

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2025

Public Session: 6:00 pm

AGENDA

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD

1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory
2. Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

B. SINGING OF 'O CANADA'

Jacob Beam Public School choir will perform O'Canada via video

C. REFLECTIVE READING

By Trustee Jonathan Fast

D. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Recommended Motion:

"That the Agenda be adopted."

2. Approval of Board Minutes

Pages 5-11

Recommended Motion:

"That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated September 23, 2025, be confirmed as submitted."

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

E. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS

1. Director's Recognition and Highlights

K. Pisek – Pages 12-14

a) Director's Recognition

- **Alexis Kleiman**, Board Chair, Education Foundation of Niagara (EFN) and DSBN Computer Technician, Information Technology Services (ITS)

b) Director's Highlights

2. Educational Showcase

F. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

G. DELEGATIONS

1. J. Pakeman and N. Pakeman
2. L. Gollino
3. Z. Jakibchuk
4. L. Cripps

H. BOARD RECESS (OPTIONAL)

I. OLD BUSINESS

1. Report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee

H. Campbell – Page 15

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee dated October 8, 2025, be received.”

2. Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee

E. Klassen / S. Mitchell – Pages 16-17

Recommended Motion:

“That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated October 9, 2025, be received.”

3. Report of the Program and Planning Committee

S. Jovanovic – Pages 18-44

Recommended Motions:

“That the report of the Program and Planning Committee dated October 20, 2025, be received.”

“That the boundary changes as shown in Appendix B for McKay PS and the new school in the Dain City Development be approved; and,
That the boundary change as shown in Appendix D for Bridgeview French Immersion programming be approved; and,

That the boundary changes take effect on the day after the Board of Trustees approval and students will attend the boundary schools commencing in 2027-28 school year.”

“That the Board of Trustees approve an elementary boundary change to transfer the area shown as on Appendix B from Oakridge PS to Briardale PS; and,
That the approved boundary changes take effect on the day after the Board of Trustees approval, and students in this area attend Briardale PS for the 2026-2027 school year.”

“That the Board of Trustees approve a boundary change to transfer the area shown as Zone A on revised Appendix A from St. Davids PS to Crossroads PS; and
That the approved boundary changes take effect on the day after the Board of Trustees approval and students in this area attend Crossroads PS for the 2026-2027 school year.”

J. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

K. NEW BUSINESS

L. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Staff Reports

- a) Staffing 2025-2026 Report
M. St. John – Pages 45-46

2. Trustee Information Sessions

3. Correspondence and Communications

4. Trustee, Student Trustee and Indigenous Student Trustee Communications and School Liaison

5. Ontario Public School Boards’ Association Report

6. Ontario Student Trustees’ Association Report

7. Future Meetings

Pages 47-48

- b) November Meeting Calendar
- c) November Days of Significance Calendars

M. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1. Motion to Move to Committee of the Whole (Private Session)

Motion:

“That the Board do now enter Committee of the Whole.”

2. Motion to Return to Open Board (Public Session)

N. RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Recommended Motion:

“That the business transacted in Committee of the Whole be now ratified by the Board.”

O. RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN THIS REGULAR MEETING

Recommended Motions:

“That the business transacted by the Board of Trustees at its meeting held on October 28, 2025, be now ratified by the Board.”

“That the Chair and proper officials of the District School Board of Niagara are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the business as decided by the Board of Trustees this day.”

P. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

Public Session: 6:00 p.m. – 7:14 p.m. | Private Session: 7:05 p.m. – 7:14 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

(*denotes approval received to attend electronically)

BOARD

Kate Baggott, Sue Barnett (Chair), Nancy Beamer, Mike Brousseau, Lora Campbell *, Jonathan Fast, Susan Jovanovic, Elizabeth Klassen (Vice Chair), Deanne MacIntosh*, Shannon Mitchell

STUDENT TRUSTEES

William Connor, Jaclyn Saddler

INDIGENOUS STUDENT TRUSTEE

Barrett Dockstator

ADMINISTRATION

Kelly Pisek (Director of Education), Simon Hancox, Mary Anne Gage, Ann Gilmore, Marian Reimer Friesen, Melanie Sendzik, Neil Sheard, Jaime Sinnett, Michael St. John, Teri Thompson, Darren VanHooydonk, Nicky Westlake, Jennifer Feren, Milica Petkovic, Karen Bellamy

RECORDING SECRETARY

Jennifer Reid

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Nate Burns, Ann Hamm

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

Chair Barnett opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of the Traditional Territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples.

2. CALL TO ORDER AND NOTING OF MEMBERS ABSENT

Moved by Nancy Beamer

Seconded by Mike Brousseau

“That the absence of Trustee Helga Campbell be approved under section 228(1)(b) of the Education Act.”

CARRIED



Chair Barnett called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 6:00 p.m.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

B. SINGING OF 'O CANADA'

The Board stood as '*O Canada*' was performed by Heximer Public School choir, via video and took a moment of silence to honor the memory of a DSBN student.

C. REFLECTIVE READING

There was no reflective reading.

D. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Mike Brousseau
Seconded by Nancy Beamer

"That the Agenda be adopted."
CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Moved by Susan Jovanovic
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

"That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated June 23, 2025, be confirmed as submitted."
CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

E. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASING OR PRESENTATIONS

1. Director's Recognition and Highlights

a) Director's Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions



Director Pisek recognized Meghan Gillespie for her longstanding dedication to DSBN's Outdoor Education Campuses. For over a decade, Meghan has played a key role in shaping meaningful, nature-based learning experiences for thousands of students. Her thoughtful leadership, genuine kindness, and commitment to mentoring new staff have made a lasting impact.

b) Director's Highlights

Director Pisek along with members of the system leadership team provided recent highlights from across the system which included information about:

- First-Day Smiles at DSBN- A warm welcome to new and returning students
- Together We Thrive! Celebrating DSBN's newest teachers
- New Spaces, New Possibilities – Fitch Street & Quaker Road celebrate additions

2. EDUCATIONAL SHOWCASES

There were no educational showcases.

F. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS

There were no student achievement reports.

G. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

H. BOARD RECESS

The Board took a short recess.

Student Trustee Jacklyn Saddler arrived at 6:21 pm.

I. OLD BUSINESS

1. Report of the Finance Committee

Moved by Shannon Mitchell

Seconded by Kate Baggott

"That the report of the Finance Committee dated September 9, 2025, be received."

"That the Award of Contracts Summary Report for the period ended August 31, 2025, be received."

"That the Summary of Accounts paid for the month of June, July, and August 2025, totaling \$103,046,410, be received."

"That the Capital Priorities Program 2025-26 report be approved."



CARRIED

Controller Finance, Nicky Westlake reported that the committee was presented with the 2025-2026 Capital Priorities Program that included the Board's future growth plans for four new elementary schools with childcare spaces. The Award of Contracts Summary report for contracts awarded greater than \$750, 000 between June 2025 to August 2025 and the Summary of Accounts for expenditures paid from June 2025 to August 2025 were presented to the committee.

2. Report of the Audit Committee

Moved by Deanne MacIntosh
Seconded by Lora Campbell

"That the report of the Audit Committee dated September 9, 2025, be received."

"That the Regional Internal Audit Status Report be received."

CARRIED

Controller of Finance, Nicky Westlake shared that Chair Barnett was nominated and declared Chair of the Audit Committee for the 2025-2026 fiscal year and that committee members completed the annual Conflict-of-Interest form as required under Regulation 361/10. In addition, the Internal Audit Status Report was presented to the committee.

3. Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee

Moved by Elizabeth Klassen
Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

"That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated September 11, 2025, be received."

CARRIED

Trustee Shannon Mitchell shared that Linda Morrice will continue as Chair for the 2025-2026 school year and reported that information was presented on summer learning programs. The 2025-2026 Special Education Plan and Parent Guide was shared with committee members and a video about the June 2025 DSBN Special Olympics was presented to the committee.

4. Report of the Parent Involvement Committee

Moved by Susan Jovanovic
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

"That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated September 11, 2025, be received."

CARRIED



Trustee Susan Jovanovic shared that the committee discussed recruitment strategies for additional committee members and if a vote for a new co-chair was required. The committee was asked to provide feedback on policy A-12: School Councils that is up for review and for how to roll out the new PIC promotion video. The agenda for the PIC conference being held on October 29 was reviewed and discussed to help prepare members for the event.

J. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

Discussion addressed operational matters, including admission fees for spectators at sporting events, the implementation of the Hall Mentoring program, and clarification of terminology used during emergency response situations at schools, specifically “Hold and Secure” and “Lockdown.”

K. NEW BUSINESS

L. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. STAFF REPORTS

There were no staff reports.

2. TRUSTEE INFORMATION SESSION

There was no Trustee information session.

3. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION

a) The Board received correspondence from the Canadian Cancer Society.

4. TRUSTEE, STUDENT TRUSTEE, AND INDIGENOUS STUDENT TRUSTEE COMMUNICATIONS AND SCHOOL LIAISON

Student Trustees shared highlights from the recent Student Senate meeting, where senators discussed the goals and visions for this school year, increasing awareness for supports available to students within the DSBN and brainstormed on how to address vaping within schools and make positive changes. In addition, Senators had the opportunity to network with each other and discuss how to increase student knowledge about the role of a senator. Indigenous Student Trustee Dockstator reported that the Indigenous student representative’s guideline is being updated for clarity and shared information about the 3 Nolans event scheduled for September 29 at Laura Secord Secondary School.

Trustees shared information about celebrations and events within the DSBN.

5. Ontario Public School Boards’ Association (OPSBA) Report

There was no Ontario Public School Boards’ Association report.



6. Ontario Student Trustees' Association Report

There was no Ontario Student Trustees' Association report.

7. Future Meetings

- a) The calendar of October 2025 meetings was provided.
Note: A Special Meeting of the Board will be held on October 28 at 5:15 p.m. to fulfill the requirement for a public meeting regarding Education Development Charges.
- b) The October Days of Significance calendar was provided.

The Board took a short recess.

M. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (PRIVATE SESSION)

Moved by Deanne MacIntosh
Seconded by Lora Campbell

"That the Board do now enter Committee of the Whole."
CARRIED

Moved by Kate Baggott
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

"That the Board return to Open meeting."
CARRIED

The Board returned to open meeting at 7:14 p.m.

N. RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved by Shannon Mitchell
Seconded by Kate Baggott

"That the business transacted in Committee of the Whole be now ratified by the Board."

O. RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN THIS REGULAR MEETING

Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

"That the business transacted by the Board of Trustees at its meeting held on September 23, 2025, be now ratified by the Board."



BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2025



“That the Chair and proper officials of the District School Board of Niagara are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the business as decided by the Board of Trustees this day.”

CARRIED

P. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

SUE BARNETT

Chair

KELLY PISEK

Director of Education and Secretary



Director's Highlights

October 2025

DIRECTOR'S RECOGNITION

Alexis Kleiman

Board Chair, Education Foundation of Niagara (EFN) and DSBN Computer Technician, Information Technology Services (ITS)

Alexis Kleiman exemplifies leadership and dedication, consistently championing student learning and well-being. Throughout her career, she has been guided by the belief that collective effort, empathy and innovation can transform educational experiences and empower both students and educators.

