

## Town of St. Marys Council Questions to be Reviewed with Avon Maitland School Board Trustee Ms. Lynette Geddes.

### 1. Accommodation Review Process:

As noted in the current Accommodation Review, the Perth South area may be reviewed (includes SPCS, St. Marys schools). Full report delivered during May 23rd 2017 board meeting: [http://yourschools.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/17-05-23\\_PreliminaryAccommodation-ReviewFinal.pdf](http://yourschools.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/17-05-23_PreliminaryAccommodation-ReviewFinal.pdf)

Notes:

- a. 4.5.4 Enrolment at Little Falls PS is projected to be relatively stable over the next ten (10) years. The school is currently operating at capacity. **There is capacity to add rooms to the existing building. Currently there are two portables on site to preserve resource spaces in the school.**
- b. 4.5.5 Enrolment at St Marys DCVI - Elementary is projected to decline slightly over the next 10 years before returning to current levels at the end of the 15-year projection.
- c. 4.5.6 Enrolment at South Perth Centennial PS is expected to continue declining slightly over the next ten (10) years. This school is currently operating at 49.3% capacity.
- d. 4.5.7 The enrolment at St Marys DCVI is projected to fluctuate between 420 and 470 over the next ten years. Beyond the 15-year projection we would expect similar fluctuations based on projections from the elementary feeder schools.
- e. 6.3 **The enrolment pressure at Little Falls PS and the continued low enrolment at South Perth Centennial PS also present accommodation and programming concerns over the next ten (10) years. Staff believes that if there is a continuation of both enrolment pressures and enrolment decline at these respective schools, this area should be considered for an in-depth review.**

From Town of St Marys Council perspective, a wholesome review that includes local municipal government and public consultation should explore all options. Students residing in St. Marys should be assured that their children will go to schools located in St. Marys.

What is the timeline and process that would be followed for public engagement?

### 2. Border Adjustment Process:

Please describe border adjustments that are being considered for St. Marys LFPS/SPCS; the planned timeframes; the process that this change would undertake? As described in the reported delivered affecting Stratford and North Perth, no public consultation is required for boarder changes.

[http://yourschools.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/17-06-13\\_Boundary-Review\\_2016\\_17.pdf](http://yourschools.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/17-06-13_Boundary-Review_2016_17.pdf)

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What is the timeline for decision? The Town has a number of developments that are ongoing and parents who choose to relocate and build a home in St. Marys because of the draw of the local education system should not have to be surprised when their children cannot attend school in the Town.

How does a border change solve the problem? What happens if:

- There isn't enough children in the newly defined area to increase capacity at SPCS to the desired level?
- What if the age-mix of children is not spread out sufficiently and there is a large increase in one or two grades only?

Would either of these situations above cause a further border adjustment?

Hypothetically, if a border change is made:

- Are existing students who attend LFPS grandfathered and allowed to remain at the school rather than being displaced to SPCS?
- What transition support is offered to students and families and students who might be displaced? Does the Board ensure there is support and stress management counselling available for children who may have to make this significant life change?
- After a border change, are existing cross-border students attending LFPS, especially those in the 2017 existing SPCS catchment area, required to attend SPCS before any current students at LFPS are displaced to SPCS?
- Will the Board guarantee that any students who have EAs or any other individual supports will continue to have these supports if they are displaced to SPCS?
- How can a parent challenge the displacement of their child to SPCS?

### **3. Administrative changes announced for LFPS and DCVI, 7/8 and secondary:**

Significant changes were announced. See report: <http://yourschools.ca/board-meetings/board-meeting-june-13-2017>

LFPS new VP

- Kerry Carlyle – Little Falls ES → Exeter ES
- Rob Holland – Huron Centennial → PS Little Falls ES

DCVI new Principal

- Scott Richardson – Stratford Central SS → St. Marys DCVI
- John Herbert – Acting Principal St. Marys DCVI → Stratford Northwestern SS Vice Principal

DCVI 7/8 Elementary Principal

- Dave Bennett – St. Marys DCVI 7 & 8 → Seaforth PS
- No replacement planned

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As promised during our ARC, DCVI, Arthur Meighen Wing would be operated as a school within a school and this needs to occur with an appropriate replacement of administrative staff. When will this position be filled?