

5.0 The ARC Recommended Option

Summary of Discussions in the Final ARC Meetings on April 24, 2017 and May 8, 2017:

- The facilitator summarized the work of the ARC committee during the working meetings.
 - The facilitator reviewed the guiding principles, the mandate of the ARC and meeting norms.
 - It was reviewed that the ARC established consensus as 75% or 14 of 18 votes.
 - All materials that were shared at ARC working meetings were reviewed together.
 - It was mentioned that the ARC Members struggled to find a solution and looked at the Initial Staff Report Option as well as seven (7) other options in their working committee discussions. While no perfect solution was uncovered, the ARC members did reach consensus on a set of recommendations.
-
- There was consensus among the ARC members present for the following three ARC recommendations:

MOTION TO AMEND RECOMMENDATIONS 1 AND 2

That the ARC Committee remove the first bullet in item 3 and place it as the final bullet in recommendations 1 and 2 have it become item (d).

RECOMMENDATION 1

That the ARC Committee recommends the consolidation of the three elementary Schools: E.T. Carmichael, E.W. Norman, W.J. Fricker to one new JK-6 build on the W.J. Fricker site:

- a) Include childcare and early learning facilities.
- b) Create a separate playground for the Early Learning Kindergarten Program.
- c) Rename and rebrand the new school.
- d) In consultation with our Indigenous leaders, enhance Indigenous staffing and programming for our Indigenous students at the new site.

RECOMMENDATION 2

MOTION TO AMEND

That the ARC Committee remove the terms “South site” and “North site” and replace with “Marshall Park Drive site” and “Ski Club Road site” respectively.

That the ARC Committee recommends the consolidation of the 3 North Bay High Schools: Chippewa, West Ferris and Widdifield and the renaming and rebranding of two sites:

- a) To ensure equity of access for all students, refurbish two of the existing schools (total modernization) one on the Marshall Park Drive site and one on the Ski Club Road site (First Choice). If total modernization of both facilities is not attainable item (b) is our preference.
- b) To ensure equity of access for all students build two new schools; one on the Marshall Park Drive site and one on the Ski Club Road site (Second Choice).
- c) Move the Extended French Program, The French Immersion Program and the International Baccalaureate Program to the Marshall Park Drive site.
- d) In consultation with our Indigenous leaders, enhance Indigenous staffing and programming for our Indigenous students at all sites.

It was noted that the one of the ARC members was in opposition to the above-noted motion due to the increased opportunities for students with the 3:1 scenario, including more variety and options for programming and courses, a wider range of extracurricular and club opportunities and a facility designed for 21st century learners.

One of the ARC members voiced support for the motion as this is what their constituents are in favour of, however they also expressed support for the increased programming opportunities for students and long term sustainability of the 3:1 scenario.

RECOMMENDATION 3

That the ARC Committee recommends the Board give serious consideration to the following matters in the implementation of the above:

- All community programs in existing schools should be transferred to either new site as appropriate (no program will be lost in the transition),
 - All intermediate and secondary special education programs should be offered at one of the sites,
 - Request the City of North Bay to assess the need to add stop lights, crossing guards, sidewalks or bridges as needed to ensure the safety of students based on the new walking routes, and traffic created by changes in school populations. Include a traffic study and a bus transportation audit,
 - Transition opportunities be offered for all students, including extra supports (such as counsellors) for any students that may experience challenges with change/anxiety/transition,
 - Provide adequate communication to parents regarding transitions for students,
 - Provide opportunities for School Advisory Council members to be consulted on transition planning and transition activities, and
 - That the board consider regulating optional zone attendance to ensure a balance in student numbers during the transition period and beyond.
-
- It was further noted that the ARC Committee felt that there was not one perfect solution and arriving at the recommendation was difficult. The majority of ARC members felt the recommendation represents the interests of their communities.