Alexis first connected with the Education Foundation of Niagara (EFN) in 2013 after seeing a Prom Project Niagara poster. Her passion and experience quickly led to her appointment as Prom Project lead where she played a key role in reviving the initiative after a two-year pandemic-related pause. Since she joined, Alexis' active involvement has helped more than 5,000 young people across the region access head-to-toe formal wear so they can confidently attend their proms, semi-formals and graduation ceremonies. As EFN Co-Chair Mike Lavallee shares, "Her leadership is a testament to her belief in equity, dignity and opportunity for all youth."

In 2021, she was appointed to the Board of Directors where, in collaboration with fellow board members, she leverages her skills to help reduce barriers to student success and broaden access to enriching school experiences. As Board Chair, Alexis is focused on guiding EFN through a period of strategic revitalization. She has introduced innovative fundraising strategies and re-aligned programs and partnerships to further strengthen the organization's mission. Her leadership has contributed to the successful re-launch of EFN's Student Financial and Medical Needs process, which met all requests submitted during the past year. She also helped revive the charity Golf Classic and, through community partnerships, enabled 2,500 students to participate in Swim to Survive lessons – in this past year alone.

Alexis' dedication to her community extends well beyond EFN. She has volunteered with NEXTNiagara, YWCA, the Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce, the City of St. Catharines' Clean City Task Force, the Ontario Centre for Innovation and United Way Niagara. Her outstanding contributions have been recognized through Women in Business Achievement Awards (2018 and 2022) in the Community Spirit and Community Impact categories as well as a Niagara 40 Under 40 Business Achievement Award (2021).

In addition to her volunteer and leadership roles, Alexis is a highly valued member of DSBN's Information Technology Services (ITS) team where she provides outstanding support to staff and students across the system. Her collaborative approach and technical expertise have made her a trusted liaison between ITS and education, working closely with Curriculum Support Services (CSS), teachers and vendors to ensure a seamless user experience for everyone.

Alexis is known for her thoughtful, steady presence. As Derek Wdowczyk, Manager of Information Technology shares, "She's dependable, approachable and always has the best interests of staff and students in mind. Alexis doesn't look for the spotlight; she consistently steps up when the system needs help."

Since 2021, she has played a vital role in maintaining DSBN's D2L virtual learning environment and each summer, she helps ensure the smooth launch of Summer School programs. Her contributions extend to significant ITS projects, including the recent roll-out of the Aspen Special Education Program and her colleagues consistently praise her professionalism, empathy and mentorship. Debbie Rush, Helpdesk Analyst, shares, "I have never worked with anyone as organized, kind and dedicated as Alexis. She approaches every task with patience, thoughtfulness and remarkable attention to detail. Her guidance and support made the transition into my new role seamless and I continue to benefit from the skills and confidence she helped me build."

EFN Director Kylee Daley summarizes Alexis' impact best: "As a passionate advocate and dedicated mentor, Alexis brings out the best in people; listening deeply, leading boldly and lifting others as she climbs. Her impact is lasting, her example powerful and her legacy one of growth, inclusion and excellence. We are deeply grateful for her guidance and heart."

Congratulations, Alexis on receiving the Director's Recognition Award! Your caring approach continues to inspire and create meaningful solutions for children and families in our community. Thank you for all that you do!



National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

Marking this day of significance

Across the DSBN, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation was marked on September 30th. Elementary and secondary schools, along with the DSBN Education Centre flew the Survivors' flag and many students and staff wore orange shirts to demonstrate their solidarity. These signs of support were paired with thoughtful learning experiences that encouraged understanding and reflection.

At Greater Fort Erie Secondary School (GFESS), students and staff dedicated the day to exploring reconciliation through education, creativity, and action. The morning began with a community chalk art initiative, where groups of students interpreted one of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action, summarizing key messages in their own words and illustrating the corresponding action. Together, their visual interpretations filled the sidewalks in front of GFESS and Fort Erie Town Hall, creating a public education display. Students then took part in a gallery walk, moving from one piece to the next with each group sharing the meaning behind their chosen Call to Action and the inspiration for their artwork.

In the afternoon, students participated in a unity walk from GFESS to Garrison Road Public School, raising funds to support Survivors and their families. Additionally, members of the Indigenous Student Alliance worked together to create commemorative buttons to honour the day.



At Garrison Road, students prepared and served strawberry juice at Breakfast Club. In Haudenosaunee culture, the strawberry - the first berry of the season - is considered a sacred gift from the Creator. Later, older students and Kindergarten classes worked together to weave "Every Child Matters" into the school's fence using ribbon to create a powerful visual of unity and remembrance.

These initiatives reflect DSBN's ongoing commitment to reconciliation through education, empathy, and collective action.



Students created an orange T-shirt with ribbon, weaving the design into the school's fence as part of the visual of unity and remembrance.



DSBN HIGHLIGHTS (con't)

DSBN Hosts Three Nolans

Ted, Brandon & Jordan share the power of perseverance

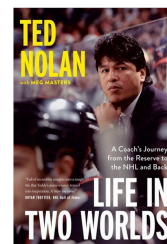
On Monday, September 29, DSBN was thrilled to host An Evening with Ted Nolan & Family at Laura Secord Secondary School, a community event that welcomed over 250 students, staff and community members for a night of inspiration and heartfelt storytelling.

Organized by DSBN's Indigenous Education team and Student Leadership group, the evening opened with Indigenous student representative Alexis Isaacs, who shared a message from her grandfather in Anishinaabemowin in honour of her heritage and family legacy. The spotlight then turned to the Nolans - Ted, Brandon, and Jordan - who shared their powerful journeys from Garden River First Nation to the NHL and beyond.

Through stories of resilience, pride, and perseverance, the Nolans spoke candidly about overcoming racism, poverty, and bullying, while emphasizing the importance of support, joy, and staying true to your roots. Ted Nolan's reflections as a father and coach were especially moving, sparking moments of laughter, applause, and quiet reflection. Audience members also had the opportunity to submit questions through a QR code, making the conversation interactive and inclusive.



As a lasting takeaway, each attendee received a signed copy of Ted Nolan's book *Life in Two Worlds: A Coach's Journey from the Reserve to the NHL and Back*, adding a personal touch to an unforgettable night.



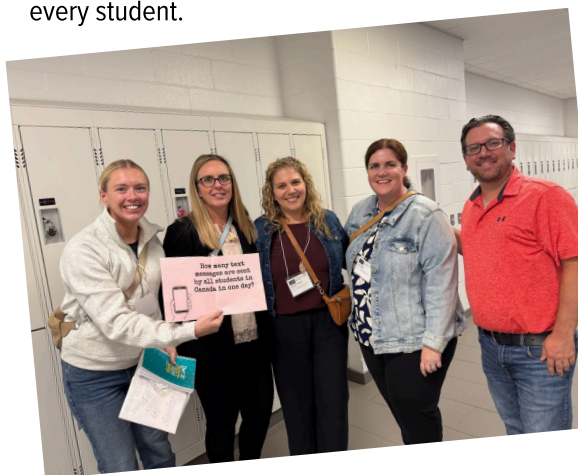
K-12 Math Conference (OAME) at WNSS

Evening PD session highlights educators' dedication

On October 2, nearly 100 DSBN educators from Kindergarten to Grade 12 came together at West Niagara Secondary School (WNSS) for the Southern Ontario Association for Mathematics Education (Golden Section OAME) fall conference - an evening dedicated to exploring how mathematics helps students make sense of the world around them.

The session began with an inspiring keynote from Dr. Chris Suurtamm, who challenged educators to dive into Mathematical Modelling, a key focus in Grades 1-9 math. Participants also engaged in hands-on workshops led by colleagues, including 13 DSBN educators.

What made this event special was the passion behind it. Educators volunteered their time after school to lead, learn and collaborate, a reflection of the strong professional learning community we have across DSBN and our shared commitment to bringing math to life for every student.



WEDNESDAY, OCT 8, 2024

SAL MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members Present

Helga Campbell – Trustee
Ann Gilmore, Superintendent of Student Achievement and Well-Being
Caroline Graham - John Howard Society of Niagara
Sandra Orr - Student Achievement Leader

Administration/Resource

Nadia LaSelva, Attendance Counsellor
Laura Livingston - SAL Secretary
Trisha Miller - Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

Guests

Erica Dorinzi – VP, Greater Fort Erie Secondary School

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE SAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Student Achievement Leader Sandra Orr called the meeting to order at 1 pm.

B. Cases

226-001 SD DOB 17/09/2009

Academics are on hold for the time being.
The student will be connected to the Indigenous Student Well-Being team.

SD has been approved for SAL

C. CASE REVIEW

The Committee met to review fifteen (15) cases that had been brought forward throughout the 2024/2025 school year. Of the fifteen (15) cases heard, ten (10) have been renewed and the students will continue with their SAL plans in the 2025/2026 school year. Five (5) cases are discontinued. These students have transition plans in place.

D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:15p.m.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members Present

Linda Morrice (Chair)-Pathstone Mental Health, Brianne Freiwat-Bethesda, Flavia Orvitz-Autism Ontario, Kathy Bell-Niagara Children's Centre, Catherine Hodson-Niagara Children's Centre School Authority, Kaori Hiruta – Community Living St. Catharines, Tessa Alexander – VOICE for Children Who Are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Administration/Resource

Simon Hancox-Superintendent of Student Achievement and Well-being, Terri Beck- Student Achievement Leader Special Education Elementary, Matt Ezrin – Student Achievement Leader Special Education Secondary, Tracey Krysa – Senior Manager Special Education, Shannon Mitchell - Trustee, District School Board of Niagara, Kelly Pisek – Director of Education

Regrets

Elizabeth Klassen - Trustee, District School Board of Niagara

Recording Secretary

Jennifer McGugan – Safe Schools and Student Well-Being Coordinator

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

Quorum was established and the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m. Chair Morrice opened the meeting with the Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples.

2. WELCOME AND NEW AGENCY

Chair Morrice welcomed new SEAC member Tessa Alexander, representative from VOICE for Children Who Are Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Chair Morrice shared that Kaori Hiruta, representative of Community Living St. Catharines will be resigning from SEAC due to a new career opportunity.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Flavia Orvitz

Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

"That the Agenda dated October 9, 2025, be approved as presented."

CARRIED

4. STUDENT VOICE

Terri Beck, Student Achievement Leader for Special Education, presented a video featuring a successful sixth grade student at Lockview Public School. The student utilizes a motorized wheelchair and benefits from accessible resources such as a specialized basketball net and playground ramp. These accommodations have



promoted greater independence and illustrate how perseverance, combined with effective support, enables students to overcome challenges.

5. **SPECIAL EDUCATION REPORT**

Superintendent Hancox provided a brief overview of the Annual DSBN Budget for 2025-2026, highlighting how regional growth in Niagara has led to capital upgrades and new schools with dedicated special education spaces. He mentioned the introduction of three additional special education classrooms this year and the increase in special education staff throughout the system. In addition, Superintendent Hancox explained that the special education and curriculum departments are working together to review support provided within the Kindergarten Program.

6. **TRUSTEE UPDATE**

Trustee Mitchell provided an update on the September Board meeting.

7. **ASSOCIATION PRESENTATIONS AND UPDATES**

Committee members shared information and updates from their respective associations and roles.

