

**The Waterdown New School Boundary Review
Advisory Panel #3 - Thursday, December 11, 2025
Waterdown Secondary School**

Present:

Nicole Lee, Superintendent of Equity and Student Achievement (Family of Schools 4)
Matthew Gerard - Associate Director of Business Services & Treasurer of the Board
Graeme Noble – Trustee (Ward 15)
Ellen Warling - Manager, Planning, Accommodation and Rentals
Nicole Thibeault - Senior Planner, Planning, Accommodation and Rentals
Lorraine Valmadrid, Research and Analytics
Balaclava – Principal: Anna Ricci
Guy B. Brown - Principal: Cathy Calvano
Flamborough Centre - Principal: Nancy Kucic
Allan A. Greenleaf - Principal: Colleen Uhler, Vice-Principal: Marianne Lancaster
Mary Hopkins - Principal: Maggie Thomson and Vice-Principal: Paula Thomas
Representative from Flamborough Centre: Kellie Buttenham
Representative from Allan A. Greenleaf: Jennifer Valeri
Representative from Mary Hopkins: Marissa Saunders
Michelle Baker - EA to Superintendent Lee

Regrets:

David Anderson - Senior Facilities Manager
Lisa Kiriakopoulos - Manager, Early Years
Kristen Hebner –Associate Planner, Planning, Accommodation and Rentals
Guy B. Brown - Vice-Principal: Laura Kelly
Representative from Balaclava: Jennifer McCarney
Representative from Balaclava: Kyrsten Koverko
Representative from Flamborough Centre: Angela Devall
Representative from Guy B. Brown: Laura Hamilton
Representative from Guy B. Brown: Mohamed Khamis
Representative from Mary Hopkins: Carley Casey

Meeting Start Time: 4:30 PM

Land Acknowledgement

Superintendent Lee opened the meeting with a Land Acknowledgement.

Agenda Review

Superintendent Lee reviewed the agenda and housekeeping items, highlighting the Advisory Panel's role. Participants were also reminded of meeting etiquette.

Waterdown Boundary Timelines

Timelines for the Waterdown Boundary Review were discussed. Final Report will be reviewed by the Finance and Facilities Committee in early 2026 and presented at one of the following Board meetings for Trustee Approval. In Fall 2026, the Transition Committee will review both student and school recommendations, with the new school opening in September 2027.

Public Meeting Feedback

Lorraine Valmadrid (Research and Analytics) provided an update on community engagement feedback. Lorraine shared since the beginning of September 2025, over 80 comments were received through the

Engage site, with 20 of those comments being submitted following the public meeting on November 27, 2025.

Key themes from feedback include:

- Support for French Immersion remaining at Guy B. Brown Elementary.
- Support for Option #3, with strong support for Option #4.
- Consideration of townhomes at 50 Hamilton Street South.
- Review of area south of Highway 5 between Hamilton Street and Mill Street.
- Proposal to extend Mary Hopkins Elementary to serve English track students - kindergarten to Grade 5 starting in 2026/2027.

Key Considerations for Boundary Options

Manager Warling (Planning, Accommodation and Rentals) shared key considerations. Key considerations were used to evaluate the four proposed options and to finalize the recommended option.

Key Considerations: Balance of Overall Enrolment, Geographical Area and Barriers, Student Experience, Temporary Accommodation, Transportation, Additional Criteria (specific to the area under review)

Option Evaluation

Manager Warling (Planning, Accommodation and Rentals) shared that, after reviewing the matrix for each option, the following options should be eliminated for the reasons outlined below:

Option 1

- No legacy consideration.
- French Immersion program moved back to Flamborough Centre.
- Boundary lines on map include Howard Street to Hamilton Street South.

Option 2

- French Immersion program moved back to Flamborough Centre.
- Boundary lines on map include Howard Street to Hamilton Street South.

Option 3

- No legacy consideration.
- Boundary lines on map include Howard Street to Hamilton Street South.

Following discussions and community feedback, the group agreed to proceed with Option #4.

Waterdown Boundary Review (Option #4)

Manager Warling (Planning, Accommodation and Rentals) reviewed Option #4 with the committee.

- School Boundary- New school boundary established south of Highway 5 to the city limit, from 1-40 Hamilton Street South to Kerns Road.

