

CVESC Ad Hoc Committee for the Osgoode Area Program and Boundary Review

- Programming proposal

1. *Consolidation of English Programs with Core French Enrolments to an English Centre at Metcalfe PS (a portion of this plan was suggested by the Board in Report 17-068, p.4)*
 - a. Castor Valley ES, Osgoode PS and a new Greely ES could all be EFI program centres serving local area students
 - b. Metcalfe PS could then remain an English program centre however it would now serve the entire Osgoode area
 - c. “The relocation of the Osgoode PS English program to Metcalfe PS (in a phased manner) would help to ensure strong programming for students residing in that part of the district.” (p.5)
 - d. This can be accomplished by:
 - i. Adjusting the English boundary for the Metcalfe PS Attendance Area (and therefore the associated Osgoode PS and Greely ES English boundaries).
 - * Could use the current Metcalfe PS grade 7 and 8 English boundary map as the new Metcalfe PS grade 1 to 8 English boundary map, and remove the Osgoode PS and Greely ES English maps all together.
 - ii. Redirecting all new Osgoode area families enrolling their children in the English program to Metcalfe PS (as opposed to Osgoode PS), and phasing out the existing Osgoode PS English program. “For feeding patterns to remain consistent, the English program could be phased out of Osgoode PS and into the existing program at Metcalfe PS” (p.4). The plan proposed in the Report suggests that “this could take place beginning with Grade 1 English program students in September 2018 and adding one grade per year thereafter.” (p.4). Our recommendation would be that the change starts with families whose children will be starting Year 1 of kindergarten (formerly known as Junior Kindergarten) in September 2018, to reduce the number of student transitions and to avoid removing families from Osgoode PS who already have children enrolled there.
 - iii. Redirecting all new Greely area families enrolling their children in the English program to Metcalfe PS (as opposed to Greely ES), and phasing out the existing Greely ES English program in the same manner that it is carried out at Osgoode PS.
 - e. To avoid disrupting and/or splitting families, it would be important to grandparent all existing English program families at their home school programs (Osgoode PS or Greely ES), thereby continuing the English program at Osgoode PS and Greely ES until all current students and their siblings born before a certain date (e.g. December 31st, 2018) have graduated. This will involve having split classes for a few years to accommodate the low-enrolment.

Pros:

- ✓ addresses low enrolment issue at Metcalfe PS
- ✓ addresses English program viability concerns at Osgoode PS
- ✓ addresses impending capacity concerns at Osgoode PS
- ✓ makes room for programming changes at Greely ES (as outlined below)
- ✓ makes effective use of existing available instructional space
- ✓ maintains consistency in feeding patterns within the Osgoode area (since the Osgoode PS and Greely ES English students feed in to Metcalfe PS for grade 7 already)
- ✓ no block moving of any students
- ✓ a PAR is not required
- ✓ does not require families established at a school to change to a different school
- ✓ no splitting up of families
- ✓ no major programming changes since MPS already has an established English program
- ✓ minimizes student transitions
- ✓ diverted students are being brought in to an established English program
- ✓ bigger class sizes for the English programming (i.e. “critical mass” will be attained) which means fewer split classes
- ✓ adheres to standard grade configurations

Cons:

- ✗ Osgoode and Greely families seeking English programming will no longer have an option in their villages
- ✗ extra costs in the short term as the English programs at Osgoode PS and Greely ES are phased out

2. *Consolidation of MFI Programs to an MFI Centre at Metcalfe PS (as suggested by the Board in Report 17-068, p.4)*
 - a. “To better align overall feeding patterns within the Osgoode area, a change could be made which would redirect, on a phased basis, MFI program students residing in the Osgoode PS attendance area to Metcalfe PS, rather than to Kars on the Rideau PS. This change would be consistent with existing feeding patterns for grade 7 and 8 English program students who are directed to Metcalfe PS.” (p.4)
 - b. Metcalfe PS could then remain an MFI program centre however it would now serve the entire Osgoode area (Metcalfe, Greely, Kenmore, Vernon and Edwards residents already attend MFI at Metcalfe PS)
 - c. “There are currently only two students from this boundary area who are enrolled in the MFI program at Kars on the Rideau PS. The change is not considered of significant impact to the Kars on the Rideau PS MFI program.” (pp.4-5)

- d. This can be accomplished by:
- i. Adjusting the MFI boundary for the Osgoode PS Attendance Area (as suggested by the Board in Report 17-068) and accordingly, the MFI boundary for Kars on the Rideau PS.
 - ii. Redirecting all new Osgoode area families enrolling their children in the MFI program to Metcalfe PS, and phasing out the existing program which directs them to Kars on the Rideau PS. This could take place beginning with Grade 4 MFI program students in September 2018 and adding one grade per year thereafter.
- e. To avoid disrupting and/or splitting families, it would be important to grandparent all existing MFI families at Kars on the Rideau, thereby continuing the MFI feeder program from Osgoode PS to Kars on the Rideau until all current students and their siblings have graduated.