8. **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

There were no questions.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 20, 2025

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025

Public Session: 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

(*denotes approval received to attend electronically)

TRUSTEE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Trustee Susan Jovanovich (Committee Chair), Trustee Jonathan Fast, Trustee Nancy Beamer, Trustee Deanne MacIntosh*, Trustee Mike Brosseau

ADMINISTRATION

Kelly Pisek (Director of Education), Stacy Veld (Associate Director of Education)
Ann Gilmore (Superintendent of Student Achievement & Well Being)
Marian Reimer Friesen (Superintendent of Student Achievement & Well Being)
Darren Van Hooydonk (Superintendent of Student Achievement & Well Being)
Superintendent Melanie Sendzik (Superintendent of Student Achievement & Well Being)
Milicia Petkovic (Public Relations manager)
Dr. Amanda Sherman (Mental Health Lead), & Jessica Moro (Manager of Social Work)

TRUSTEE GUESTS

Trustee Helga Campbell, Trustee Sue Barnett*, Trustee Shannon Mitchell, Trustee Kate Baggott, Trustee Elizabeth Klassen,

RECORDING SECRETARY

Alison Vegh

A. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

Chair Jovanovich opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of the Traditional Territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples.

B. CALL TO ORDER/NOTING OF MEMBERS ABSENT

Chair Jovanovich called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Trustee Beamer

Seconded by: Trustee Fast

“That the agenda be approved as presented.”

CARRIED



C. NEW BUSINESS

1. **DSBN Mental Health and Well-Being Strategy 2026–2029: Building Belonging, Strengthening Community**

Superintendent Ann Gilmore, Mental Health Lead Dr. Amanda Sherman and Manager of Social Work Jessica Moro presented a report outlining the DSBN Mental Health & Well Being strategy for 2026-2029.

The DSBN recognizes that mental health is foundational to student well-being and academic success. Schools are positioned as key environments for promoting mental health, fostering belonging, and supporting students through positive learning experiences. The DSBN Mental Health and Well-Being Strategy builds on previous work and aligns with provincial directions set by School Mental Health Ontario (SMH-ON) and the Ministry of Education's Roadmap to Wellness. The strategy is designed to create caring, connected school communities where every student feels safe, supported, and valued.

Presenters outlined the four priorities and eight goals for Year 1 (2025-2026), drawing connections to the actionable, measurable and responsive strategies employed in schools.

2. **Boundary Changes**

Before presenting the three boundary review reports, Director Pisek noted the Board continues to experience significant enrolment growth across the region, currently serving approximately 43,000 students with an expected increase of 3,000 over the next three years. The Long-Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP) provides the framework for responding to this growth thoughtfully and effectively, guiding both short- and long-term priorities as development across the region progresses at varying rates.

The LTAP supports the Board's ability to prepare strong business cases for new schools, additions, and other capital priorities. Recent success includes the opening of a new elementary school in Niagara Falls and Ministry approval for three additional elementary schools over the next two years. These achievements reflect years of strategic work aligning school capacity with enrolment through past school closures, boundary reviews, and the strategic use of portables.

Boundary adjustments are a regular and necessary part of managing growth, ensuring optimal use of existing space, maintaining eligibility for Ministry funding, and planning responsibly for future needs.

Boundary Changes South Welland - (Dain City Development)

Associate Director of Education, Corporate Services, Stacy Veld presented a proposed boundary change for South Welland, Dain City development.

New subdivisions are expected to yield over 500 elementary and 250 secondary students. With Phase 1 nearly complete, some students have already started attending DSBN schools. To manage growth, as previously approved by Board, Port Colborne High School is being used



temporarily until a new elementary school for 608 students and 49 childcare spots is built, with an opening planned for September 2027.

Moved by: Trustee Beamer

Seconded by: Trustee MacIntosh

“That the boundary changes as shown in Appendix B for McKay PS and the new school in the Dain City Development be approved; and,

That the boundary change as shown in Appendix D for Bridgeview French Immersion programming be approved; and,

That the boundary changes take effect on the day after the Board of Trustees approval and students will attend the boundary schools commencing in 2027-28 school year.”

Carried

3. **Boundary Changes – Oakridge Public School and Briardale Public School**

Associate Director of Education Stacy Veld and Superintendent Melanie Sendzik presented proposed boundary changes for Oakridge Public School and Briardale Public School.

Niagara’s new housing growth is increasing school enrolment, especially at Oakridge PS, which is projected to be over capacity for the next decade. The reopening of Briardale PS as a JK–8 school with childcare, will address the capacity pressure on Oakridge PS. After the boundary change, Briardale PS will have 238 students and Oakridge PS 294 in September 2026.

In response to a question regarding the differing socioeconomic factors of the two communities, it was noted that all schools across the Board share the same goals of student achievement and well-being and are supported with appropriate resources. Student leadership teams will also play a role in co-creating a positive and inclusive school culture. School generated funds will be shared appropriately between the 2 schools.

As an asset of the Board, Briardale PS has been maintained over the years, while also serving as a site for alternate student programming which was relocated to more appropriate spaces at the Lifetime Learning Centre. School renewal funding will be used to address any remaining needs, including painting, mechanical work, and other updates, with all work scheduled for completion by September 2026.

Moved by: Trustee Fast

Seconded by: Trustee Beamer

“That the Board of Trustees approve an elementary boundary change to transfer the area shown as on Appendix B from Oakridge PS to Briardale PS; and,

That the approved boundary changes take effect on the day after the Board of Trustees

approval, and students in this area attend Briardale PS for the 2026-2027 school year.”

Carried

4. Boundary Changes – St Davids Public School and Crossroads Public School

Associate Director of Education Stacy Veld and Superintendent Darren Van Hooydonk presented a proposed boundary change.

Niagara has seen an increase in new housing growth with many of the Board’s schools experiencing increases in enrolment as new families move into the area. There has been a gradual increase in housing in the St Davids PS boundary. Projections indicate St. Davids’ enrolment will continue to increase. Crossroads PS has a facility utilization value of 75% and has the capacity to accommodate additional students. A boundary change between Crossroads PS and St. Davids PS will alleviate the capacity pressure at St. Davids PS and make effective use of space at Crossroads PS.

Associate Director Veld distributed revised Appendices A and B, reflecting a boundary adjustment to the original appendices included in the P&P package issued last week. The adjustment extends Line 4 Road to Concession 7, keeping this area within the St. Davids PS boundary. The change was made in response to feedback, and staff support the request.

In response to a question, it was confirmed that all current and planned housing developments in Niagara-on-the-Lake have been included in the Board’s projections.

Moved by: Trustee Fast

Seconded by: Trustee MacIntosh

“That the Board of Trustees approve a boundary change to transfer the area shown as Zone A on revised Appendix A from St. Davids PS to Crossroads PS; and

That the approved boundary changes take effect on the day after the Board of Trustees approval and students in this area attend Crossroads PS for the 2026-2027 school year.”

Carried

D. OTHER BUSINESS

E. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, December 9th at 5:30 p.m.

F. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.



DSBN Mental Health and Well-Being Strategy 2026–2029: Building Belonging, Strengthening Community

Monday, October 20, 2025

BACKGROUND

The DSBN recognizes that mental health is foundational to student well-being and academic success. Schools are positioned as key environments for promoting mental health, fostering belonging, and supporting students through positive learning experiences. The DSBN Mental Health and Well-Being Strategy 2026–2029 builds on previous work and aligns with provincial directions set by School Mental Health Ontario (SMH-ON) and the Ministry of Education’s Roadmap to Wellness. The strategy is designed to create caring, connected school communities where every student feels safe, supported, and valued.

SUMMARY

The DSBN Mental Health and Well-Being Strategy 2026–2029 is guided by the theme “**Building Belonging, Strengthening Community.**”

The strategy outlines four strategic priorities:

1. **Fostering Belonging and Well-Being Through Inclusive, Trauma-Informed School Culture:** Embedding social-emotional learning (SEL), trauma-sensitive, and identity-affirming practices, and restorative approaches.
2. **Empowering Students and Families as Partners in Mental Health:** Elevating student voice, expanding family engagement, and fostering strong home-school connections.
3. **Ensuring Equitable Access to Targeted Mental Health Services:** Refining service delivery to ensure timely, culturally responsive, and needs-based support for all students, especially those from equity-deserving groups.
4. **Strengthening Collaboration and Responsiveness Across the System:** Deepening partnerships with community agencies, enhancing centralized supports, and using data to guide programming.

The Year 1 Action Plan (2025–2026) includes eight key goals:

- Strengthening SEL programming in all elementary schools
- Expanding restorative and trauma-sensitive practices across the system
- Deepening school engagement with Truth and Reconciliation

PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, October 20, 2025

- Providing mental health literacy tools for schools and families that promote restorative approaches
- Implementing a tiered Youth Counsellor model
- Strengthening identity-affirming mental health supports
- Enhancing partnerships with community agencies
- Increasing social worker capacity for supporting students with special education needs

CONCLUSION

The DSNB Mental Health and Well-Being Strategy 2026–2029 demonstrates a commitment to fostering environments where every student can thrive. By prioritizing belonging, equity, and collaboration, DSNB aims to create a culture of care and connection that supports mental health and well-being for all. The strategy is actionable, measurable, and responsive to the evolving needs of students, families, and staff.

CONNECTION TO DSNB STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Priority:

We believe in cultivating learning and working communities where everyone feels safe and connected while increasing mental health awareness knowledge and skills.

Strategic Actions:

Deepen our understanding of the unique experiences and circumstances of individuals to support the needs of students and school communities.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ann Gilmore, Superintendent of Achievement and Student Well-Being



Boundary Changes – South Welland (Dain City Development)

Monday, October 20, 2025

BACKGROUND

There are two large subdivisions, “Dain City East” and “Dain City West”, being developed in the southernmost part of Welland. They total 46.8 hectares (363 acres) in size and are approved for the development of approximately 2,000 housing units. Another 200 housing units are expected in smaller subdivisions nearby.

Projections indicate that once built, the subdivisions will yield over 500 elementary students and 250 secondary students. Phase 1 of the Dain City East subdivision is nearly complete and students from this area started attending DSBN schools in the 2023-24 school year.

On June 6, 2023, a report was presented to the Program and Planning Committee and approved by the Board of Trustees to temporarily utilize Port Colborne High School to address enrolment growth and relieve capacity pressure at McKay PS until a new school is built. Appendices A and C of this report indicate the current boundaries for McKay PS, for home school and French Immersion programming respectively.

In the 2024-25 Capital Priorities Funding Program a submission was made to the Ministry of Education (MOE) to request a new elementary school in the Dain City East development area. In January 2025, approval was granted for a new elementary school with 608 pupil spaces and 49 licensed child care spots. School design is being completed with a scheduled opening for September 2027.

PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGES

The proposed boundary for the new elementary school is identified in Appendix B. Projections indicate that in 10 years the school enrolment will be 586 students or 96.4% capacity. It is expected to open with an enrolment of 305 students with growth continuing steadily in future years as housing development progresses. Following the opening of the new school, students who have been attending Port Colborne HS as their host school will transition to either McKay PS or the new elementary school depending on their residential locations. Grade 8 regular track students at the new Dain City school will continue to advance to Port Colborne HS, just as they did when they graduated from McKay PS.

