



Student Accommodation Planning: Northglen Neighbourhood and Elementary Schools Connected to Bowmanville High School / Clarington Central Secondary School

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

UPDATED FEBRUARY 27, 2024

Q. Why are boundary adjustments necessary?

A. As part of planning and construction of the new Northglen neighbourhood school, the Board is moving forward with establishing boundaries for eligible students to attend. The school is an important step in addressing enrolment pressures in schools within the area.

School board administration has also been reviewing the capacity and space limitations of schools in the Bowmanville/Northwest Clarington area overall. Some schools in the area are projected to continue to have significantly more students than they can accommodate, while others are under capacity.

To identify long-term solutions to these challenges, administration is considering boundary and school adjustments to elementary schools within the Bowmanville High School (HS) Family of Schools and Clarington Central Secondary School (SS) Family of Schools.

Q. What boundaries are being considered for the new Northglen neighbourhood school?

A. In the establishment of school boundaries for the new Northglen neighbourhood school, administration has considered options that would result in changes to the following schools:

- Charles Bowman PS
- Clarington Central Intermediate School
- Central PS
- Enniskillen PS
- Harold Longworth
- Hampton Junior Public School and M.J. Hobbs Senior Public School
- Waverly PS

Q. What other school boundary adjustments are being considered?

Administration is also proposing broader boundary adjustments between elementary schools in these areas. Specifically, adjustments between the following schools:

- Dr. Ross Tilley PS and Lydia Trull PS – with Lydia Trull PS receiving additional students,
- Harold Longworth PS and Vincent Massey PS – with Harold Longworth PS receiving additional students.

Q. How can I be a part of the consultation on these possible changes?

- A. We invited parents/caregivers from these school communities to join us at two parent meetings to learn more about the proposed school boundaries for the new Northglen neighbourhood school, the accommodation challenges we are addressing, and provide feedback and input on these issues and possible solutions.

October 16, 2023, 6:30 p.m., Clarington Central Secondary School
December 7, 2023, 6:30 p.m., Clarington Central Secondary School

Q. What if I can't attend these meetings but still want to share my input?

- A. All meeting information packages are available on a dedicated section of the website, and there was an online opportunity for parents to share their thoughts and comments.

Q. What happens after the consultation process? When will a decision be made on any possible changes to the schools involved?

- A. After consultation with parents and community, it is expected that administration will make recommendations to the Board for a final decision tentatively scheduled for the end of February.

Q. When will any possible boundary changes begin?

- A. The boundary changes being proposed would take effect, with the opening of the new school, which is anticipated to be in September 2025. Temporary, short-term plans may be required during the 2023-24 school year to address schools with immediate enrolment pressures.

Q. What factors will administration consider when identifying future recommendations?

- A. Administration will begin by reviewing the feedback and information provided by parents and community through the consultation process.

The most significant factor that will guide decision making in this area will be: how many students attend the schools now, and how many may be expected in future years.

Q. Whom can I contact if I have further questions about this review?

- A. Again, we welcome all members of the community to take part in this process. If you would like to learn more about the consultation process and the related issues, please contact your school principal or Jamila Maliha, Superintendent of Education, 705-742-9773 Toll free: 1-877-741-4577, Extension 2425 or Tracey Shevchuk, Executive Assistant, Extension 2425.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS POSED:
FEBRUARY 2024

- Q. As part of transition planning, will consideration be given to allow students to stay at their former schools?**
- A. Students will move to the same school as the rest of their classmates and cohort. Requests for students to attend a different school would be handled as an out-of-boundary request and would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- Q. Which teachers will be at the new school; will teachers from nearby local schools move?**
- A. School staffing is informed annually by a number of factors, including student enrolment, staff retirements, leaves of absence, etc. School staff have the opportunity to apply for open positions at schools, based on the pre-established processes.
- Q. How will students with special needs to be supported through this transition?**
- A. Staff at the new Northglen neighbourhood school will participate in transition planning for students with special needs, as part of the Individual Education Plan (IEP) process, to ensure all students are supported.
- Q. How will the proposed changes affect busing, or student safety walking to the new school?**
- A. Students will either be bused or walk to school, based on distance eligibility from their home address. School zones are busy places and safety is a shared responsibility. We appreciate the efforts of municipal crossing guards for their support of student safety.
- Q. How will a positive school culture be supported for students coming from a number of different schools?**
- A. As part of the planning process leading up to the new school opening, students and families will be invited to participate in activities that support positive transitions and build school climate and culture.