Pros:

- ✓ addresses low enrolment issue at Metcalfe PS
- ✓ makes effective use of existing available instructional space
- ✓ better aligns overall feeding patterns within the Osgoode area
- ✓ no block moving of any students
- ✓ a PAR is not required
- ✓ does not require families established at a school to change to a different school
- ✓ no splitting up of families
- ✓ no major programming changes since MPS already has an established MFI program
- ✓ minimizes student transitions
- ✓ diverted students are being brought in to an established MFI program
- ✓ when the first two proposals are combined (moving all English and MFI programming to one school) it opens new doors for families from Osgoode and Greely who have children with different language abilities, as they will suddenly be able to have children in both the English and MFI program at the same school

Cons:

- ✗ has impact on the MFI program at Kars on the Rideau PS, although not significant according to the Board

3. *Redirection of Osgoode PS grade 7 and 8 EFI program students to Metcalfe PS*

- a. To better align overall feeding patterns within the Osgoode area, a change could be made which would redirect EFI program grade 7 and 8 students residing in the Osgoode PS JK-6 attendance area to Metcalfe PS, rather than to Castor Valley ES. This change would be consistent with existing feeding patterns for grade 7 and 8 English program students who are directed to Metcalfe PS as well as the proposal to redirect MFI program students to Metcalfe PS.
- b. Since the EFI program at Osgoode PS was only started in 2009, directing their grade 7 and 8 EFI program students to Castor Valley ES hasn't had a major impact on the enrolment at Castor Valley ES yet. But the Osgoode PS EFI program grew over time and class sizes became larger, which means it will have a much bigger impact in the upcoming years. In the first two years of Osgoode PS EFI program grade 7 and 8 students being directed to Castor Valley ES, only 33 students were sent to Castor Valley ES in total. In September 2018, only 12 more students will be directed to Castor Valley ES for grade 7. But, in the years that follow, that number jumps up to 25 students in 2019, 27 students in 2020, 24 students in 2021, 31 students in 2022, and 39 students in 2023. Castor Valley ES cannot support these numbers.
- c. Metcalfe PS would only need to offer triple-track programming at the grade 7 and 8 level.
- d. This can be accomplished by:
 - i. Adjusting the EFI boundary for the Castor Valley ES Attendance Area and accordingly, creating a grade 7 & 8 EFI boundary for Metcalfe PS.
 - ii. Redirecting all Osgoode village families enrolling their children in the EFI program to Metcalfe PS at the grade 7 entry point. This could take place beginning with Grade 7 EFI program students in September 2018.
- e. To avoid disrupting families, it would be important to grandparent all existing Osgoode PS EFI families who have already been directed to Castor Valley ES for grades 7 and 8.

Pros:

- ✓ addresses immediate overcapacity concerns at Castor Valley ES by reducing the number of incoming grade 7 students in September 2018 (and reduces enrolment numbers further in September 2019 and each year thereafter when there are fewer grade 7 and 8 students at Castor Valley ES)
- ✓ addresses low enrolment issue at Metcalfe PS
- ✓ makes effective use of existing available instructional space
- ✓ better aligns overall feeding patterns within the Osgoode area
- ✓ no block moving of any students
- ✓ a PAR is not required
- ✓ does not introduce a new transition point as the Osgoode PS EFI program students already have to switch to a different school for grade 7

- ✓ all students in grade 6 at Osgoode PS get to stay with their friends (instead of them being sent to three different schools depending on their program choice)
- ✓ minimal programming changes at Metcalfe PS since it only involves the introduction of two grades

Cons:

- ✗ Osgoode PS grade 7 and 8 EFI program students will have to travel 4.5 km further (approximately 5 minutes) to get to school

4. *Introduction of New EFI Program to Greely ES (and Ultimately the Conversion of Greely ES to a Single-Track EFI Program School, as mentioned by the Board in Report 17-068)*