McKay PS enrolment will stabilize and return to an average of 335 students while facility utilization will be at approximately 72%. As the municipality of Port Colborne grows with new development, additional boundary changes may be required to support other over capacity schools.

Appendix D shows the proposed boundaries for French Immersion, where the Dain City area is transferred from McKay PS to Bridgeview French Immersion PS. Grade 8 French Immersion students in the Dain City area will continue to advance to Welland Centennial SS, just as they did when they graduated from McKay PS.

PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

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CURRENT STUDENTS

There are currently 163 students who would be affected by the proposed boundary changes and would attend the newly constructed school once opened. Within the same area, there are currently 35 French Immersion students who would be transferred to Bridgeview French Immersion PS.

TRANSPORTATION

Opening a new school in Dain City will reduce the overall need for student transportation. Approximately 175 students currently bussed to McKay will be within walking distance. This change will eliminate approximately 7 bus routes that currently travel to Port Colborne.

APPENDED DATA

Appendix A: Current Regular Track Boundary McKay PS

Appendix B: Proposed Regular Track Boundaries for McKay PS and South Welland (Dain City Development)

Appendix C: Current French Immersion Boundaries for McKay PS and Bridgeview PS

Appendix D: Proposed French Immersion Boundaries for McKay PS and Bridgeview PS

Appendix E: Proposed projected enrolments and capacities

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS

“That the boundary changes as shown in Appendix B for McKay PS and the new school in the Dain City Development be approved; and,

That the boundary change as shown in Appendix D for Bridgeview French Immersion PS programming be approved; and,

That the boundary changes take effect on the day after the Board of Trustees approval and students will attend the boundary schools commencing in 2027-28 school year.”

Respectfully submitted by:

Stacy Veld, Associate Director of Education, Corporate Services

October 20, 2025

For further information, please contact Stacy Veld, Associate Director of Education, Corporate Services.



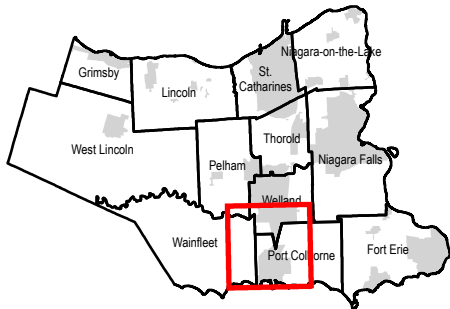
Current Regular Track Boundary District For McKay PS

Legend

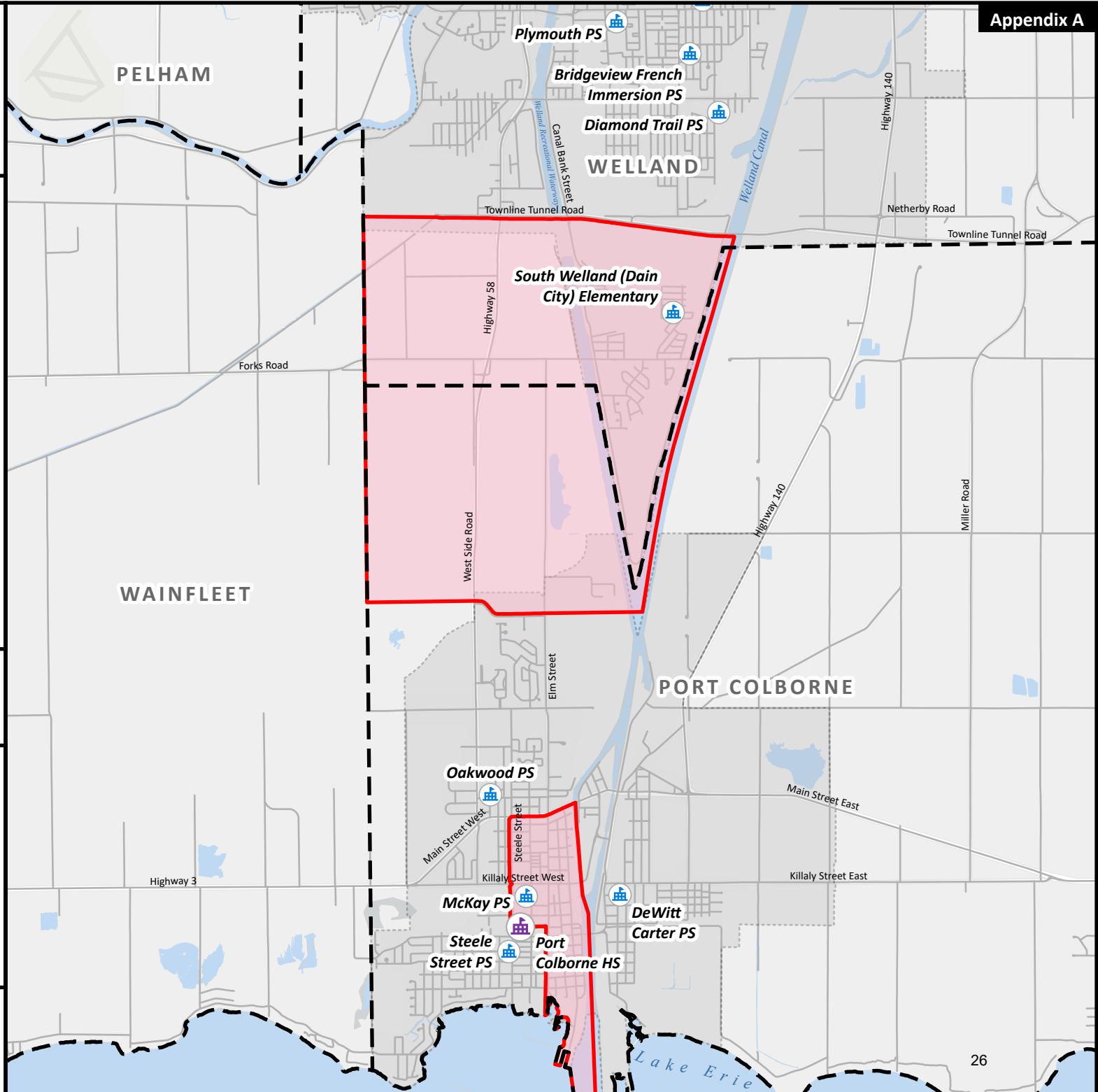
-  Elementary School
-  Secondary School
-  McKay PS Boundary District (2 Sections)
-  Municipal Boundary
-  Urban Area Boundary



0 2 km



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Proposed Regular Track Boundary Districts for McKay PS and South Welland (Dain City Development)

Legend

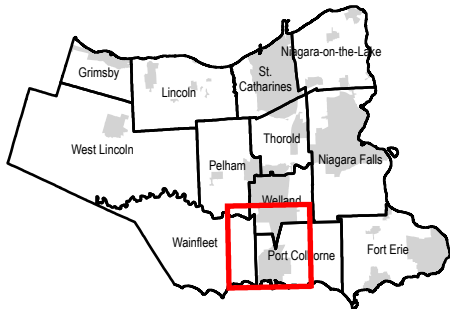
-  Elementary School
-  Secondary School

Proposed Boundary Districts

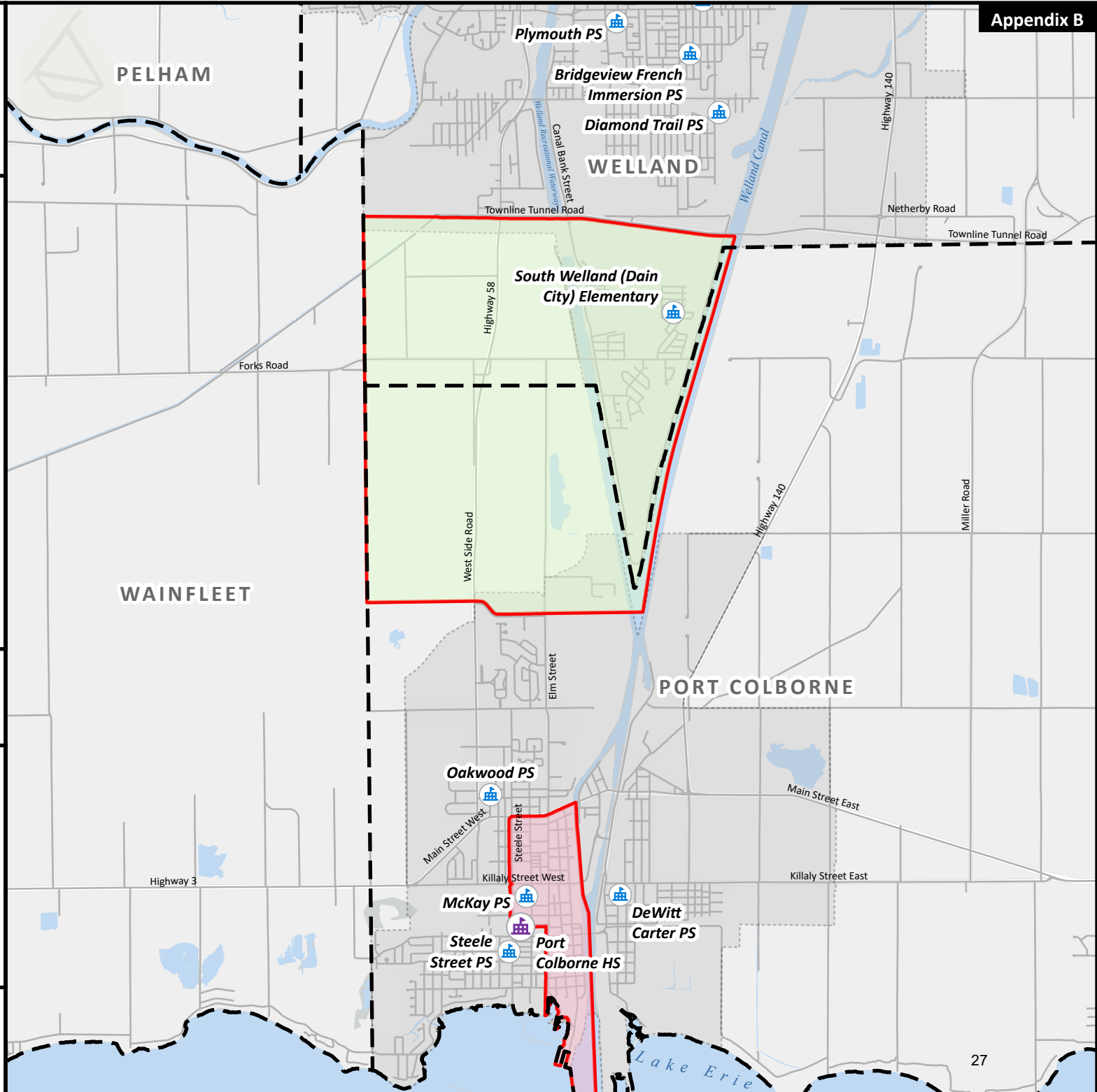
-  McKay PS
-  South Welland (Dain City) Elementary
-  Municipal Boundary
-  Urban Area Boundary



