

# Vincent Massey Public School Boundary Review Consultation

## Virtual Public Meeting

December 12, 2023

# Agenda & Process - Virtual Public Meeting



- **Agenda:**

- Land Acknowledgement
- Indigenous Rights and Human Rights
- Presentation – Option provided for consultation & Input to date
- Community Questions & Answers
- Wrap up

- **Process:**

- Please use the Q&A button to type in your questions for everyone to view
- DDSB staff will use best efforts to respond within the Webinar either by messaging through the Q&A or responding live
  - Feel free to “like” a question using the Thumbs Up button
- All input received will be included in the Final Recommendation Report to the Board of Trustees for consideration at the February 20, 2024, Board Meeting

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# Land Acknowledgement

The Durham District School Board acknowledges that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships, both historic and modern, with the territories upon which our school board and schools are located. Today, this area is home to many Indigenous peoples from across Turtle Island. We acknowledge that the Durham Region forms a part of the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, the Mississauga Peoples and the treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation. It is on these ancestral and treaty lands that we teach, live and learn.

This statement was co-created in partnership with the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation and the Chippewas of Georgina Island.

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# Indigenous Rights and Human Rights



The Durham District School Board recognizes Indigenous rights are distinct. In the exercise of those rights, Indigenous staff and students shall not be subjected to actions with the aim or effect of depriving these distinct rights.

The Durham District School Board is committed to providing learning and working environments that centre human rights and equity and are safe, welcoming, respectful, equitable, accessible, inclusive and free from all forms of discrimination, oppression, harassment and harm.

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# Overview

- An information report on the proposed boundary review for Vincent Massey Public School was presented to Trustees at the December 4, 2023, Board Meeting.
  - The purpose of the report is to initiate this consultation process to gather community input on a proposed revised boundary for Vincent Massey PS.
- The scenario under consideration is provided on the following slides for community input.
- Input from the Public Meeting will be included in the Final Recommendation Report to the Board of Trustees.

# Overview, Continued

- The Board Report, PowerPoint presentations, and a survey will be posted to the Board website and are accessible through the affected schools' websites.
- Staff will collect feedback until January 12, 2024, through:
  - email at [VMPSBoundaryReview@ddsb.ca](mailto:VMPSBoundaryReview@ddsb.ca)
  - phone 905-666-6473
  - survey at: <https://survey.sogolytics.com/r/CncU8t>
- All input will be summarized in the February 20, 2024, Recommendation Report to Trustees.
  - Trustees will make a decision at the February 2024 Board Meeting.

# Boundary Review

- Vincent Massey PS, located at 211 Harmony Road North, is experiencing enrolment pressures within the existing enrolment boundary of the school:
  - Vincent Massey PS (VMPS) is located on a 6.98-acre site that is long and narrow with one frontage onto Harmony Road North.
  - The school has a Ministry Rated Capacity (MRC) of 441 pupil places.
  - VMPS has experienced and continues to experience a regeneration of the neighbourhood, with new families moving into the area.
  - There are also pockets of new residential development adding to the enrolment pressures at the school.

# Boundary Review Continued 2

- For the 2022-2023 school year, VMPS had 8 portables on site to accommodate its enrolment.
- As of October 2023, the school was operating at 178% utilization.
  - Utilization compares the enrolment at the school to the Ministry of Education's Rated Capacity of the school.
- For the current school year 4 additional portables were added to the site (total of 12), as well as the use of library for regular classroom instruction.
- For the 2024-2025 school year, It is projected that there will be a need for a total of 16 portables on site to accommodate the enrolment.
  - Given the limited number of portables available, it may not be possible to increase the number of portables for the coming school year.



# Boundary Review Continued 3

- Given the larger school enrolment there has been increased traffic and safety concerns on and around the site, including the adjacent school, Eastdale CVI.
- The two schools are in a campus setting that allows for sharing driveways and parking.
- A recent traffic review has identified congestion from Vincent Massey PS utilizing Eastdale CVI.
  - The result is a bottleneck of traffic onto Adelaide Avenue, from the Eastdale CVI site due to drop off/pick up of VMPS students.
  - The traffic congestion has been timed at 35 minutes to exit Eastdale CVI's site, blocking access points to the secondary school.
  - Additionally, parents/children from VMPS were witnessed dodging through traffic to access their cars on the Eastdale CVI site.

