

**Auburn, Cole Harbour Families of Schools  
School Options Committee Meeting Notes**

May 1, 2017

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Cole Harbour District High

**Purpose**

- To receive and approve the April 24<sup>th</sup> minutes
- To review update from the HRSB
- To review revised scenarios and work towards preferred scenario
- To accept/reject scenarios
- To discuss the next public meeting

**Notes**

Agenda Item and Discussion	Actions																																												
<p><b>Call to Order:</b> At 6:36 by Co-Chairs</p> <p><b>Overview of agenda and purpose:</b> As per previously circulated agenda.</p> <p><i>In attendance:</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 35%;">Coralee Dyck</td> <td>Cole Harbour District High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Scott MacDonald</td> <td>Cole Harbour District High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tasha Neal</td> <td>Ross Road School</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amanda Anthony</td> <td>Ross Road School</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Robin Heffler</td> <td>Sir Robert Borden J.H.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sandra Derby</td> <td>Sir Robert Borden J.H.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amanda Lowery</td> <td>Atlantic View Elem.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kimberley Aselstine</td> <td>Colonel John Stuart Elem.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Heather Deighan</td> <td>Colonel John Stuart Elem.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adele Dionne</td> <td>George Bissett Elem.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Keri-Lee MacDonald</td> <td>Robert Kemp Turner Elem.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jennifer Collier</td> <td>Robert Kemp Turner Elem.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chris White</td> <td>Robert Kemp Turner Elem.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dawn Torrealba</td> <td>Auburn Drive High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Corrie Anderson</td> <td>Astral Drive J.H.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Margaret Rao</td> <td>Astral Drive J.H.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Krista Dicks</td> <td>Graham Creighton J.H.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Heidi Stevenson</td> <td>Astral Drive Elem.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shannon Parsons</td> <td>Astral Drive Elem.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jill Warren</td> <td>Caldwell Road Elem.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jessica Quillan</td> <td>Caldwell Road Elem.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Craig Hirtle</td> <td>Colby Village Elem.</td> </tr> </table>	Coralee Dyck	Cole Harbour District High	Scott MacDonald	Cole Harbour District High	Tasha Neal	Ross Road School	Amanda Anthony	Ross Road School	Robin Heffler	Sir Robert Borden J.H.	Sandra Derby	Sir Robert Borden J.H.	Amanda Lowery	Atlantic View Elem.	Kimberley Aselstine	Colonel John Stuart Elem.	Heather Deighan	Colonel John Stuart Elem.	Adele Dionne	George Bissett Elem.	Keri-Lee MacDonald	Robert Kemp Turner Elem.	Jennifer Collier	Robert Kemp Turner Elem.	Chris White	Robert Kemp Turner Elem.	Dawn Torrealba	Auburn Drive High	Corrie Anderson	Astral Drive J.H.	Margaret Rao	Astral Drive J.H.	Krista Dicks	Graham Creighton J.H.	Heidi Stevenson	Astral Drive Elem.	Shannon Parsons	Astral Drive Elem.	Jill Warren	Caldwell Road Elem.	Jessica Quillan	Caldwell Road Elem.	Craig Hirtle	Colby Village Elem.	
Coralee Dyck	Cole Harbour District High																																												
Scott MacDonald	Cole Harbour District High																																												
Tasha Neal	Ross Road School																																												
Amanda Anthony	Ross Road School																																												
Robin Heffler	Sir Robert Borden J.H.																																												
Sandra Derby	Sir Robert Borden J.H.																																												
Amanda Lowery	Atlantic View Elem.																																												
Kimberley Aselstine	Colonel John Stuart Elem.																																												
Heather Deighan	Colonel John Stuart Elem.																																												
Adele Dionne	George Bissett Elem.																																												
Keri-Lee MacDonald	Robert Kemp Turner Elem.																																												
Jennifer Collier	Robert Kemp Turner Elem.																																												
Chris White	Robert Kemp Turner Elem.																																												
Dawn Torrealba	Auburn Drive High																																												
Corrie Anderson	Astral Drive J.H.																																												
Margaret Rao	Astral Drive J.H.																																												
Krista Dicks	Graham Creighton J.H.																																												
Heidi Stevenson	Astral Drive Elem.																																												
Shannon Parsons	Astral Drive Elem.																																												
Jill Warren	Caldwell Road Elem.																																												
Jessica Quillan	Caldwell Road Elem.																																												
Craig Hirtle	Colby Village Elem.																																												