- a. Since “EFI is the most subscribed program for our elementary students and the Village of Greely is the centre of population and future development within the larger Osgoode area“ it makes sense to start EFI programming in the Village of Greely.
- b. Although the capacity of the current building is small at 245 pupils, with the concurrent phasing out of the English program, it opens up space for the EFI program. Based on projected enrolments provided by the Board in Report 17-068, it would be years before Greely ES is at its building capacity under this proposed programming. As the septic capacity of Greely ES is unclear at this time, it is unknown when the population would outgrow the septic capacity of the school.
- c. “This type of change could be examined as part of a longer-term plan, possibly via the opening of a future new elementary school in the village.” (p.6)
- d. “Given forecasted continued residential growth in the Village of Greely...a phase two longer-term solution will likely need to be considered in future years. This could involve the construction of a new, larger JK to grade 8 ES in the Village of Greely to accommodate the growing local EFI student population.” (p.5)
- e. Thus, with building a new, larger EFI school in Greely already on the horizon, this is a great solution in the interim.
- f. This can be accomplished by:
 - i. Adjusting the EFI boundary for the Castor Valley ES Attendance Area and accordingly, the EFI boundary for Greely ES. There will likely be a portion of Greely residents who would continue to attend Castor Valley due to their proximity to the school (e.g. residents of Grey’s Creek Rd. and other residents south of Greely Village).

- ii. Redirecting new Greely area families enrolling their children in the Kindergarten/EFI program to Greely ES (as opposed to Castor Valley ES), thereby phasing in the new Greely ES EFI program and phasing out the existing English program in concert.
 - * EFI at Greely ES could start with families whose children will be entering Year 1 of kindergarten in September 2018, thereby delaying the start of the EFI program by two years (September 2020) then adding one grade per year thereafter. This would eliminate the need to block move students from Castor Valley ES to Greely ES (for EFI programming) or from Greely ES to Metcalfe PS (for English programming).
- g. To avoid disrupting and/or splitting families, it would be important to grandparent all existing EFI families at Castor Valley ES and Greely ES until all current students and their siblings born before a certain date (e.g. December 31st, 2018) have graduated. This may involve having split classes for a few years to accommodate the low-enrolment of students in the English program at Greely ES.

Pros:

- ✓ addresses immediate overcapacity concerns at Castor Valley ES by reducing the number of incoming kindergarten students in September 2018
- ✓ addresses low enrolment issue at Greely ES
- ✓ makes effective use of existing available instructional space
- ✓ buys time for new EFI school to be built in Greely
- ✓ no block moving of any students
- ✓ a PAR is not required
- ✓ does not require families established at a school to change to a different school
- ✓ no splitting up of families
- ✓ Greely families seeking EFI programming will now have an option in their village
- ✓ minimizes student transitions

Cons:

- ✗ not viable long-term due to small size of school (but solved by building new school in the future)
- ✗ requires programming changes since Greely ES does not have an existing EFI program (note that the plan proposed in the Report to bring EFI to Metcalfe PS also requires EFI programming changes)
- ✗ may require an irregular boundary

5. *Construction of a New, Larger JK to Grade 8 ES in the Village of Greely (as suggested by the Board in Report 17-068, p.5)*
- a. “Given forecasted continued residential growth in the Village of Greely...a phase two longer-term solution will likely need to be considered in future years. This could involve the construction of a new, larger JK to grade 8 ES in the Village of Greely to accommodate the growing local EFI student population.” (p.5)
 - b. “The board has reserved an elementary school site in the village (Shadow Ridge development area) to serve future needs” (p.3)
 - c. “Greely is the centre of new development within the Osgoode area and this is reflected in increasing enrolment numbers” (p.3)
 - d. 694 new homes have been approved in the Village of Greely, with an additional 431 pending approval
 - e. By moving forward with this plan in conjunction with the aforementioned proposals, a new, larger EFI school could be completed in Greely (Shadow ridge development area). At that time, the entire EFI population at Greely ES could be moved to the new school. Since it would no longer meet the capacity needs of the Village, the current Greely ES could then stop being used as a school. It could be used to house various other programs such as an Extended Day Program, other daycare programming, special needs programming, etc.
 - f. Alternatively, the new school could be built in two phases (as Castor Valley ES was) The construction of the first phase could move forward soon, while phase two of the new, larger Greely EFI centre could be built as the population of the school grows further. By planning the build in phases, it requires less capital funding up front.
 - g. This can be accomplished by:
 - i. Building the new, larger Greely EFI school (possibly in two phases)
 - ii. Block moving the EFI students at Greely ES to the new school once phase one is completed and the EFI program has outgrown the current Greely ES

Pros:

- ✓ addresses growing need for additional instructional space based on current and impending residential growth in the Village of Greely
- ✓ could require a smaller upfront investment from the province if the new school was built in phases
- ✓ makes effective use of existing available instructional space
- ✓ provides a proactive, long-term solution to school capacity issues in Osgoode area
- ✓ does not require PAR (since it falls under one of the special circumstances where school boards are not obligated to undertake a PAR: “where a replacement school is to be built by the school board on the existing site, or built or acquired within the existing school attendance boundary, as identified through the school board’s policy”)