# Vincent Massey PS Enrolment

**City of Oshawa**

**MRC:**

**441**

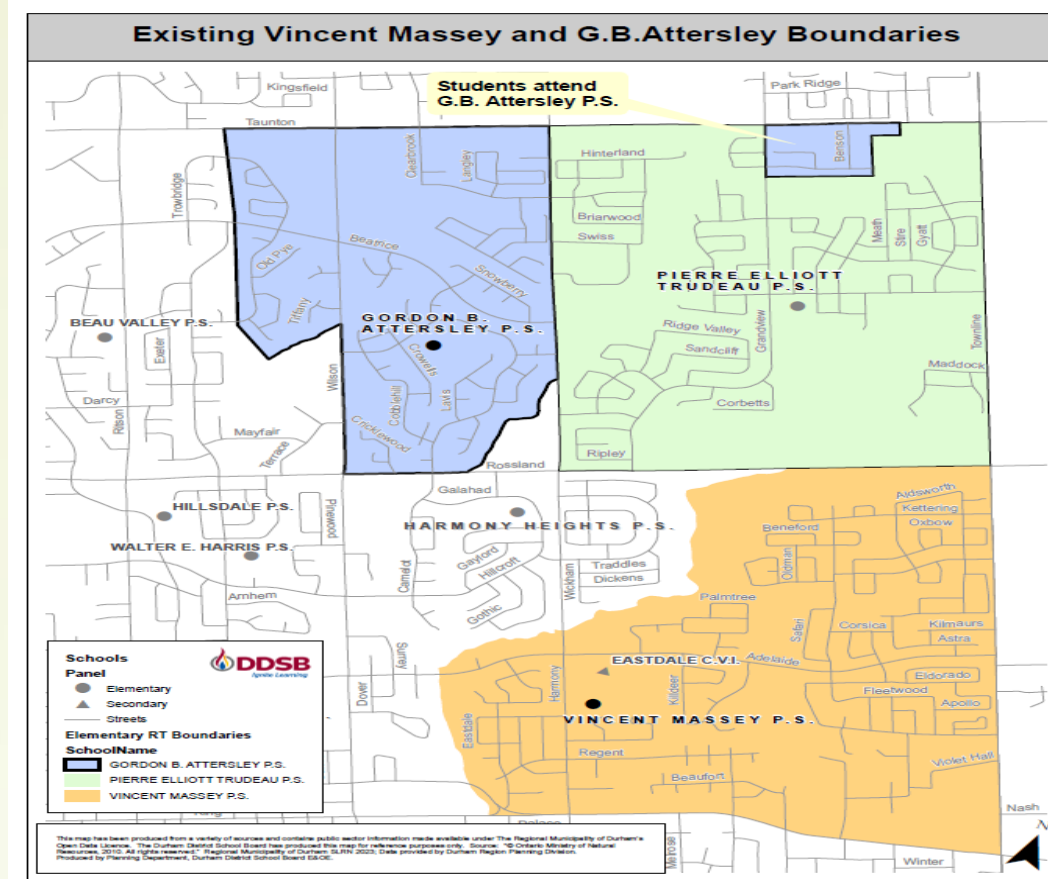
	<b>Total Enrolment</b>	<b>Utilization</b>	<b>Portables Needed *</b>
October 2022	658	149%	8
<i>October 2023 (actuals)</i>	<i>787</i>	<i>178%</i>	<i>12</i>
October 2024	703	159%	16
October 2025	703	159%	16
October 2026	706	160%	16
October 2027	705	160%	16

*\* 2024 - 2027 Portable needs based upon actual increased enrolment - increase of approx. 100 students requiring an additional 4 portables*

# Proposed Scenario For Consultation

- For September 2024, it is proposed that all Junior Kindergarten to Grade 7 students residing west of Autumnwood Trail; south and east of Harmony Conservation Area and north of the middle of Margate Drive attend Gordon B Attersley PS.
- Current Grade 7 students would be given the choice to remain at Vincent Massey PS and graduate with their peers or attend Gordon B Attersley PS for their graduating year.
- More information on this option is provided in the following slides.

# Vincent Massey PS and Gordon B Attersley PS Existing Enrolment Boundaries





# Proposed Scenario Considerations for VMPS

- Based on the proposed scenario, Vincent Massey PS is projected to decrease to approximately 8 portables for the 2024-2025 school year and subsequent years.