0 2 km



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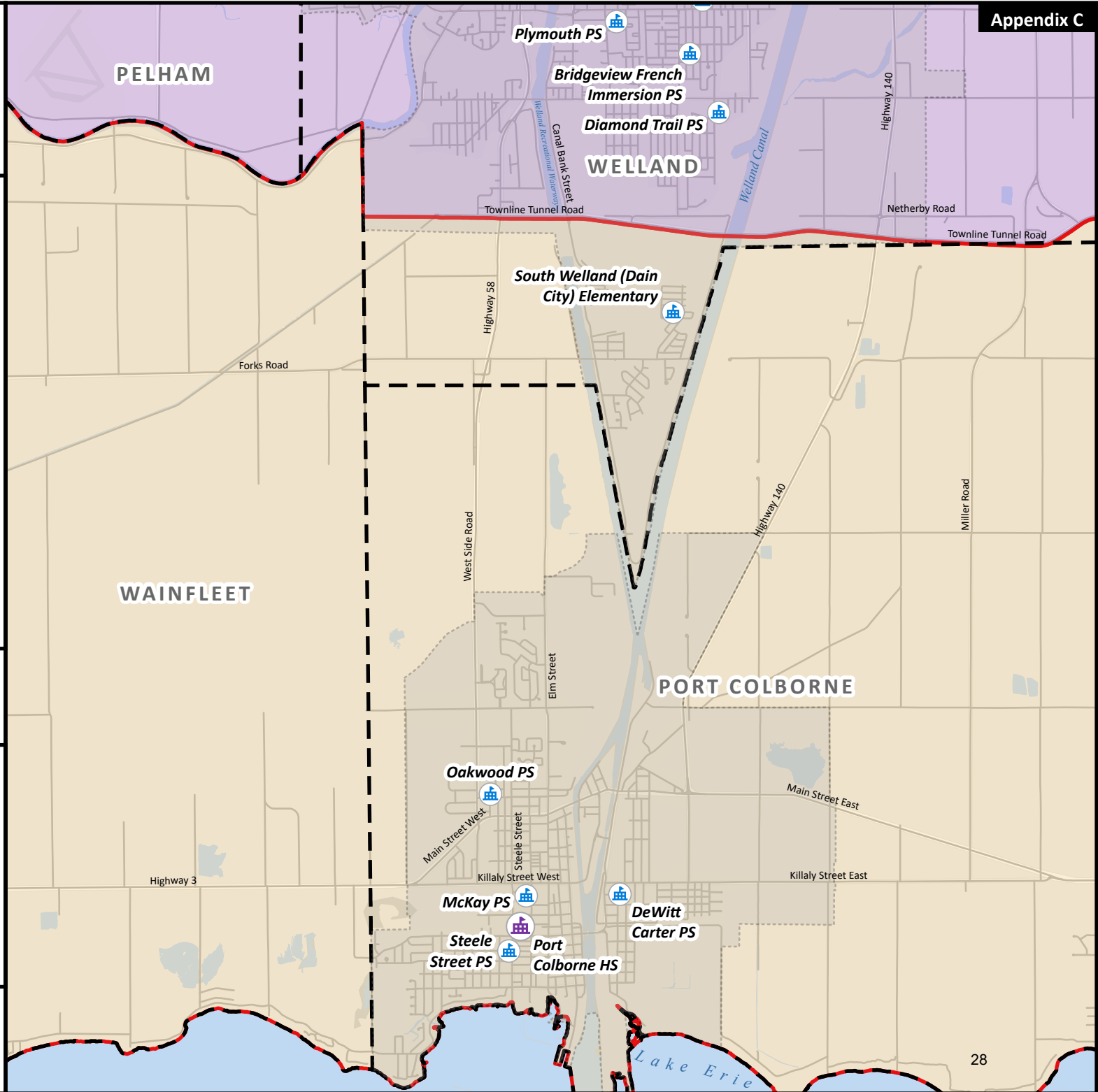
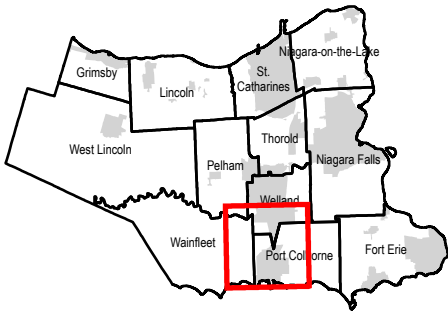
Current French Immersion Boundaries for McKay PS and Bridgeview PS

Legend

-  Elementary School
-  Secondary School

Current French Immersion Boundary Districts

-  Bridgeview PS
-  McKay PS
-  Municipal Boundary
-  Urban Area Boundary



Proposed French Immersion Boundaries for McKay PS and Bridgeview PS

Legend

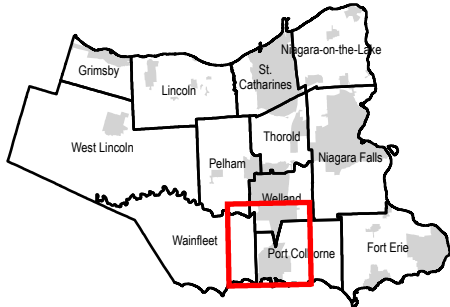
-  Elementary School
-  Secondary School

Proposed French Immersion Boundary Districts

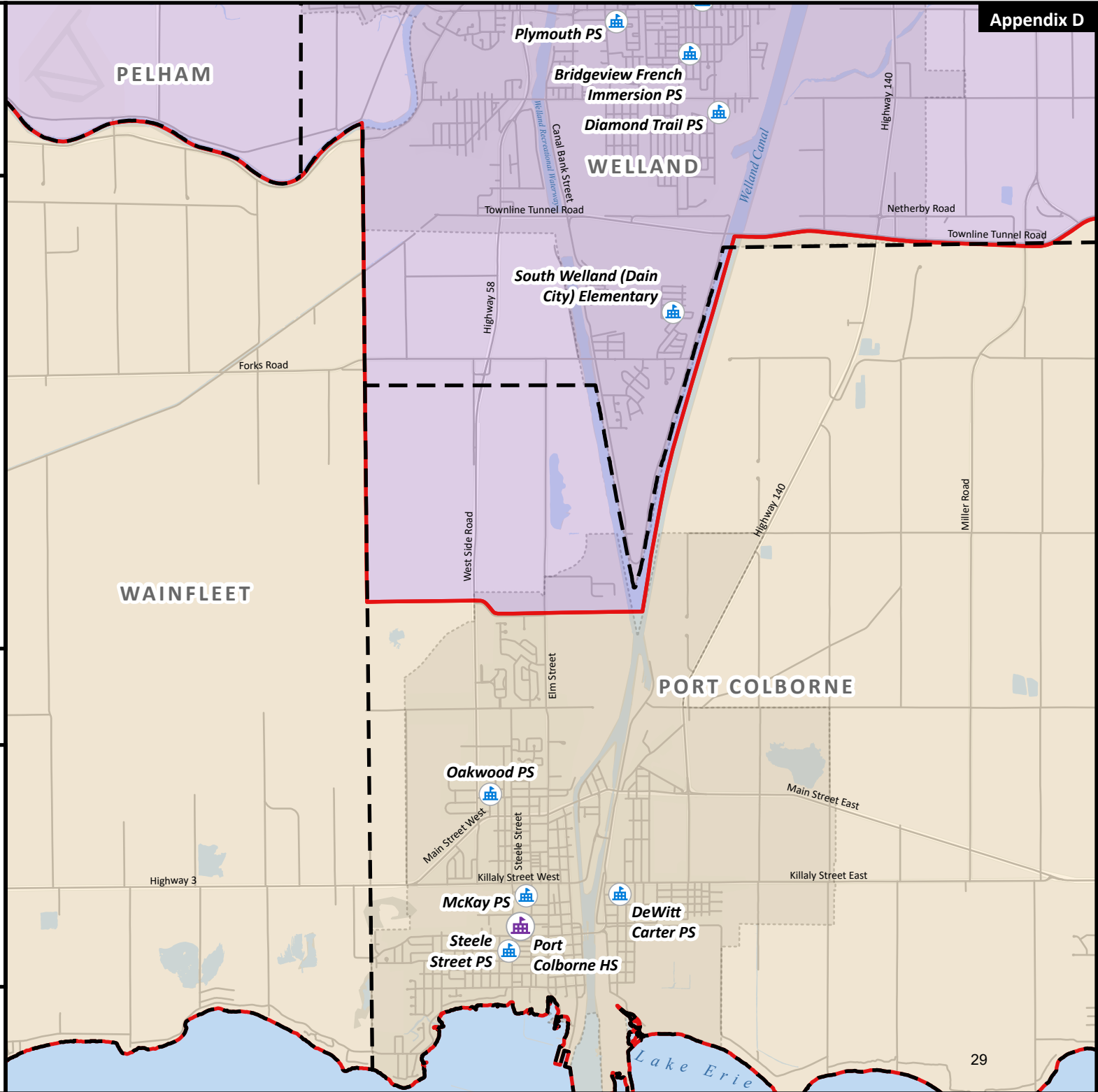
-  Bridgeview PS
-  McKay PS
-  Municipal Boundary
-  Urban Area Boundary



0 2 km



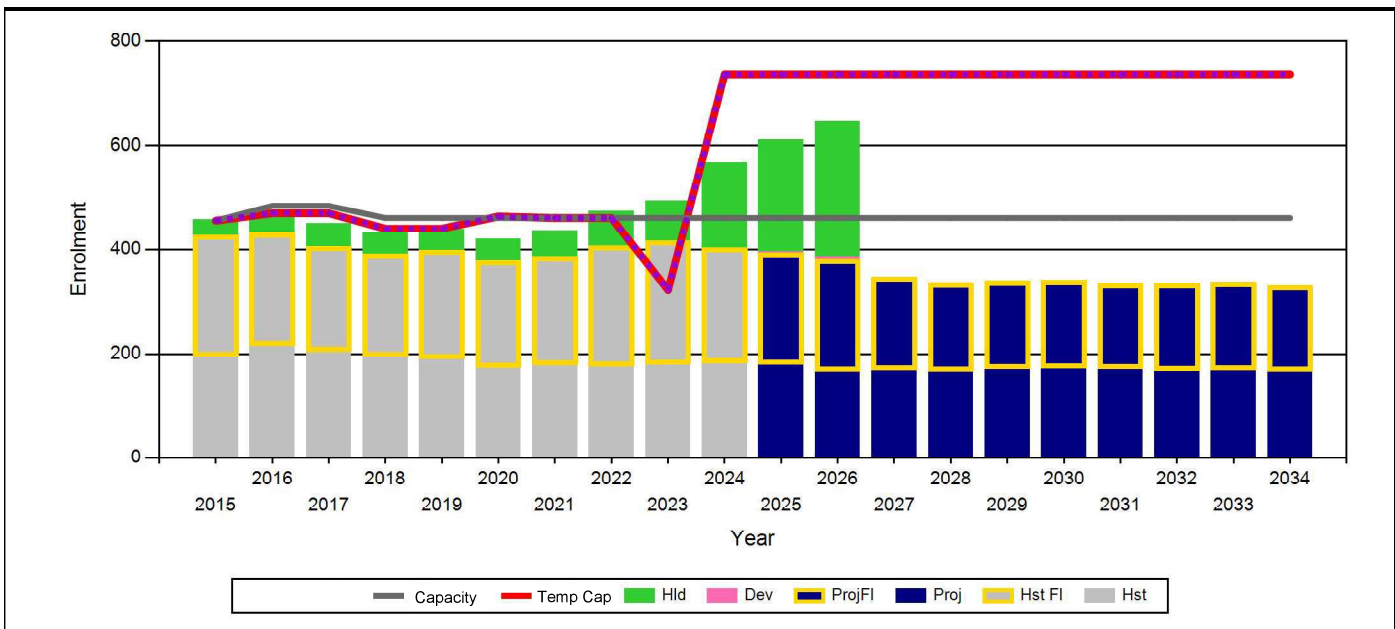
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McKay PS

