



RECONFIGURATION Secondary Working Committee

REPORT To: Reconfiguration Advisory Committee
REPORT Date: October 10, 2017

Secondary Working Committee Membership:

CSS	Sharon Bernard, Jason Templeton
Ed Centre	Sean Wicker
FVDES	Todd Mclean, Dennis Miller
GWG	Shane Wiseman, Hugh Longhurst
SSS	Dan Heisler/Lynnet Schramm, Brad Geary
District Office	Rohan Arul-pragasam (Assistant Superintendent – Committee Chair)

MANDATE:

The Secondary School Implementation Working Committee will provide information and recommendations regarding reconfiguring all three high schools and the Education Centre to a grade 9-12 model to the Implementation Advisory Committee, Board of Education and Superintendent.

MISSION:

"To successfully implement the transition to a grade 9-12 high school framework effective September 2018, while meeting the academic, social and emotional needs of students in our Community."

TERMS OF REFERENCE:

The Committee will garner feedback from school working committees, receive presentations, explore issues, review recommendations and implement feasible solutions after reporting back to schools and the Advisory Committee.

Upcoming Working Committee Meetings (minimum):

- November 9th, 2017
- January 18th, 2018
- February 15th, 2018
- April 5th, 2018
- May 10th, 2018
- May 31st, 2018

Note: Other meetings will be scheduled as required.





REPORT:

Secondary Working Committee Meeting – October 5th, 2017

- Boundary Review and Feeder School Relationships – feedback and questions:
 - Currently understanding the information that has been conveyed.
 - Have been listening to staff regarding their positions and where their children will go, as well as questions about property values because some students may no longer be able to walk to all elementary schools.
 - Have been getting questions from parents about when wait lists will begin.
 - What support is in place for French Immersions students who want to stay at their school?
 - The “why” of reconfiguration has to be clearly laid out as well as the impact across the system.
 - It is about how best to support students, esp. at risk students, it is about how to advance supports for students.
 - GWG becomes the biggest school with the smallest physical space – is that because of the French Immersion group?
 - We have to look at the space at GWG and students who choose to go to Sardis.
 - Over the long term Sardis will continue to be the largest.
 - Positive reaction by staff at GWG. What does French Immersion bring?
 - Gives a mandate to identify the types of courses we have to create at GWG.
 - If you can't make a new foods space or a new gym, then just regular classrooms but may need investments in technology depending on course offerings
 - Slesse would be changed over a grade at a time?
 - The challenge with be the Unsworth growth, it will impact the Sardis side.
 - Continue to collect information – especially need feedback on the things we haven't thought about yet.

- Boomerang Project Peer Mentoring LINK Crew Training
 - This training has been very effective in other school districts (e.g., Abbotsford, Kelowna).
 - Discussed potential training dates, each school to provide the names of two teachers for training February 26-28, 2018.

- Next Steps in the Planning Stage:
 - Start to plan on what resources your schools will need – facilities, department course offerings and resource allocations.
 - Staff have questions before they can plan – how can we configure things like carpentry? Is it a site choice? Resources? Grade 9 textbooks. New grades 9-12 across the board from our current budget?
 - Is there a budget for reconfiguration? There will be a budget but information is needed before it is finalized.
 - In the next month, discuss course offerings with your school teams, based on the availability of space, different for each school.
 - Need to explore based on who your students will be, aligning with the new curriculum.
 - How many students will you be getting and then start to plan for them.
 - Need to be creative in developing courses for students within the timetable and possibly outside of the timetable.



- Gym space will be a problem for all secondary schools.
- We don't want to provide a lesser selection of courses for grade 9s than what they would have had if they stayed where they were.
- Can possibly do a larger block once a week – extended block, double block in an afternoon.
- Everything is up for discussion – need to consider what is reasonable.
- Have to explore transportation as well.
- Need information by November: budget, course offerings, athletics, space allocation, redesigned curriculum, split shifts.
- Good to have differences among schools.
- Need to have the flexibility to accommodate more students if necessary.
- Staff request to have their new colleagues prior to the end of June.
- For next meeting: rough estimate of costs to contribute to the district budget process, impact on facilities beginning with core courses.
- Also looking for more feedback on issues related to reconfiguration (i.e., what are you hearing from families?).