City of Oshawa						
MRC:	441			Impact on Enrolment with Boundary Adjustment		
	Total Enrolment	Utilization	Portables Needed *	Total Enrolment	Utilization	Portables Needed**
October 2022	658	149%	8			
October 2023 (actuals)	787	178%	12			
October 2024	703	159%	16	<b>629</b>	<b>143%</b>	<b>8</b>
October 2025	703	159%	16	<b>618</b>	<b>140%</b>	<b>8</b>
October 2026	706	160%	16	<b>616</b>	<b>140%</b>	<b>8</b>
October 2027	705	160%	16	<b>616</b>	<b>140%</b>	<b>8</b>

\* 2024 - 2027 Portable needs based upon actual increased enrolment - increase of approx. 100 students requiring an additional 4 portables

\*\*Portable needs assumes that with portable shortage library will be utilized for classroom space.

# Proposed Scenario Considerations For VMPS 2

- VMPS experienced a 14% increase in 2023 enrolment compared to projected data. 2024 to 2027 current portables and projected data reflects that increase (chart slide 13).
- Given the limited available portables across the system it is projected that VMPS will continue to utilize its library for classroom space. If additional portables become available, it would result in 1 additional portable in place for the school.
- In the proposed scenario, students from the VMPS area, would attend Gordon B. Attersley PS (GBAPS). Current Grade 7 students (in Grade 8 for 2024-25), preparing to enter secondary school may want to graduate with their peers. They have the option to attend VMPS or GBAPS for the 2024-2025 school. The data presented on the following slides assumes these students would remain at VMPS.

# Proposed Scenario Considerations for GBAPS

Gordon B Attersley PS City of Oshawa MRC:		481		Impact on Enrolment with Boundary Adjustment			
	Total Enrolment	Utilization	Portables Needed		Total Enrolment	Utilization	Portables Needed
October 2022	476	99%	0				
October 2023 (actuals)	482	100%	0				
October 2024	474	99%	0		<b>625</b>	<b>130%</b>	<b>6</b>
October 2025	475	99%	0		<b>636</b>	<b>132%</b>	<b>7</b>
October 2026	464	96%	0		<b>630</b>	<b>131%</b>	<b>6</b>
October 2027	468	97%	0		<b>633</b>	<b>132%</b>	<b>7</b>



# Other Boundary Scenarios Examined

- Realign the Enrolment boundaries between Vincent Massey PS and Coronation PS
  - Coronation PS is a 377-pupil place dual track school offering JK to Grade 8 Regular program and Grade 4 to Grade 8 Gifted program on a 6.8-acre site.
  - The October 2023 preliminary enrolment was 454, a utilization of 120%.
  - Coronation PS is the overflow school for Northern Dancer PS which is unable to accommodate additional students as it is at its portable maximum.
  - The library at Coronation PS is currently being utilized for classroom space. Renovations of the library have had to been delayed for the past two years to accommodate this alternative use of the space. Library renovations are now scheduled to occur for the 2024-2025 school year.
  - For the reasons noted above there is insufficient space to accommodate additional students at Coronation PS.

# Other Boundary Scenarios Examined 2

- Realign the Enrolment boundaries between Vincent Massey PS and Harmony Heights PS
  - Harmony Heights PS is a 317-pupil place JK to Grade 8 Regular program school on a 5-acre site.
  - The bus loop is small, and expansion would interfere with the existing cross walk and is limited by location of the main hydro service. There is no option to create a secondary drop off on the north side due to steep grades.
  - The parking lot is maximized and the site does not lend itself to creating a turn-around space for cars.
  - For the reasons noted above Harmony Heights PS site does not have sufficient space to expand its boundary/add students.

# Other Boundary Scenarios Examined 3

- Realign the Enrolment boundaries between Vincent Massey PS and Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS
  - Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS is a 495-pupil place JK to Grade 8 Regular program school with an October 2023 preliminary enrolment of 726, a utilization rate of 147%.
  - For the 2023-2024 school year there are 8 portables on site to accommodate the in-boundary enrolment.
  - A small block south of Taunton Road, being held at Gordon B Attersley PS is proposed by staff to be part of Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS home boundary for future students.
  - Given the current and projected enrolment at Pierre Elliott Trudeau PS there is insufficient space to accommodate additional students.