Capacity: 460.0

Portables: 0



Total Projected Enrolment

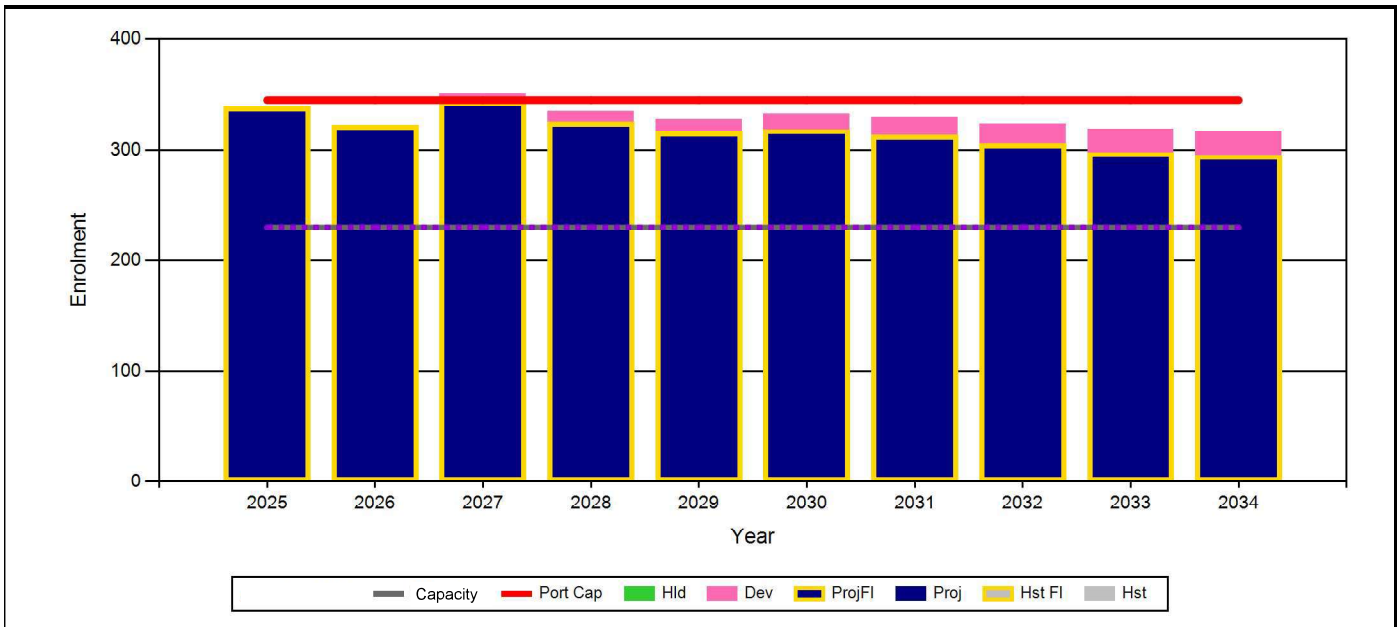
Year	JK	SK	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	Total	Util %
2025	45.1	50.3	48.6	63.3	63.9	59.6	71.3	69.7	64.9	73.5					610.3	132.7%
2026	50.5	50.7	69.2	53.1	68.0	69.9	64.7	76.4	75.0	68.9					646.5	140.5%
2027	24.0	22.2	37.9	40.6	30.3	34.3	42.9	34.0	34.7	45.8					346.7	75.4%
2028	22.4	24.2	37.1	37.2	39.9	30.8	34.2	42.6	34.1	33.6					335.9	73.0%
2029	22.7	22.6	40.4	36.3	36.5	40.6	30.4	34.0	42.6	33.0					339.1	73.7%
2030	22.2	23.0	37.5	39.5	35.7	37.1	40.2	30.2	34.3	41.2					341.0	74.1%
2031	21.7	22.4	37.9	36.8	38.8	36.3	36.7	40.0	30.2	33.3					334.2	72.7%
2032	20.3	21.9	37.1	37.2	36.1	39.5	36.0	36.5	40.1	29.3					334.0	72.6%
2033	20.0	20.5	36.2	36.3	36.5	36.7	39.2	35.8	36.6	38.9					336.6	73.2%
2034	20.7	20.2	34.4	35.5	35.7	37.1	36.4	38.9	35.9	35.5					330.2	71.8%



Bridgeview French Immersion PS

Capacity: 230.0

Portables: 5



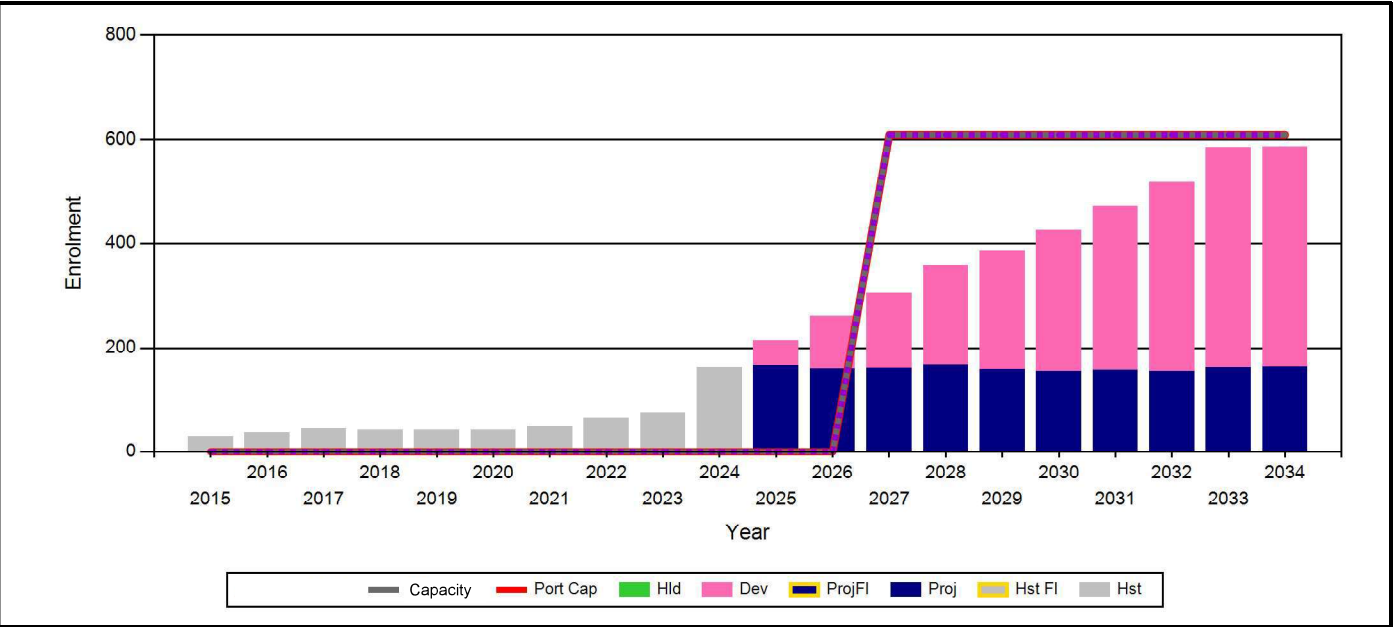
Total Projected Enrolment

Year	JK	SK	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	Total	Util %
2025			47.7	43.4	41.0	32.6	42.6	47.4	40.8	43.1					338.7	147.3%
2026			38.0	46.3	40.8	39.4	31.6	41.3	45.1	40.0					322.4	140.2%
2027			43.4	41.7	47.4	46.1	42.1	32.5	46.2	51.1					350.6	152.4%
2028			43.8	42.5	39.6	45.9	45.0	41.1	31.3	45.6					334.6	145.5%
2029			47.3	42.7	40.2	38.3	44.8	44.0	39.4	30.9					327.5	142.4%
2030			44.3	46.2	40.5	38.9	37.4	43.7	42.1	38.9					332.1	144.4%
2031			44.6	43.3	43.8	39.2	38.1	36.6	41.9	41.6					329.1	143.1%
2032			44.2	43.6	41.1	42.5	38.4	37.3	35.2	41.4					323.8	140.8%
2033			43.7	43.4	41.5	40.0	41.6	37.7	35.9	34.9					318.8	138.6%
2034			42.9	42.5	40.9	40.0	38.8	40.5	36.0	35.3					316.8	137.7%



- South Welland (Dain City Development)

Capacity: 608.0
Portables: 0



Total Projected Enrolment

Year	JK	SK	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	Total	Util %
2025	23.1	25.1	13.3	22.8	17.8	23.8	29.8	15.8	21.8	21.8					214.7	0.0%
2026	28.5	28.5	23.0	18.4	27.8	22.8	28.8	34.8	20.8	26.8					260.3	0.0%
2027	34.1	33.1	31.1	27.4	22.8	32.2	27.2	33.2	39.2	25.2					305.4	50.2%
2028	37.9	39.0	35.7	35.7	32.0	27.3	36.8	31.8	37.8	43.8					357.6	58.8%
2029	41.3	41.8	40.3	39.3	39.3	35.6	31.0	40.4	35.4	41.4					385.8	63.5%
2030	45.3	45.7	43.5	44.5	43.5	43.5	39.8	35.2	44.6	39.6					425.2	69.9%
2031	49.4	49.8	47.2	47.7	48.7	47.8	47.8	44.1	39.4	48.9					470.8	77.4%
2032	54.4	54.7	51.7	52.1	52.6	53.6	52.7	52.7	49.0	44.3					517.7	85.1%
2033	60.4	60.7	57.3	57.7	58.1	58.6	59.6	58.6	58.6	54.9					584.5	96.1%
2034	60.2	60.4	57.1	57.3	57.7	58.1	58.6	59.6	58.6	58.6					586.2	96.4%



Boundary Changes – Oakridge Public School and Briardale Public School

Monday, October 20, 2025

BACKGROUND

Niagara has seen an increase in new housing growth with many of the Board's schools experiencing increases in enrolment as new families move into the area. The Planning Department monitors this housing growth and develops projections to determine the potential impacts of growth on school enrolment and student accommodation.

There have been significant changes in the housing demographic in the Oakridge PS boundary. Specifically, part of this area had an increase in rental housing for Brock University students, which brought a decline in JK-12 enrolment. Combined with this demographic change, the creation of single-track French Immersion programming at Jeanne Sauve PS and the closure of French Immersion at both Briardale PS and Oakridge PS led to a projection of less than 80 students at Briardale PS. These two elementary schools were eventually amalgamated in the 2013-14 school year.

After the pandemic, housing needs in Niagara started to change. Oakridge PS has been at or over capacity for several years now and has portables on site to accommodate students. Projections indicate that the school's enrolment will continue to grow, and capacity at Oakridge PS will remain a challenge.

