

## Working Group Meeting #2 Discussion Notes

March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Steve MacLean PS Library

### Introductions

- Round table of introductions
- Introduction of the RSSS information package #2
- Questions for this evening:
- MFI is to be discussed and reviewed
  - o We have MFI at Blossom Park (For Findlay Creek) and at Kars-on-the-Rideau for Riverside South. Staff is concerned about the size of these programs and what creating an additional Riverside South/Findlay Creek location would do in terms of impact
  - o Suggestion: could the OCDSB move Kars on the Rideau PS MFI program at Farley Mowat PS?
  - o There is already a program at Adrienne Clarkson ES. FMPS is awfully close to that program and a greater distance for other MFI students (North Gower Marlborough for example), are we moving them to move them?
- If it's consolidated – where?
- Grand-parenting of students to be discussed and reviewed. It is easy enough to see that the high school students would move upon opening of the high school in 2025. The opening grade structure was discussed last meeting and there was apparent support for the 7-10 opening. There are grand-parenting options for other areas, however: Springhill (from FMPS) and the Boothfield neighbourhood (From Vimy to Steve MacLean)

### Amended Boundary

- Overview of the changes in Steve MacLean PS and Vimy Ridge PS's boundaries
- Overview of the exclusion of the southern portion of the original boundary, and to redirect this area to Osgoode/ South Carleton option area
- Overview of the decision to not create an option area for RSSS and Osgoode on the eastern portion of the original boundary
- Open to comments or suggestions based on staff's edits
  - o Comment: I think that the boundary is logical and based on obvious geographical divides
  - o Question: is there room for additions to the Riverside South High School? Yes the site and the structure will allow for it
  - o Comment: there are concerns about how South Carleton HS's population will be affected in the coming years because of the opening of New Stittsville HS and now new RSSS in 2025

### Change in Farley Mowat PS's projection numbers

- Staff has refined projection numbers for Farley Mowat PS which slightly decreased enrolment based on newly available data
- Redirecting the Summerhill students seems logical, despite slightly lower, but still viable FMPS numbers. The Board would appreciate feedback on how to phase-out and what you think is best
  - o Comment: if we could leave them until a point of transition i.e. after grade 6 that may be best
  - o Comment: a suggestion that the students at Farley Mowat PS would stay, but any new students to the catchment would follow the new attendance boundary.
    - How do we proceed with siblings? Parents might want their children at one school
  - o Parents have concerns about bell-time, drop-off. etc for two different schools.
  - o Preference depends on the family structure. Parents don't like dropping off at two separate schools. But there could be some parents that it would make a world of difference to attend Steve MacLean if they closely border its boundary
  - o What about students attending St. Jerome CS that want to attend Steve MacLean? They would be considered new students coming in so they would be redirected
- Many parents in past were applying for transfers
- Sometimes grand-parenting takes decades if we allow for younger siblings to follow older.
  - o Question: would you consider a stated window? – i.e. 3-4 years your sibling will be considered for grand-parenting, after that you will be required to attend the boundary
  - o Comment: maybe we can give parents a one-time option to choose one or the other.

### Opening Grade Structure

- o Question: should we bring the Boothfield area back any earlier? (i.e. before the new RSSS opens), or leave it to take effect when the high school opens?
- o Suggestion: we may not want to move students in feeding elementary schools until their next move point (so grade 7), in order to slow the rate of change in other schools
- o Suggestion: phase Boothfield in – i.e. have the option to give them to go to either Steve MacLean PS or Vimy Ridge PS
- Staff will review these comments before public meeting

### Public Meeting

- All in attendance are in agreement that this amended boundary should be presented at the public meeting
- Staff will review the suggestions and questions made in tonight's meeting, and raise them to the public at the public consultation

Meeting Adjourned