Agenda Item and Discussion	Actions
<p>was noted that all schools are consistently being represented at the School Options Committee meetings by at least one of their representatives.</p> <p>The Facilitators are awaiting a reply from the Halifax Regional School Board in regards to last week's question about the BLAC report.</p> <p>Adele Dionne noted that school tours will take place the next two Saturdays. The Halifax Regional School Board will be providing a school bus from Stock Transportation. Pick up will be at Cole Harbour District High at 9:00 a.m., ending at 4:00 p.m. A total of 15 schools are currently on the list to be toured, so an itinerary will be created and passed out to all Committee members. Each school tour is allotted 45 minutes to an hour. Committee members are welcome to attend as many school tours as they wish.</p> <p>Thanks were extended to Adele and the other SOC members participating in the tour.</p>	<p><b>Adele to create and distribute itinerary of school tours.</b></p>
<p><b>Scenarios and Evaluation Matrix:</b></p> <p>Shannon Parsons, Co-Chair reviewed the results of the survey that was sent to the Committee members.</p> <p>A discussion ensued regarding what options will be brought forward to the next public meeting. A conversation took place surrounding extra-curricular activities and concerns were vocalized. It was suggested that ideally more than one option would be brought forward to the next public meeting, in order the engage the community.</p> <p>It was noted that more than one option can be brought forward to the community to inform them of what options were discussed and to demonstrate the depth of work and the familiarity of SOC members with the data. However, one of the options being brought forward to the community should be a preferred option as per direction in the school review policy.</p> <p>It was requested that the results of a previous matrix that evaluated high school options be distributed.</p> <p>The importance of receiving feedback from the public was discussed. A conversation ensued regarding how best to ensure public feedback is secured.</p>	<p><b>LaMeia to ensure previous matrix results are brought back at a subsequent meeting or shared by email.</b></p>

Agenda Item and Discussion	Actions
<p>It was noted that there was an announcement last week regarding new programs for children aged four, to be implemented in schools over the next several years. These programs could likely have a bearing on elementary schools.</p> <p>It was noted that the report of the Council to Improve Classroom Conditions has recommended classroom caps and more teachers. This information could also impact schools.</p> <p>A conversation ensued regarding over capacity in some schools, grade configurations and French Immersion. Out of area students were also discussed.</p> <p>Craig gave a quick synopsis of how the options presented tonight were modeled and built on options received since last week. He noted there had been 15 scenarios at one time on the spreadsheet. Through the various processes of the Committee, there were five tonight for the Committee's review. The survey conducted online over the last week indicated support for certain options. It was noted that the data from the spreadsheet came from the data in binders provided by the Halifax Regional School Board.</p> <p>A conversation ensued regarding what further information is necessary to move forward. LaMeia Reddick, Facilitator, summarized what the plan was when breaking out in groups.</p> <p>It was noted that it's important to remember that any frustrations expressed are not at each other, but at the school review process itself.</p> <p>The Committee broke out into small groups to arrive at three options that have been considered from the perspective of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What works well with this option?</li> <li>• What else needs to be considered?</li> <li>• What other information is required?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Decisions:</b></p> <p>It was noted that the next meeting will start in small groups to continue with the work started tonight.</p> <p>Adele noted a reminder email will be sent out regarding the schools tours.</p>	<p><b>For next week's agenda.</b></p> <p><b>Adele to send out an updated email regarding school tours.</b></p>

<b>Agenda Item and Discussion</b>	<b>Actions</b>
Athena Leclair, Administrative Assistant will type up the comments for each option and forward to the Facilitators.	<b>Athena Leclair, Administrative Assistant to distribute typed comments to Facilitators by end of day Friday.</b>
<b>Close:</b>	
<b>Adjournment:</b> The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m. by consensus.	

## SOC Option Feedback – May 1, 2017

<b>Option B – 14 dots</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SRB only closure in this area</li> <li>• Early French Immersion at Colby &amp; Joseph Giles or RKT</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not close 1 school and divide children into more than 2 other schools</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elementary – Col John split into 3 different schools isn't ideal</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closing SRB &amp; Col John isn't ideal as both are in the same catchment area</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• F.1 recommendation do add in central Forest Hills Early</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What rationale I there to keep a building open for only 2 grade levels</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Too many kids bussed</li> <li>• FH SRB &amp; R/R</li> <li>• If Growth need another school</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ross Road boundary change – Coleridge, and possibly more (John Stewart, Smith, Cole, etc.) to lower % @ Bissett</li> <li>• Move RR for Early French Immersion (from Bell Park)</li> <li>• Greater access</li> <li>• Increased utilization</li> </ul>	
	<b>Option I – 12 dots</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What about Blac Report!! We can't close Humber Park &amp; Nelson Whynder</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closing 3 elementaries in Option I results in 577 seats</li> <li>• Closing 1 Junior High SRB results in 522 seats</li> <li>• So close 3 or 1??</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• My vote, condition that Elementary = Humber but <u>not</u> Nelson Whynder &amp; Atlantic View Dual + (6-8) + 1 closure only</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6-8 – why divide 81 stud.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 Elementary Schools = 577 Seats</li> <li>• SRB = 522 seats alone</li> <li>• Why close 3???</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Option I with parts of J</li> <li>• Humber Park, Nelson Whynder – can these close re: blac report</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modification to Option I</li> <li>• Junior High 7-8</li> <li>• Elem: Humber Park surplus split between Joseph Giles &amp; Nelson Whynder</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Atlantic View kids that are bused NEED to go to O'Connell</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6-8 JR High</li> <li>• P-5 Elementries + grade JR. Kindeg. (4) + growth</li> </ul>		
<b>Option M – no dots</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No JH option?</li> <li>• Joseph Giles split between 3 schools if it's closed</li> <li>• Not ideal</li> </ul>