



**Meeting Date:** February 15, 2023

**Submitted by:** Michael Di Lullo, CAO

**Report No:** CAO-4-2023

**Subject:** TVDSB Attendance Area Review

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**Recommendation:**

THAT Report CAO-4-2023, re: TVDSB Attendance Area Review be received for information.

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to advise of a review being undertaken by the Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) to address the student distribution imbalances across secondary schools in London and area.

**Background:**

At the January 31, 2023 school board trustee meeting, a report was brought forward to seek approval to proceed with an area-wide review of school board enrollment at the secondary level.

The purpose of the area review is to:

- address enrolment imbalances across various secondary schools in this area of the district;
- eliminate the splitting of elementary school feeders across multiple secondary schools;
- permanently accommodate a holding zone in south London;
- introduce a third French Immersion site in order to relieve enrolment pressure; and
- prepare TVDSB for a future business case submission to the Ministry of Education for a new secondary school to accommodate our growing enrolment.

## **Analysis:**

The information, to assist with this review, is based on community trends that are highlighted in the appendix to this staff report. Although it references the City of London, which grew approximately 25% from 2001 to 2021, it does not take into consideration the amount of growth that has occurred in the surrounding areas such as Middlesex Centre. However, Watson & Associates was tasked to prepare an examination of the TVDSB schools within the City of London and surrounding schools and the accommodation pressures, this Report is also appended.

Based on certain findings, there are several instances where schools remain overutilized or underutilized for which no viable boundary changes are indicated in the findings at the time of the report, particularly in north and west London. It does reference accommodation solutions using existing school facilities to accommodate growth pressures. It also eludes to managing French immersion enrolment which are also experiencing enrolment pressures.

The intent of the public outreach is to determine if boundary changes are required based on the findings from Watson & Associates and the existing boundary challenges as outlined in the presentation titled City of London Secondary Panel Attendance Area Review. There are areas highlighted to the north of the City, which are boundary to Middlesex Centre, that are noted for possible new school site locations. It is important to review the boundary areas which will have an impact for the feeder schools along with our existing secondary school (Medway High School).

### Timeline for Review

As noted in the first appendix, the expected timeline to proceed with the attendance area review for the purposes of gathering public feedback:

- February 2023: establish website to solicit feedback and answer questions regarding the boundary options under consideration
- February 2023: establish Attendance Area Review Committee (AARC)
- February 22, 2023: Host virtual AARC meeting
- March-April 2023: Coordinate school-level AARC Subcommittee meetings
- May 2023: Review school community feedback and prepare Final Attendance Area Review Report
- June 2023: Provide Final Attendance Area Review Report to the Board of Trustees
- June 2023: Public Delegations meeting
- June 2023: Decision of the Board of Trustees
- September 2024: Implementation of the Decision of the Board of Trustees

### Next Steps:

Staff have engaged with our school board trustees and are planning to have host a delegation at an upcoming council meeting where this topic can be raised and discussed. Further, once the TVDSB move ahead with the timetable as outlined above, the municipality will promote and share so that residents can provide their input.

### **Financial Implications:**

N/A

### **Strategic Plan:**

This matter aligns with following strategic priorities:

- Engaged Community

Taking part in dialogue with our school board trustees and allowing for residents to review and provide input will assist with the growth pressures that are being experienced as the TVDSB looks to create a stable model to accommodate further growth across the region.

### **Attachments:**

Attachment – TVDSB Staff Report 13.e and Presentation

Attachment – Watson & Associates City of London Secondary Panel Attendance Area Review