ENROLMENT & CAPACITY

For the last several years enrolment at Oakridge PS has grown steadily. Oakridge PS has a projected enrolment of 514 students for 2025-26 and capacity of 328 students. Projections indicate enrolment will increase to 564 students by 2029-30, followed by a few years of stable enrolment in the mid-500 range. The school is expected to be over-capacity for the entire 10-year projection period.

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION

Briardale PS is the closest school to Oakridge PS and has enough space to accommodate students long-term. The reopening of Briardale PS as a JK – 8 school with child care would alleviate the capacity pressure at Oakridge PS. Under this proposed boundary change, Briardale PS is projected to have an enrolment of 238 students in September 2026, and Oakridge PS will have a projected enrolment of 294. Briardale PS students will advance to Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School just as Oakridge PS students have traditionally done.



PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, October 20, 2025

The map attached as Appendix A shows the current boundary for the area and the map attached as Appendix B shows the proposed new boundaries. Appendix C provides the projected enrolment and capacity at each school for the next 10 years under the new boundary scenario.

CURRENT STUDENTS

There are currently 221 students that would be affected by the proposed boundary changes.

APPENDED DATA

Appendix A: Current Boundary, Oakridge Public School

Appendix B: Proposed Boundaries, Oakridge Public School and Briardale Public School

Appendix C: Proposed Projected Enrolment and Capacities

RECOMMENDED MOTION

“That the Board of Trustees approve an elementary boundary change to transfer the area shown as on Appendix B from Oakridge PS to Briardale PS; and,

That the approved boundary changes take effect on the day after the Board of Trustees approval and students in this area attend Briardale PS for the 2026-2027 school year.”

Respectfully submitted by:

Stacy Veld, Associate Director of Education, Corporate Services

October 20, 2025

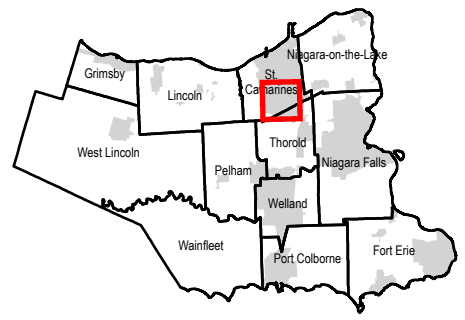
For further information, please contact Stacy Veld, Associate Director of Education, Corporate Services



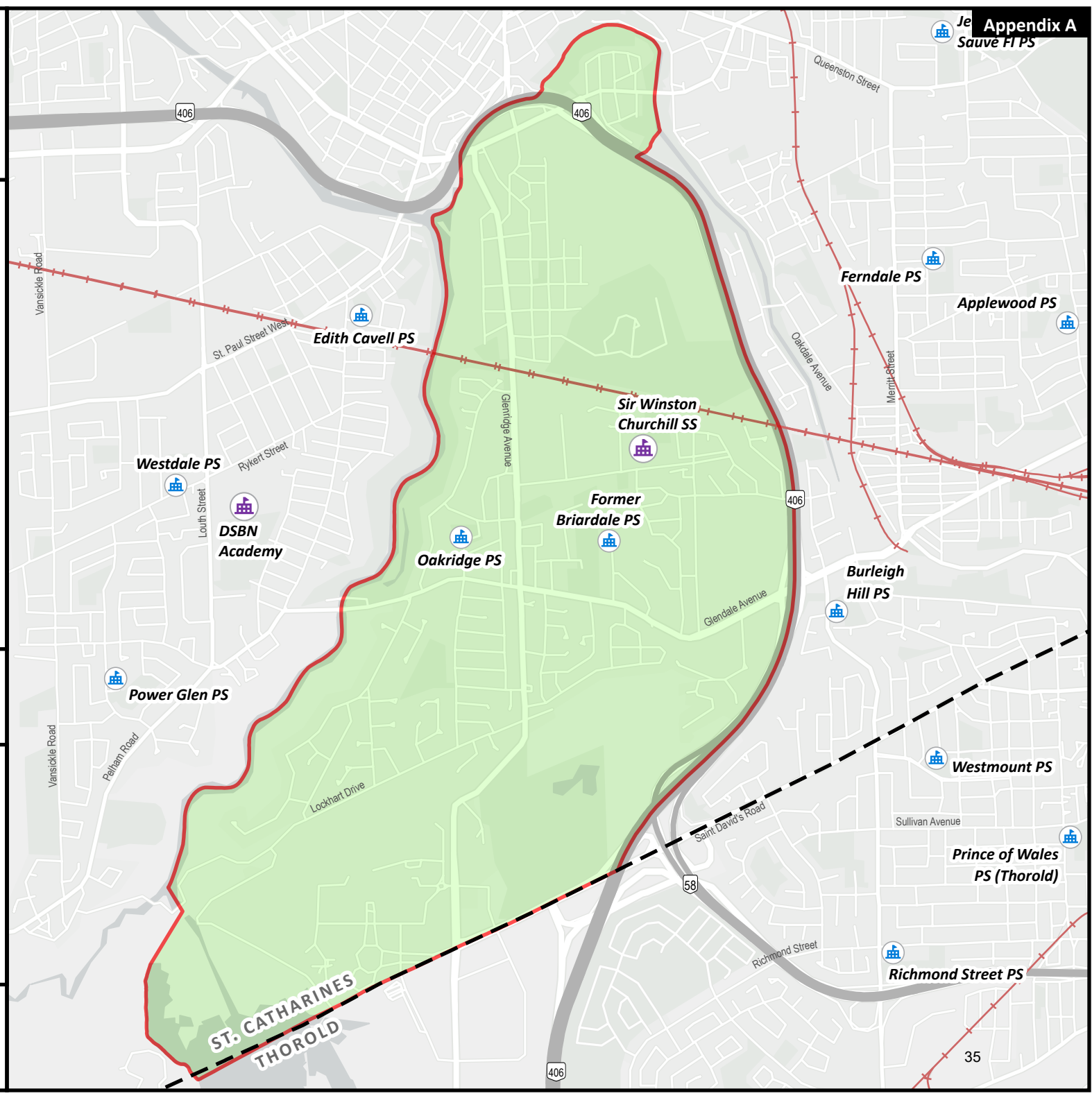
Current Oakridge PS Boundary District

Legend

-  Elementary School
-  Secondary School
-  Municipal Boundary
-  Current Oakridge PS Boundary District



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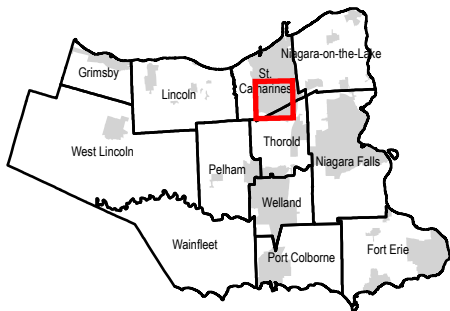
Proposed Oakridge PS and Briardale PS Boundary Districts

Legend

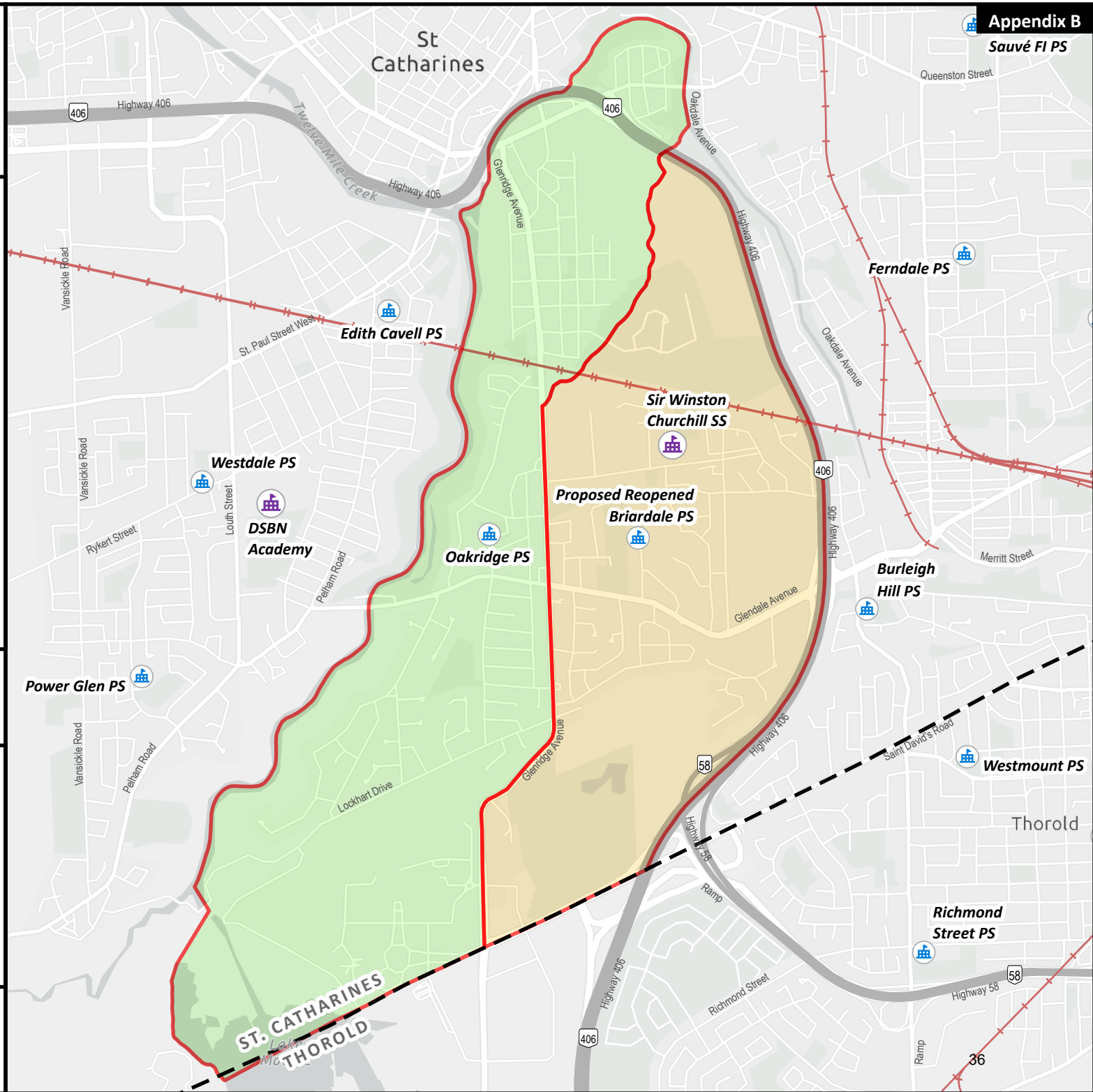
-  Elementary School
-  Secondary School
-  Municipal Boundary
-  Proposed Oakridge PS Boundary District
-  Proposed Briardale PS Boundary District