Cons:

- ✘ high cost of building a new school (although this will be needed at some point in the near future anyway, so really just moving it ahead a few years)

OVERALL PROS and CONS of our proposal

Pros:

- ✓ addresses immediate overcapacity concerns at Castor Valley ES
- ✓ addresses low enrolment issue at Metcalfe PS
- ✓ addresses low enrolment issue at Greely ES
- ✓ addresses English program viability concerns at Osgoode PS
- ✓ addresses impending capacity concerns at Osgoode PS
- ✓ makes effective use of existing available instructional space
- ✓ addresses growing need for additional instructional space based on current and impending residential growth in the Village of Greely
- ✓ requires a smaller upfront investment from the province since the new school will be built in phases
- ✓ provides a proactive, long-term solution to school capacity issues in Osgoode area
- ✓ maintains consistency in and/or better aligns overall feeding patterns within the Osgoode area
- ✓ no block moving of any students out of existing programs
- ✓ does not require families established at a school to change to a different school
- ✓ no splitting up of families
- ✓ minimizes major programming changes (since MPS already has established English and MFI programs and Castor Valley ES already has an established EFI program)
- ✓ minimizes student transitions over time as there aren't multiple phases of this plan which require students to change schools more than once
- ✓ buys time for new EFI school to be built in Greely as population continues to grow
- ✓ moving all English and MFI programming to one school opens new doors for families from Osgoode and Greely who have children with different language abilities as they will suddenly be able to have children in both the English and MFI program at the same school
- ✓ does not require a PAR

Cons:

- ✘ high cost of building a new school (although this will be needed at some point in the near future anyway, so this proposal just moves it ahead a few years)
- ✘ has impact on the MFI program at Kars on the Rideau PS, although not significant according to the Board
- ✘ Osgoode PS grade 7 and 8 EFI program students will have to travel 4.5 km further (approximately 5 minutes) to get to school
- ✘ extra costs in the short term as the English programs at Osgoode PS and Greely ES are phased out

Additional considerations:

1. Conversion of Osgoode Township High School into a Grade 7 to 12 School (and Feeder Elementary Schools Becoming JK to Grade 6) (as mentioned by the Board in Report 17-068, p.5)
 - a. "Site servicing limitations and the lack of available space at the school for grade 7 and 8 students make this impossible in the short term." (p.5)
 - b. "This would also require the Board to secure capital funds from the Ministry for a permanent addition; a challenge given available space in other local area schools." (p.5)

2. The program and boundary review ad hoc committee of the CVES Parent council would entertain the idea of implementing a triple-track program (English, EFI, and MFI) at Metcalfe PS to reduce "existing pressures at Castor Valley ES, and better balance enrolment and use of space at area elementary schools." (p.4) However, strict grandparenting plans would have to be in place to avoid disrupting and/or splitting families. It would be important to grandparent all existing EFI families at Castor Valley ES until all current students and their siblings born before a certain date (e.g. December 31st, 2018) have graduated. Note that implementing a triple-track program is not the preferred option in the Report or for the CVES Parent council ad hoc committee.
 - a. Option 1: Development of a triple-track EFI program for grade 7 & 8 students only. Students entering Grade 7 EFI would be redirected to Metcalfe PS from CVES. Thus, all Osgoode PS grade 7s would be directed to Metcalfe PS, as well as the grade 7s from CVES.
 - b. Option 2: Development of a triple-track EFI program for grades 1 through 8 students. All students from Metcalfe and surrounding areas (Kenmore? Edwards? Vernon?) entering JK with plans to study in EFI would be redirected to Metcalfe PS.

3. The program and boundary review ad hoc committee of the CVES Parent council does not think that relocating the Osgoode PS English program students to Greely ES is prudent. Although "the school has available space to accommodate the additional students" (p.4), transitioning students at grade 1 to Greely ES and again at Grade 7 to Metcalfe PS requires too many student transitions and will impact them negatively.

It's important to note that:

- some families may switch schools on their own in order to have a more convenient place to send their children.

- Metcalfe Village is considered to be at the centre of Osgoode Ward, as it is surrounded by the neighbouring towns of Osgoode, Greely, Vernon, Kenmore and Edwards. Metcalfe PS, located at 2701 8th Line Rd, has a building capacity of 455 students (septic capacity of 600). Castor Valley ES, located at 2630 Grey's Creek Road, has a building capacity of 441 students (septic capacity of 800). The schools are 4.5km apart; a driving time of approximately 6 minutes.