

The Binbrook New School Boundary Review

Advisory Panel #3

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Bellmoore Elementary School

Present:

Chair: Paul Denomme, Superintendent of Equity and Student Achievement, Family of Schools 1

Trustee: Amanda Fehrman

David Anderson- Senior Manager, Facility Services

Ellen Warling- Manager, Planning, Accommodation and Rentals

Robert Fex- Senior Planner

Lorraine Valmadrid- Research Officer

Kristen Hebner- Associate Planner

Karolina Gochowska- Executive Assistant to Superintendent Denomme

Bellmoore: Principal: Suzana Milinovich, Vice-Principal: Julie Boulton and Carmine Chiappetta

Shannen Koostachin: Principal: Maria Marino and Vice-Principal: Chris Hollingsworth and Heather Pyke

Representative from Bellmoore Elementary School: Ami Bhensdadia, Nadira Stoddart, and Raman Rakkar

Representative from Shannen Koostachin Elementary School: Holly Bint, Javaria Ahsa, and Stephanie Welton

Regrets:

Kathy Archer- Trustee

Matthew Gerard- Associate Director

Allison Reynolds- Manager, Corporate Communications

Sally Landon- Manager, Research and Analytics

Lisa Kiriakopoulos- Manager, Early Years

Carly Holmstead- Public Relations Officer

Meeting Start Time: 5:08 PM

Land Acknowledgement- Paul Denomme

Superintendent Denomme outlined the agenda, which included housekeeping items, the boundary review timeline, feedback from public meetings, the Engage website and emails, as well as a review of Options A and B, with the goal of reaching consensus for the final report. The Advisory Panel's mandate is to provide feedback and advice through discussions and inquiries on HWDSB recommendations and information.

Today's meeting focuses on reviewing feedback from the public meeting and the Engage website, evaluating options, and reaching consensus on an option for the final report. Members are expected to respect the consensus decision-making model, acknowledge diverse views, balance advocacy with understanding, and communicate positively addressing issues, not individuals. Trust, integrity, and creating a safe, inclusive environment are essential. Recording is not permitted; minutes and slides will be shared afterward. Further, the timeline highlights were provided:

- February-March 2026- Report to Finance and Facilities and Board of Trustees for final decision
- April- June 2026- Transition Committee
- September 2027- Planned School Opening

Lorraine Valmadrid- Research Officer, provided an overview of the feedback that has been received at the Public Meeting and through the Engage website. Public feedback highlights excitement for the new school, interest in legacy options for Bellmoore, and support for continuing bussing and creating Grade 7-8 legacy options for Shannen Koostachin students. Families raised questions about transition planning, before- and after-care availability, bell times aligning with high school schedules, and the possibility of a future HWDSB high school in Binbrook.

In addition to the received feedback, Manager Warling discussed the before and after school care and bell times and transportation. A before- and after-school program (BASP) is planned for the new school, which will help reduce the current waitlists. As of now about 20 students for both kindergarten and grades 1-6 at Bellmoore and Shannen Koostachin are on waitlists. Bell times and transportation planning will occur after the new school boundary is approved, focusing on establishing the bell time for the new school and communicating feedback to transportation. Manager Warling reviewed the key considerations for boundary options such as balance of overall enrolment, geographical area and barriers, student experience, temporary accommodation, transportation and other factors. The proposed boundaries and zoomed in map of the legacy area were included in the presentation. Further, Manager Warling described three options—A, B, and the newly added option C, which was developed based on feedback from the Community and Advisory Panel.

Option A

- *All grade legacy consideration for Bellmoore holding area students and students south of Binbrook Rd.*
- *No Legacy consideration for Shannen Koostachin students.*
- *Legacy families wishing to remain at current school will not be provided transportation.*

Option B

- *Only grade 7&8 legacy consideration for Bellmoore holding area students and students south of Binbrook Rd.*
- *Grade 7&8 legacy consideration for Shannen Koostachin students.*
- *Legacy families wishing to remain at current school will not be provided transportation.*

Option C

- *Same lines on map. School boundaries set along Binbrook Road.*
- *Bellmoore legacy option for all students currently at Bellmoore.*
- *Shannen Koostachin legacy option for grade 7 and 8.*
- *Younger siblings of all legacy students are directed to the new school.*
- *No transportation provided for legacy students.*

Manager Warling provided the enrollment projections for each school: Bellmoore, Shannen Koostachin, and the new Binbrook school.

Next Steps:

Manager Warling provided an overview of the next steps.

- Final Report- to be presented at the **Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting on February 24, 2026**, then at the **Board Meeting** for Trustee decision.
- Report will include:
 - Background
 - Consultation and feedback summary
 - Recommended option details
 - Implementation plan
 - Communication plan
- Communication to families:
 - After this meeting to confirm consultation process is complete.
 - Second communication when the report is available as part of the Finance and Facilities package (February 24, 2026).
- **Engage** platform will remain open for feedback until **January 16, 2026**.
- Final opportunity for community feedback may include delegations at the Board meeting (date to be set and communicated to families).

All participants present were asked and gave consensus on Option C to Superintendent Denomme.

Questions/Comments:

- Provide clear directions and maintain consistency across all communications with families regarding when transportation will be available and when it will not.
- Use clear wording in the final report, for example: “New enrollment for Bellmoore students.”

Trustee Fehrman encouraged everyone to observe the Finance and Facilities meeting on February 24, 2026, when the option will be presented to the Committee, as well as the Board meeting when the final decision will be made. The meetings will also be available in person at the Education Centre or online.

The Superintendent thanked all participants for attending.

Meeting End Time: 5:44 PM.