

**ACCOMMODATION REVIEW MEETING  
CHARLTON-SAVARD PUBLIC SCHOOL  
NOVEMBER 2, 2007  
7:00 P.M.  
NEW LISKEARD BOARD OFFICE**

In attendance:

Linda Knight, Director of Education  
Barry Peterson, Superintendent of Business  
Saunders Porter, Chairperson of Committee  
Richard Knowles, Trustee  
Volker Wiessner, CSPS Council  
Peter Osterberg, Trustee  
Tom Henderson, Trustee  
Marion Catchpole, local business rep.

1. Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 p.m. by Saunders Porter,  
Chairperson of the Committee.

2. Minutes of the October 16 meeting:

It was moved by Tom Henderson and seconded by Richard Knowles that the  
minutes be accepted as printed.

Carried.

3. Saunders reviewed the purpose of the last meeting and that the purpose of  
this meeting was to go through information requested and present a plan for  
the upcoming public meeting.

4. Barry presented documentation showing the following information on  
Charlton-Savard Pubic School and Englehart Public School:

- a. school profiles
- b. ministry rated capacities
- c. school enrolments from 1998 to 2008
- d. school surplus spaces
- e. utilization percentage
- f. school organization
- g. EQAO results
- h. specialized programs
- i. teams
- j. clubs
- k. field trips
- l. extra –curricular activities

- m. parent council activities
- n. teacher interaction
- o. community use of schools
- p. community use of school grounds
- q. other educational uses
- r. transportation times and distances
- s. physical condition
- t. school grounds condition
- u. accessibility, safety
- v. catchment area population

He then reviewed what a combined school would look like showing the following information:

- a. combined school projected enrolments, surplus spaces and utilization
- b. combined school organization from 2008 to 2016
- c. combined staffing from 2008 to 2016
- d. times and distances for Charlton-Savard students bussed to Englehart Public School
- e. combined school staff savings
- f. combined school dollar cost savings
- g. combined school 2007-08 grant reduction dollars
- h. combined school net savings in dollars

The committee reviewed the information starting with Charlton-Savard Public School, then Englehart Public School and the Combined School Profile.

Barry explained that part of the mandate of this committee was to look at the school profile and what is in place as well as give an explanation of the changes in capacity. The projected enrolment process used is one that is used by all boards, its straight forward, moving year to year with 100% retention and is fairly accurate. He asked the council members to bring forward any information of economic development that could affect the population of the area. The Board would have to take that into consideration. A survey of pre-school children was done that will tell us how many children are coming into the system.

Tom asked about including students coming in from other grades as well as pre-school but was told that we don't know this information and there is a fear of over-projecting. Charts show a declining enrolment.

Al requested copies of projection information that the Board used for the last five years.

Barry responded that we know what we have in hand and what is moving through the system. The idea is "how are we going to fill the school up?" It's at 50% capacity.

Al asked again if the information on projections available and was given the response that it is not kept because it is not relevant and that we cannot speculate. Al then commented that the projections to 2014 cannot be accepted because historical projections are not kept so the Board only knows what is true today. Barry responded that the projections are valid unless the Municipal council know something that is going to happen in the economic community.

Tom thought that there could be other factors that would increase the enrolment. He thought that the Board was speculating. He accused the Board of wanting it both ways. He was told that something would have to change and the trend line does not show that.

Linda confirmed that there are only 4 students coming in and more than that going out in grade 8.

Barry told the committee that the Board is not out to close the school. We need the municipal perspective here.

Al commented that a ratepayer is sending their children directly to Englehart Public School and not Charlton-Savard P.S. for consistency. This kind of information does not show up. He was told the Board uses the Principal's data and should know the students and their families.

Linda commented in reviewing projected organization for the next few years that quadruple grades will be a reality. We are presently looking at triple and quadruple grades.

She also reviewed the EQAO results in grade 3 and 6 compared with the province. Al noted that this also gives a snapshot of the quality of education at Charlton-Savard P.S. which is pretty good but he questioned the results in various years and in particular the 0 in one year. CSPS is all over the place in results and he wanted to know why. Linda explained that there are many variables that can affect results. Al then wondered about the value of this then. One page looks great and the other one doesn't. What do I conclude about my school? It's hard to use this information in any meaningful way and can the results be trusted.

Linda explained that OFIP stands for Ontario Focused Intervention Program. It's for the junior grades where the Ministry of Education gives support in dollars and people in intervention in literacy, numeracy and writing. She then reviewed the specialized programs, teams, field trips, other extra-curricular and parent council activities. There is teacher interaction with the Elk lake Public School staff. The community agencies and organizations use the school and the grounds.

With regard to transportation Barry reviewed the earliest pickup and drop-off, plus longest and shortest distances. All students are bussed. The school is in good condition and he reviewed what has been spent from 2002 to 2006 and what upgrades are planned for 2007-08 as well as the next four years and beyond.

AI stated that he had worked on the school roof and disputed the roofing cost of \$391,000 saying he felt that this was too high. He said a more accurate cost would be something less than ½ of that cost. He was told that these numbers are from the Ministry but the Board would be more than willing to meet with himself, Barry Martin and Paul Gervais to discuss the roofing job. As far as the school site and grounds, this is in good shape with a bit of landscaping to be done. The school is handicapped accessible, safe and is supervised by teachers. The catchment area population is declining as shown on the chart.

The committee then turned to the Englehart Public School information looking at school profile, ministry capacity, number of classrooms, declining enrolment, etc. Linda went over the specialized program, teams, clubs and field trips that this school has. Volker commented that school dances for grades 5 to 8 should be added to the school functions. Linda then went over the EQAO results for grade 3 and 6 in reading, writing and mathematics. The scores are not as high as Charlton-Savard but they are assessing twice as many students and there are other variables that affect results. Barry noted that the school site and grounds are in good condition and that some paving is scheduled to be done. Presently, a drainage program is being completed. This school is handicapped accessible and is safe and supervised.

AI questioned where the school condition and costs sheet was for Englehart Public School. He was informed that Englehart Public School is not under review, therefore not necessary to include, but will be made available.

The committee then reviewed information on what a combined school would look like with regard to projected enrolment and utilization. A school organization chart projecting enrolment by grades from 2008 to 2016 showed some double grades. Concerns were raised about children being sent on to Holy Family School rather than Englehart Public School. A few families are lost to Home Schooling and the Board no longer has control over the programs they teach. Barry then went over what staffing would look like from 2008 until 2016. All previous Charlton Savard students would be bussed with bussing times as shown on the chart. Francine Landriault, Transportation Officer for this end of the Board was asked to come into the meeting to respond to questions the committee had. The committee asked her to provide them with projected routes. Concerns were raised about the logging trucks that travel on the highways the busses travel in this area, especially in

the winter. Speed and slippery conditions were a big concern and the OPP have been called by residents in the past.

After the presentations, Barry asked the municipal members if they had anything they wanted to share as to what the municipalities had planned. Al Fraser said that his municipality was putting together a presentation but it would not be available for the first public meeting.

Saunders reviewed the public meeting format for the committee. It will start with welcome to everyone, followed by introductions, presentations by Barry, Linda and Jo-Anne and then open up to the public for questions and comments.

The meeting ended with comments that the questions have to be answered on fact only or they must be tabled if the answer is unknown. The committee has to be seen as being on the same page. Al responded with "I am very suspicious of you. Everyone in the public are going to be to saying 'how can we stop this'. They are out to have your initiative fail. We need to deal with that."

At 10:12 p.m. the meeting adjourned.