- Legacy Students - Legacy applies to Grades 7–8; No transportation will be provided; younger siblings must attend the new school.
- French Immersion Programming - Grades 6–8 French Immersion will continue at Guy B. Brown Elementary.

For Regular Track:

- 2026/2027 Grade 5 regular track students remain at Mary Hopkins Elementary with the possibility of the need for an additional portable.
- Courtesy busing will be available for families wishing to send current Grade 4 students to Flamborough Centre for Grade 5 in 2026/2027.

The map for Option #4 was reviewed, and school projections were shared:

Balaclava Elementary

- 2026-2027 Changes: No Change.
- 2027-2028 Changes: No courtesy busing offered to new students.

Allan A. Greenleaf Elementary

- 2026-2027 Changes: New JK to grade 4 enrolments South of Highway 5 will be directed to Mary Hopkins Elementary.
- 2027-2028 Changes: All JK to grade 8 (regular track) students South of Highway 5 and East of Hamilton Street South will attend the new Waterdown Elementary School. Grade 7 & 8 students can graduate from Allan A. Greenleaf Elementary or move to the new school. No transportation will be provided to legacy students. Younger siblings must attend the new Waterdown Elementary School.

Mary Hopkins Elementary

- 2026-2027 Changes: Receives new JK to grade 4 (regular track) enrolments South of Highway 5 and East of Hamilton Street. Regular track grade 5 students stay at Mary Hopkins Elementary. An additional portable may be required.
- 2027-2028 Changes: JK to grade 5 (dual track) school, students South of Highway 5 and East of Hamilton Street South will be directed to the new Waterdown Elementary School.

Flamborough Centre

- 2026-2027 Changes: Grade 5 (regular track) Mary Hopkins students remain at Mary Hopkins Elementary.
- 2027-2028 Changes: Grade 5 (regular track) remains at Mary Hopkins Elementary. Grades JK to grade 6 students south of Highway 5 and East of Hamilton Street South will be directed to the new Waterdown Elementary School. Grade 7 & 8 students can stay at Flamborough Centre. No transportation provided for legacy students. Younger siblings to attend the new Waterdown Elementary School.

Guy B. Brown

- 2026-2027 Changes: None.

- 2027-2028 Changes: French Immersion – grade 5 students stay at Mary Hopkins Elementary. French Immersion grades 6 to 8 continues from Mary Hopkins Elementary.

New Waterdown Elementary

- 2026-2027 Changes: None.
- 2027-2028 Changes: Receive all JK to grade 8 (regular track) students South of Highway 5, from 1-40 Hamilton Street South to Kerns Road. Grades 7 & 8 option is to stay at current schools. No transportation will be provided to legacy students, and younger siblings must attend the new Waterdown Elementary School.
- Must have viable classes for grades 7 & 8 students or there may be a need to have grade 7&8 students remain at previous catchment school. In such a situation transportation will be considered but cannot be guaranteed.

Next Steps

Final Report will be reviewed by the Finance and Facilities Committee in early 2026 and presented at one of the following Board meetings for Trustee Approval. Final report includes background, consultation and feedback summary, recommended option details, implementation plan and communication plan. Communication will be sent to affected families in the new year once the final report is approved. Associate Director Gerard to review the language/wording of the recommendation prior to submission.

Questions

- Why is North Waterdown Road not considered to go to Flamborough Centre?
- Should Allan A. Greenleaf registrations be temporarily held?
- What measures can we implement to prevent families from bypassing the process and registering where they are not eligible?

Comments

- Will be looked at through the long-term facilities plan yearly.
- Allan A. Greenleaf is over capacity, and Flamborough Centre is under capacity.
- Allan A. Greenleaf meets utilization long term, as per guiding principles.
- Allan A. Greenleaf is not accepting Out of Catchment applications.
- Purple area on map is closer to being developed (draft approval) and brown is not (developer owned).
- Waterdown is growing.
- Opportunities to walk to school.
- Transition Committee will need to ensure classes are viable.
- Clear messaging needs to be included on the school locator for any new registrations that come in prior to the final report being reviewed by the Board.

Participants were thanked for attending.

Meeting ended time: 5:39 p.m.