# VMPS School Community Concerns

- With increased enrolment at VMPS there have been concerns with increased traffic and congestion on and off site at Vincent Massey PS and the adjacent Eastdale CVI.
- Facilities Services staff have been out to the site to review traffic and have retained an independent consultant to conduct a review and look at alternative solutions to address:
  - Traffic on Harmony Road North, entering onto the Eastdale CVI property (used by Vincent Massey PS).
  - Traffic leaving the Eastdale CVI property bottlenecking while waiting to make a left turn onto Adelaide Avenue East.
- The increasing number of portables on site reduces play area.

# Considerations

- DDSB recognizes that good mental health is an important foundation for achievement and well-being.
- Schools are an ideal place for mental health promotion, the prevention of mental health concerns, and the early identification of mental health concerns through school-based prevention and intervention services. Schools provide students with the knowledge and skills to be aware of, care for, and advocate for their own mental health and well-being.
- Changes because of the proposed boundary shifts will be a transition for students and families. With this on mind, the mental health and well-being of students and their caregivers who may be affected by these changes are among the district's leading considerations.
- DDSB will be intentional in the transition supports for all students impacted by the change. Relationship building and facilitating a sense of school community, connectedness and belonging across all learning spaces will be key commitments throughout this process.

# Considerations 2

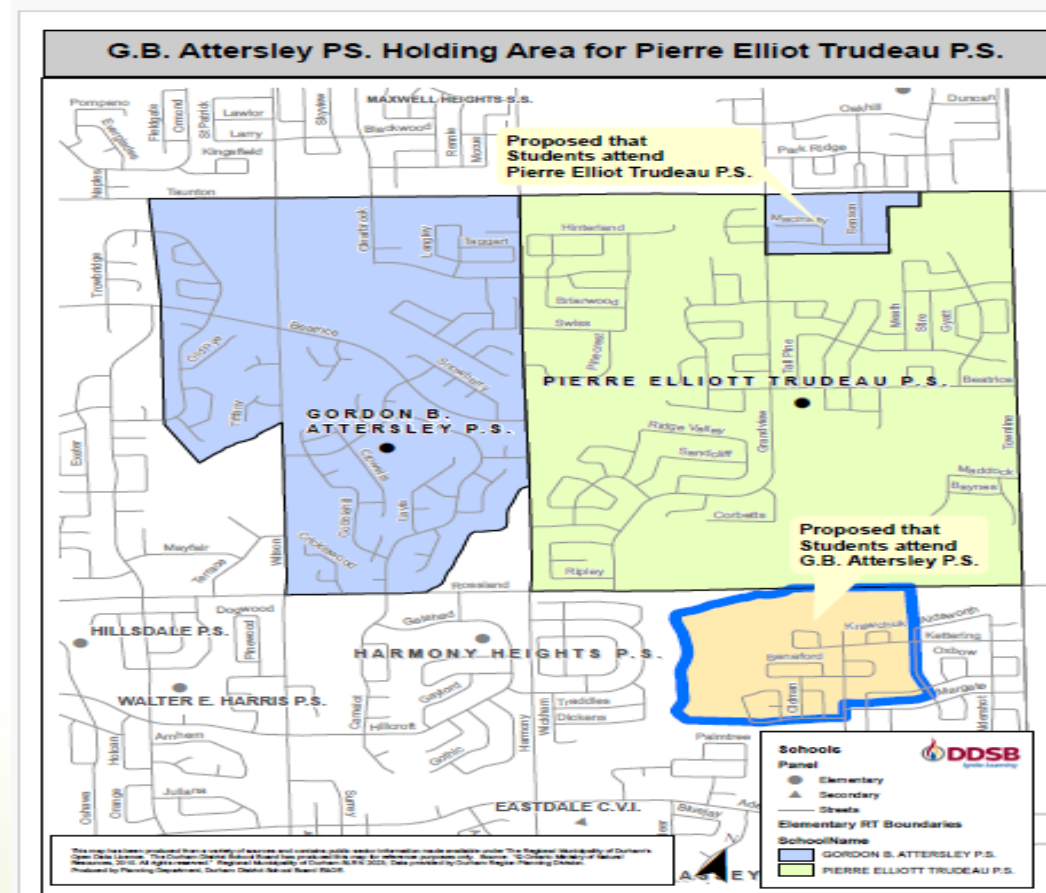
- Durham Student Transportation Services (DSTS) identify safe walking routes for all schools.
- Under the DSTS Transportation Policy, students residing more than 1.6 km from their designated school of attendance would be eligible for school bus transportation.
- The number of school buses that may be required for the realigned VMPS and expanded GBAPS enrolment boundaries will be determined by DSTS, should the boundary realignment be approved.
- Should the Board of Trustees approve this proposed Boundary realignment in February 2024 for implementation in September 2024, there will be sufficient time for decisions, that impact staffing of VMPS and GBAPS, to be made.

