

FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented to: Board of Trustees
Submitted on: October 8, 2024
Submitted by: Jen Edwards, Chair, Finance and Facilities Committee
Committee Date: September 17, 2024
Report No.: FF24-09

Members: Jen Edwards (Chair), Irene Hanenberg, Katherine Hauser, Ralf Mesenbrink

Trustees: Martha MacNeil, Lynn Topping

The Finance and Facilities Committee held a hybrid meeting on Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 7:00pm. Chair Edwards presided the meeting with all committee members in attendance. There were no conflicts of interest declared.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

New Centre Wellington Elementary School Boundary Review – Report 2

The New Centre Wellington Elementary School Boundary Review – Report 2 was presented for consideration by the Finance and Facilities Committee. Discussion took place regarding progress on the construction of the school and that projected timelines are expected to be met. Discussion also included timelines and process steps for the Boundary Review. Clarification was provided regarding the November, 2024 open house and that options would be provided for public feedback without a recommended option being presented. The Boundary Review process would also include discussions regarding transition plans for students.

THAT Memo PLN 24-12 “New Centre Wellington Elementary School Boundary Review – Report 2” be received.

THAT the Board approves the initiation of the boundary review process in accordance with the Board’s School Boundary Review Policy 320 to establish a JK-8 Regular Track attendance area boundary for the new Centre Wellington elementary school for the 2025-26 school year.

THAT the Trustees adopt the timeline for the boundary review as outlined in Section 2.1 of report PLN: 24-12.

New Guelph Secondary School Boundary Review – Report 2

The New Guelph Secondary School Boundary Review – Report 2 was presented for consideration by the Finance and Facilities Committee. During the presentation, Staff stated that UGDSB has received approval to proceed with the next steps toward construction of the South Guelph Secondary School. Expectations at present are that the Board will remain on track with the intent to break ground this fall

and to open the new school in the 2026-2027 school year. Discussion took place regarding the timelines and process for the Boundary Review. Discussion also covered different models for a secondary school opening, presentation of all options at the open house and the monitoring of projected growth in the area.

THAT Memo PLN 24-15 “New Guelph Secondary School Boundary Review – Report 2” be received.

THAT the Board approves the initiation of the boundary review process in accordance with the Board’s School Boundary Review Policy 320 to establish a Grade 9-12 attendance area boundary for the new Guelph secondary school for the 2026-27 school year.

THAT the Trustees adopt the timeline for the boundary review as outlined in Section 2.1 of report PLN: 24-15.

Ministry of Education Request for Capital Priorities, 2024

The Ministry of Education Request for Capital Priorities, 2024 report was presented for consideration by the Finance and Facilities Committee. Discussion took place regarding the submission of a Business Case for a new elementary school in the community of Mansfield in the Township of Mulmur. This school is proposed to alleviate the increased and future enrolment pressure at Primrose Elementary School.

THAT Memo PLN 24-18 “Ministry of Education Request for Capital Priorities, 2024” be received for information.

THAT Staff be directed to prepare information to the Ministry on longer term growth needs and to submit business cases under the Capital Priorities Program.

ITEMS FOR MONITORING

Conservation and Demand Management Plan

The Conservation and Demand Management Plan report was presented for consideration by the Finance and Facilities Committee. Discussion took place regarding the energy intensity metric used in the report (equivalent of kilowatt hours per metre square), financial and structural challenges for implementing energy efficient solutions and the impact of the pandemic on energy demand patterns.

2024-2025 Budget Update

The Committee was informed that the Upper Grand District School Board’s 2024-2025 Budget had received the Minister of Education’s approval. Within the letter, a return to a balanced budget was strongly encouraged for the 2025-2026 Budget year.