



Middle School Transition Meeting May 27, 2019

In attendance:

Jeremy Lyndon, Woody Bradford

Fort Langley – Susan McDonald, John Broughton, Martina Boyd

Coghlan – Cathy Gracie, Lori Kadagies, Shelly Wutke

Wix Brown – Rhonda Krisko, Kaitlyn Chalmers, Sara Mikan

Peterson Road – Lisa Dolinski, Jana Hikichi

North Otter – Tanya Rogers, Caitlin Harding, Elaine Wallace

DW Poppy – George Kozlovic, Dean Pacheco, Gord Yu, Tammy Bailey, Stuart Crowley, Aaron Gollub, Chris Janzen, Marlene Yakabuski, Laurel Horn

Presentation by Woody Bradford

- Introductions and preamble
- Recap of discussion over the past few years with respect with middle school transition:
 - Safety – separation of 6-8 and 9-12
 - Educational improvements in programming
 - Facility upgrades
- Funding from government did not materialize
- District has released some funds to start with middle school upgrades to DWP
- Government requires district to provide some of the funding for new builds
- Presentation of some of challenges that exist in the Poppy and Aldergrove regions
- Options for the Poppy region:
 - Wait on the capital funding
 - Educational programming
 - Timeline – inconclusive
 - Facility
 - Provide portables onsite and go forth with the transition
 - Safety
 - Community
 - Educational programming
 - Timeline – next year
 - Transportation – split schedule, some students will need to dropped off at 6:30 am
 - BCIT may need to be relocated
 - Poppy Middle, ACSS Secondary



- 7 elementary schools feeding into a middle school
 - Split schedule not needed
 - Improved educational programming for students in the Poppy region
 - Facility changes would be minimal
 - Timeline – 2021
 - Fort Langley to potentially feed into WGSS or LSS
 - Coghlan can continue to come to DWP or if want LFMS need to add portables
- Woody to go to each school committee to have discussion about

Reflections from Committee

- Is the potential for upgrades to ACSS building?
 - No major changes, possibly painting
 - Programming changes will be substantial
- What will happen to Betty Gilbert?
 - Betty Gilbert to return to elementary school
- What would enrolment numbers look like at ACSS?
 - Currently ACSS has 650 with ISP, DWP has 750 with ISP and Grade 8, potentially 950 grades 9-12 at ACSS as secondary school
- General consensus among Fort Langley and Wix group is in favour of DWP Middle and ACSS Secondary. Based on consideration and information presented, it appears that option 3 makes the most sense in terms on safety, programming, facilities and timeline
- Fort Langley parents would like their kids to participate with families in their community
- Stu Crowley, worked at both DWP and ACSS and has a great experience at both sites and would have no hesitations sending his kids to either school
- Coghlan, in favour of having DWP as a middle as this would an excellent idea as a true middle school model. Need to have information shared with families to promote great things happening in ACSS. Possibly having tours of some of the middle schools to see what middles schools have to offer.
- DWP, questions about special ed, what happens to staff, lots of granular questions. In agreement that option 3 is the best use of facilities and programs
- Peterson, option 3 appears to be an excellent idea. Prefer separation of 6-8 and 9-12. Logistical questions with regard to bussing. What happens to ACSS if Coghlan go to ACSS?
- Lisa Dolinski has been part of two communities that have undergone change and initially there is some emotional attachment but ultimately, communities have appreciated the change and opportunities that have become available to the students.
- Stu Crowley, the decision we make is for the long-term benefit of our students.