# Gordon B Attersley PS Holding



- A residential block, located south of Taunton Road, including the streets: MacInally Court, Glenbourne Drive and Benson Street, has been holding at GBAPS since the area was developed.
- The block is within PETPS boundary; however, at the time of the development of this land the PETPS was unable to accommodate due to enrolment pressures.
- The block is transported to GBAPS and is within walking distance to PETPS. There are currently approximately 12 students attending GBAPS from this area.
- It is proposed that the block be added to the PETPS boundary area as of the 2024-2025 school year. Students and their siblings currently residing within this area and attending GBAPS, will be given the option to remain at GBAPS with transportation or attend PETPS as of September 2024. Any new families registering, pending Board of Trustee approval, will attend PETPS.
- This boundary revision allows families to attend school within their home school boundary.

# Gordon B Attersley PS Holding Map



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# Input Received to Date

## Comment:

- How will students in ISS/SSP classes be affected if they live in the area proposed to be moved to Gordon B Attersley PS?
- My children will be affected by this boundary proposal if approved by Trustees. My children have anxiety, and this will affect their mental health.

## Response:

- Changes because of the proposed boundary shifts will be a transition for students and families. With this in mind, the mental health and well-being of students and their caregivers who may be affected by these changes are among the district's leading considerations. DDSB will be intentional in the transition supports for all students impacted by the change. Relationship building and facilitating a sense of school community, connectedness and belonging across all learning spaces will be key commitments throughout this process.
- Should the DDSB proposed scenario be approved by the Board in February 2024, the DDSB will consider the needs of affected students as part of the transition process with staff available to address student and parental/guardian concerns.

# Input Received to Date 2

## Comment:

- Concern for families who have child care currently. What can they do if they are relocated to Gordon B Attersley PS?

## Response:

- The DDSB works in partnership with the Durham Region in the provision of child care and/or before and after care services. Durham Region will identify areas where child care needs are required based on the population. Gordon B Attersley PS is not an identified location for before and after care. The Region, when assessing needs looks all Attersley service providers in an area. In the case of schools, the Region is required to consider all 6 school boards' facilities across Durham Region and not only the DDSB's schools.
- The DDSB will discuss the concerns expressed regarding the need for before and after school care at Gordon B Attersley PS with Durham Region to determine if the Region will reassess this location in its child care planning exercise.

# Input Received to Date 3

## Comment:

- All our schools are well over capacity what is the plan to construct new schools?

## Response:

- The need for new school is determined through an analysis of long-term, sustainable enrolment in an area. New schools are funded by the Ministry of Education based on evidence of sustainable enrolment. In north Oshawa there is a new development and growth that supports the application for new school funding.
- Funding to address enrolment pressures within established neighbourhoods may be available when considering additions to existing schools. Wherever possible, addressing increasing enrolment at existing schools is assessed through options developed for boundary revisions instead of increasing the permanent size of an existing school. A boundary revision is a mechanism available to balance enrolments within communities.

# Input Received to Date 4



## Comment:

- Previously closing and consolidating schools was a terrible decision. These schools that consolidated now have portables.

## Response:

- In determining the need for closing and consolidating schools, the DDSB looks at long-term enrolment and demographics of a community combined with the overall need to repair/renovate aging schools. With consolidation, new replacement schools were built at a size that reflected the enrolment need at that time. The redevelopment and relocation of families into existing mature communities, during and since the pandemic was not foreseen at the rate of occurrence. This is a province-wide trend and not specific to Oshawa.

## Comment:

- Does DDSB still own former Athabasca PS? If so it could be renovated and re-opened.

## Response:

- DDSB does not own the former Athabasca PS property.

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# Input Received to Date 5

## Comment:

- There are houses in Vincent Massey PS's boundary that are yet to be occupied and therefore likely see enrolment higher than projected.

