

January 24, 2020

Pupil Accommodation Review – Questions and Answers

1) What is the plan for the York Memorial CI site at 2690 Eglinton Avenue West?

A plan for the York Memorial CI site has not yet been established. It will be determined through a public consultation process called a pupil accommodation review. This review will be conducted from February to June 2020. The review will include George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI. As part of this review, the TDSB will be proposing the construction of a new school building on the York Memorial CI site.

2) What is the purpose of the pupil accommodation review?

The purpose of the review is to develop a student accommodation plan for George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI to address under-utilization at George Harvey CI, identify the best location for the schools, and determine the long-term future of the York Memorial CI site.

3) Why do you need to conduct a review now?

The fire that devastated the York Memorial building has caused an urgent need for the review to be completed now in order to provide certainty for the students, parents and staff of York Memorial CI about the future of their school and to ensure that the building does not sit dormant in its current state for a prolonged period of time.

4) Why is TDSB staff recommending that a “modified” pupil accommodation review be conducted?

A modified pupil accommodation review involves a shorter timeline for completing the process. TDSB staff is recommending this process be implemented to get a decision from the Board of Trustees about the future of the York Memorial CI site as quickly as possible.

As per the Ministry of Education’s Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and the TDSB’s Accommodation and Program Review Policy P068, a modified review can be approved by the Board of Trustees when the affected schools satisfy at least one of four conditions specified in the policy. In this situation, the under-

utilization condition is met – George Harvey CI is currently 37% utilized, well below the threshold of 65% identified in the policy.

5) Do you need approval from the Board of Trustees to start the pupil accommodation review?

Yes, the Board of Trustees must approve the start of a pupil accommodation review. The process starts with TDSB staff preparing a report called the Initial Staff Report that provides the reasons for the review and outlines the scenarios to be discussed in the public consultations. This report will be submitted to the Committee of the Whole on January 29, 2020, for initial debate and then to the Board of Trustees on February 5, 2020, where a decision will be made. If the Board of Trustees approves the start of the pupil accommodation review, the consultations will take place between February and June 2020 and end with a Final Staff Report being submitted to the Board of Trustees in June 2020. The Final Staff Report will contain the feedback received in the consultations and recommendations prepared by TDSB staff.

6) What are the scenarios that are proposed in the Initial Staff Report?

TDSB staff has developed the following three scenarios to be discussed in the public consultation process. The discussions could lead to more scenarios being developed.

Scenario 1 – Status Quo: George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI remain open as separate schools. York Memorial CI moves into a new building on the York Memorial CI site at 2690 Eglinton Avenue West when the new building opens (expected to be in 2026).

Scenario 2 – George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI consolidate in 2021: George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI consolidate in the existing George Harvey CI building in 2021. Afterwards, both schools move into a new building on the York Memorial CI site at 2690 Eglinton Avenue West when the new building opens (expected to be in 2026).

Scenario 3 – George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI consolidate in 2026: George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI remain open as separate schools in their current locations until a new building opens on the York Memorial CI site at 2690 Eglinton Avenue West. The two schools consolidate and move into the new building (expected to be in 2026).

For details about the proposed scenarios, please read the Initial Staff Report on the TDSB's public website in the Agenda section: <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Agenda-Minutes>. From the **Agenda** drop-down menu, please select **Committee of the Whole - Jan 29, 2020** and then open the document named **Pupil Accommodation Review for George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI – Initial Staff Report**.

7) The Initial Staff Report refers to “school consolidation”. What do you mean by that?

In Scenarios 2 and 3 in the Initial Staff Report, it is proposed that George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI consolidate. This means bringing the two schools together as one school. All the students from both schools would be combined into a single school. The school would have one principal, one student body, and one staff body.

8) If George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI consolidate, will the schools' programming be impacted?

The proposal is to combine all the programs and students into a single school. By consolidating the two schools, the students of both schools will benefit from increased course offerings. Students will have access to more academic and technical courses as well as electives.

9) Will all the teachers at George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI become part of the consolidated school?

A fair process for consolidating the teachers into a single school will be worked out with the union that represents the teachers. An initial discussion with the union has taken place but there are no details to share at this time.

10) Will all support staff at George Harvey CI and York Memorial CI become part of the consolidated school?

The consolidation will affect a number of support staff bargaining unit employees. A fair process will be implemented in consultation with union partners and positions filled based on approved allocations. Discussions will be held and information will be shared with affected employees once finalized.

11) Will there be opportunities for students and the school community to provide input?

Throughout the review, meetings will be held with students, parents and staff to share information and receive feedback. In addition, a public meeting will be held in April 2020. Feedback received will become part of the Final Staff Report which will be presented to the Board of Trustees in June 2020.

12) Will members of the public be able to share their thoughts directly with the Board of Trustees?

Members of the public are allowed to delegate or submit a written statement when staff presents the initial and final reports to the Committee of the Whole on January 29 and June 3, 2020 respectively. To delegate, members of the public must contact Governance and Board Services at delegates@tdsb.on.ca by 4 p.m., two working days before the committee meeting day. For more information, please go to

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Delegations.aspx>

13) Who could I contact if I have any questions about the pupil accommodation review process?

For information about the pupil accommodation review process, please contact Andrew Gowdy, System Planning Officer, at andrew.gowdy@tdsb.on.ca.