

Willow Road Public School

125 Willow Road, Guelph, ON N1H 1W4

Tel: (519) 821-1760

Fax: (519) 821-0342

Principal: Steve Viveiros

Vice Principal: Chad Reay

May 26, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As part of the Board's Annual French Review process, Staff confirmed that a new West Guelph FI program will be accommodated at Gateway Drive PS (JK-3 FI) and Willow Road PS (Grade 4-8 FI). At the May 23 Board meeting, trustees approved the initiation of the West Guelph French Immersion (FI) Boundary Review process to confirm the boundary for this new FI program.

In the Initial Boundary Review Report presented to trustees, there were three (3) possible accommodation options presented. A fourth option was presented to Trustees by staff in response to questions about the proposed new West Guelph FI program.

Options 1-4 recommend the same West Guelph JK-8 FI boundary for Gateway Drive PS/Willow Road PS. The boundary generally includes the area west of the Hanlon Expressway to the Guelph Woolwich Townline, south of Speedvale/Highway 7 and north of the Speed River. This area is currently assigned to Paisley Road PS for JK-3 FI and John McCrae PS for Grade 4-8 FI.

All four options also include the following assumptions:

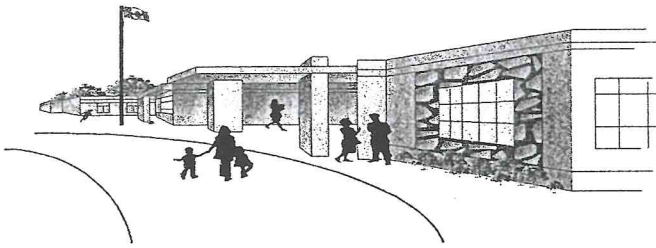
- JK-3 FI at Gateway Drive PS feeding to Grades 4-8 FI at Willow Road PS
- A cap of 29 JK FI students at Gateway Drive PS

In Options 1-3, consideration is given to growing the new FI program starting with JK/SK at Gateway Drive PS in 2018/19. Each year following, the program would grow by a grade resulting in the full implementation of the new JK-8 FI program in West Guelph by 2026/27. Option 4 proposes that the FI program start JK-3 at Gateway Drive PS in 2018/19 with the program gaining a grade each year following. In Option 4, the new JK-8 FI program would be fully implemented by 2023/24.

Staff recommended Option 3 in the Initial Boundary Review Report. In addition to growing FI at Gateway Drive PS and Willow Road PS, Option 3 also considers modifying the current FI grade configuration at Paisley Road PS for it to gradually accommodate its own JK-6 FI students. Modified JK FI caps for both Paisley Road PS and John McCrae PS are considered in Option 3.

This boundary review process will take place from May 23 until the Final Decision of trustees at the September 26, 2017, Board meeting. Public input is being sought throughout the review process.





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A **Public Information Session** is scheduled for **June 21, 2017, from 7-9 pm at Gateway Drive PS.** The purpose of the public meeting is for Board staff to share information from the Initial Boundary Review Report and a description of Options 1-4, gather input into staff's recommended option, and answer questions. The public may delegate at any of the Standing Committee or Board meetings during the review process.

A copy of the Initial Boundary Review Report and Option 4, including recommended boundary maps, is available online at www.ugdsb.on.ca/wgbr or at your school office.

The review's web page is an excellent way to keep up-to-date with the process of the boundary review. You may subscribe to email alerts to be notified when any new content is added. An online form is available where you may submit your ideas, suggestions and comments. This feedback will be shared with trustees and the Board Staff Committee and posted online. Names and identifying information will be removed to protect your privacy.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Steve Viveiros", written over a faint, illegible printed name.