## Response:

- DDSB projections account for all new development. Some new developments may yield more than the average, or less. In projecting new growth DDSB considers that not all new units will have children or DDSB students. Students may attend other school boards, private school etc.

## Comment:

- With the proposed boundary change and proposed enrolments Vincent Massey PS will still be too large.

## Response:

- The proposed boundary revisions considered the balancing of enrolments at Vincent Massey PS as well as Gordon B Attersley PS, as was the case with other boundary scenarios reviewed.

# Input Received to Date 6

## Comment:

- I agree that something has to be done about the overpopulation and parking lot frenzy at Vincent Massey PS. I have concerns with the amount of portables and classroom in the library. I am in support of a needed change.

## Response:

- The proposal to relocate some students to Gordon B Attersley PS will ease the enrolment pressures at Vincent Massey PS and should help to address traffic concerns. The DDSB has retained an independent consultant to look at alternative solutions to address traffic.

## Comment:

- Will transportation be provided for the legacy students currently in Grade 7?

## Response:

- These students would continue to have transportation as the option to remain at their current school is being supported by the DDSB.

# Input Received to Date 7

**Comment:**

- Where would the proposed 6 portables go at Gordon B Attersley PS and how would traffic be managed on site?

**Response:**

- Up to 8 portables can be accommodated on Gordon B Attersley PS's site. A traffic review can be requested by the school, at any time, to address a review of the site.

**Comment:**

- Instead of relocating all students residing in the proposed review area, would it be better to send new Kindergarten students to another school. Alternatively, allow French Immersion students go to their French Immersion school for Kindergarten?

**Response:**

- When undertaking a boundary review, all grades are involved in the review to ensure sustainable enrolment is achieved resulting in a reduction in the enrolment pressure experienced by students already at the school under review. The French Immersion program starts at Grade 1. There is no opportunity for French Immersion students to go to their French Immersion school for Kindergarten.

# Input Received to Date 8

## Comment:

- Originally there was a public school site at Kettering Drive and Fleetwood Drive. What is the status of this site and could a school be built here to relieve pressures at Vincent Massey PS?

## Response:

- DDSB did not purchase the former public school site near Kettering Drive and Fleetwood Drive therefore it remained in the ownership of the developer.
- New schools are typically built to accommodate a sustainable enrolment of more than 600 students. There is not enough new development in this part of Oshawa that would result in this number of students. As a result, a business case to the Ministry of Education for new school funding may not be successful.



# Input Received to Date 9

## Comment:

- How was the current area, proposed to attend Gordon B Attersley PS chosen when there are other newer developments that could be considered? Why not send students from the south east end of Vincent Massey PS to Forest View PS as an alternative solution?

## Response:

- Other boundary scenarios were examined before staff decided on the proposed realigned boundary. These scenarios are included within this presentation.
- Forest View PS was not included in this review. Staff will review this community-driven boundary scenario and provide input in the final report to Trustees on February 20, 2024.

# Communication Plan and Wrap Up



- Thank you for your participation.
- Your input is invaluable to the DDSB and will be included in the Final Recommendation Report to be submitted to the Board of Trustees on February 20, 2024, where the Trustees will be considering the recommendation resulting from this consultation.
- Should the Trustees approve the final recommendation, the implementation of the realigned boundaries would be effective September 2024.
- Continued input is always welcome.

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# Communication Plan Continued



- Staff will collect feedback until January 12, 2024, via:
  - Email at [VMPSBoundaryReview@ddsb.ca](mailto:VMPSBoundaryReview@ddsb.ca)
  - Phone line 905-666-6473
  - Survey at: <https://survey.sogolytics.com/r/CncU8t>

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# Communication Plan Continued 2

- The following information is available at:  
<https://www.ddsbc.ca/en/about-ddsb/boundary-and-program-reviews.aspx>.
- Information Report to the Board of Trustees dated December 4, 2023
- PowerPoint Presentations dated December 5, 2023 & December 12, 2023
- Newsletter (also available on the three schools' websites)

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# Conclusion



- The information contained in this presentation together with community input that is received will be included in a final report to Trustees.
- The final recommendation report will be presented to Trustees at the February 20, 2024, Board Meeting.
- The report will summarize all feedback collected and provide a recommendation on the boundary realignments for Trustees' consideration.

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# Question and Answers