence and scope of the Long-Range Outlook Action Plan.

COST:

N/A.

FUNDING:

N/A.

TIMELINE:

N/A.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A: Capacity utilization Charts for Charles P. Allen and Sir John A. Macdonald High Families of Schools from Long-Range Outlook.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the Governing Board rescind the motion to direct staff to carry out a Boundary Review which would include the following schools:

Hammonds Plains Consolidated School,
Kingswood Elementary School,
Madeline Symonds Middle School,
Charles P. Allen High School,
Tantallon Elementary School,
Five Bridges Junior High School,
Sir John A. Macdonald High School.

COMMUNICATIONS:

AUDIENCE	RESPONSIBLE	TIMELINE
Principals of Schools Included in Motion	Director Operations Services	Upon Decision by Governing Board

From:

For further information please contact:

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To:

Senior Staff: October 6, 2015
Board: October 28, 2015

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Date last revised: *October 12, 2015*

Appendix A: Capacity Utilization Charts (HRSB Long-Range Outlook)