0 0.8 km



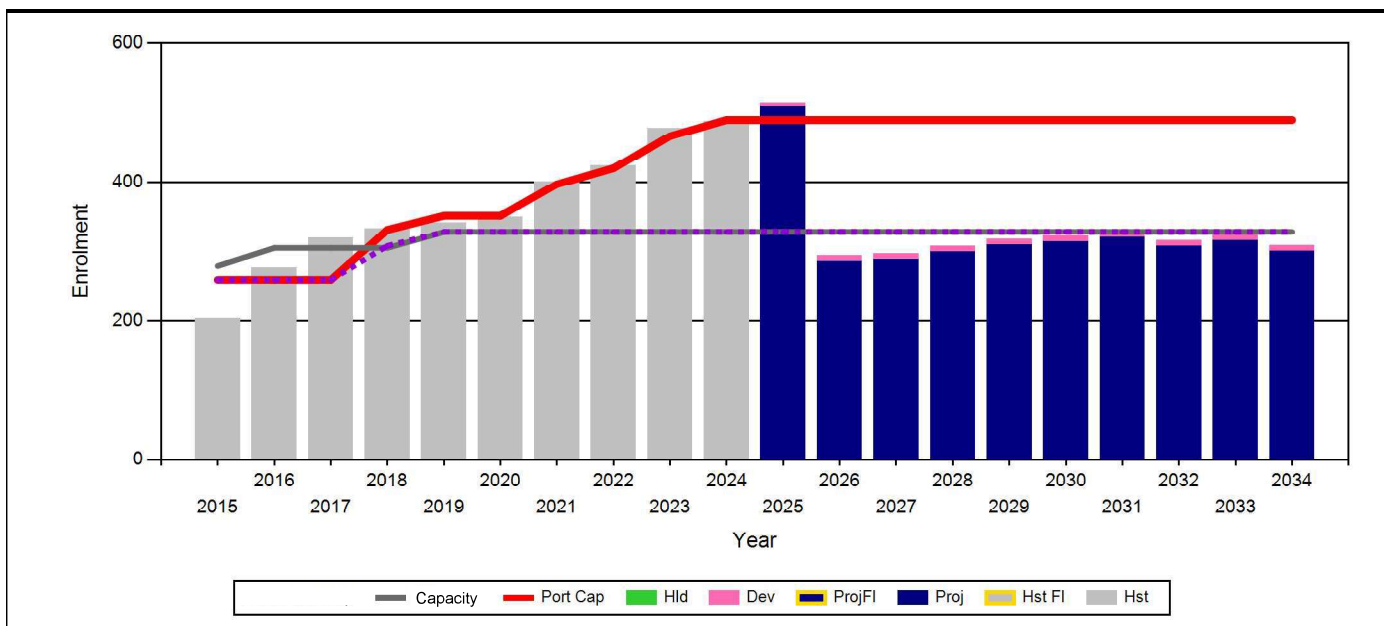
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Oakridge PS

Capacity: 328.0

Portables: 7



Total Projected Enrolment

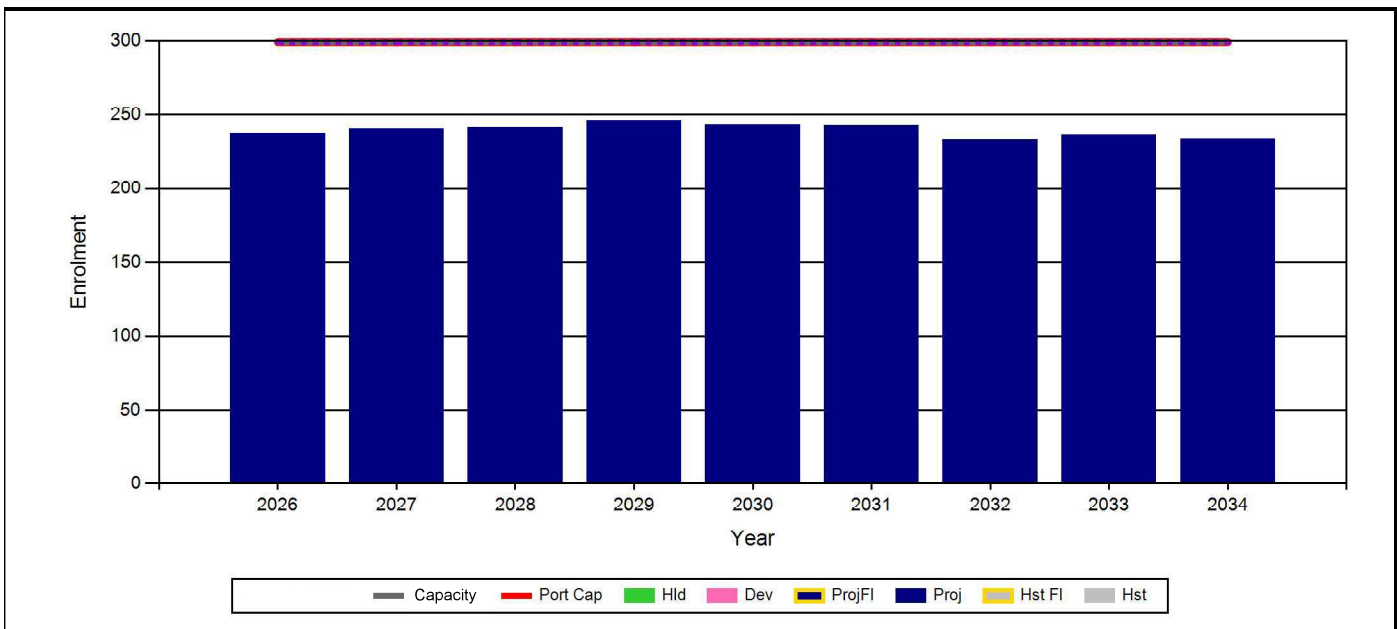
Year	JK	SK	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	Total
2025	47.5	61.4	37.2	62.8	48.4	54.5	47.3	50.4	55.0	49.6					514.0
2026	26.3	29.6	35.7	20.9	39.3	25.8	30.3	24.8	26.0	35.6					294.3
2027	26.9	30.1	27.2	37.1	22.7	40.9	28.0	30.3	26.0	27.8					296.9
2028	25.7	30.8	27.7	28.2	40.4	23.6	44.5	28.0	31.7	27.7					308.3
2029	25.3	29.4	28.3	28.8	30.7	41.9	25.6	44.5	29.4	33.9					317.8
2030	25.0	28.9	27.0	29.4	31.3	31.9	45.6	25.6	46.6	31.4					322.8
2031	24.5	28.6	26.6	28.0	32.0	32.5	34.7	45.6	26.9	49.9					329.2
2032	23.7	28.0	26.3	27.6	30.5	33.2	35.3	34.7	47.9	28.7					316.0
2033	23.3	27.2	25.7	27.3	30.0	31.7	36.2	35.3	36.4	51.2					324.3
2034	23.1	26.7	24.9	26.7	29.7	31.2	34.5	36.2	37.1	38.9					308.9



Briardale PS

Capacity: 299.0

Portables: 0



Total Projected Enrolment

Year	JK	SK	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	Total
2025	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0					.0
2026	15.6	25.4	21.2	18.2	29.5	24.9	29.5	22.9	27.3	23.6					238.1
2027	17.0	17.9	23.4	22.0	19.8	30.7	27.1	29.5	24.0	29.2					240.8
2028	19.5	19.6	16.5	24.3	24.0	20.6	33.4	27.1	31.0	25.7					241.8
2029	19.7	22.5	18.0	17.2	26.5	25.0	22.5	33.4	28.5	33.1					246.4
2030	19.9	22.6	20.7	18.7	18.7	27.6	27.2	22.5	35.1	30.5					243.5
2031	19.5	22.9	20.8	21.5	20.4	19.5	30.0	27.2	23.6	37.6					243.0
2032	18.4	22.4	21.1	21.7	23.4	21.2	21.2	30.0	28.6	25.3					233.3
2033	18.1	21.2	20.6	21.9	23.6	24.4	23.1	21.2	31.5	30.6					236.3
2034	17.9	20.8	19.5	21.4	23.9	24.6	26.6	23.1	22.3	33.7					233.8



Boundary Changes – St Davids Public School and Crossroads Public School

Monday, October 20, 2025

BACKGROUND

Niagara has seen an increase in new housing growth with many of the Board's schools experiencing increases in enrolment as new families move into the area. The Planning Department monitors this housing growth and develops projections to determine the potential impacts of growth on school enrolment and student accommodation. There has been a gradual increase in housing in the St Davids PS boundary. Projections indicate the school's enrolment will continue to increase.

CURRENT ENROLMENT & CAPACITY

St. Davids PS has a projected enrolment of 462 students for 2025-26 and capacity of 317 students. There are five portables on site to accommodate students. Five year projections indicate enrolment will increase to 519 students by 2029-30. The school is expected to be over-capacity for the entire 10-year projection period, and it now meets the criteria to consider a boundary change. Crossroads PS has a facility utilization value of 75% and has the capacity to accommodate additional students.

All current and planned housing developments in Niagara-on-the-Lake have been included in the next 20-year enrolment projections, which indicate that there is not enough growth to support a business case for a new elementary school.

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION

A boundary change between Crossroads PS and St. Davids PS will alleviate the capacity pressure at St. Davids PS. The map attached as Appendix A shows the current elementary school boundaries for the area and the map attached as Appendix B shows the proposed new elementary school boundaries. This change will result in an enrolment of 551 students at Crossroads PS and St. Davids PS enrolment will be 324 students.

This recommended boundary change will help avoid additional capacity pressures at St. Davids PS and the enrolment at Crossroads PS would make effective use of space.

CURRENT STUDENTS

In October 2024, there were 125 St. Davids PS students within the proposed transfer area (marked as "Zone A" on Appendix A). Within the transfer area there are also several housing developments which will yield about 150 JK-8 students by 2034 (approx. 200 by 2044). The vast majority of these new pupil yields would come from (a) the proposed new Niagara-on-the-Green development, located on the north



PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, October 20, 2025

side of Glendale Road, immediately adjacent to the outlet mall and (b) the Modero Estates subdivision located between Townline Road and Concession 7 Road. While the Niagara-on-the-Green development proposal is nearing expiry, it is expected to be extended. To ensure schools in Niagara-on-the-Lake are prepared for the potential growth, we have included the development plan in the projections. Collectively, we anticipate that about 275 students (i.e., those from the existing community and from new developments) will be shifted from the enrolment at St. Davids to Crossroads by 2034, assuming all housing developments are realized.

The new boundary line was designed to follow a path closer to the geographic midpoint between the two schools, while also including enough students to eliminate portables at St. Davids PS. The first students to be yielded from these new development areas may be realized as early as 2027.

APPENDED DATA

Appendix A: Current Boundaries, St. Davids Public School and Crossroads Public School

Appendix B: Proposed Boundaries, St. Davids Public School and Crossroads Public School

Appendix C: Proposed Enrolment and Capacity Projection

RECOMMENDED MOTION

“That the Board of Trustees approve a boundary change to transfer the area shown as Zone A on revised Appendix A from St. Davids PS to Crossroads PS; and

That the approved boundary changes take effect on the day after the Board of Trustees approval and students in this area attend Crossroads PS for the 2026-2027 school year.”

Respectfully submitted by:

Stacy Veld, Associate Director of Education, Corporate Services

October 20, 2025

For further information, please contact Stacy Veld, Associate Director of Education, Corporate Services



Current School Boundaries for St. Davids PS and Crossroads PS

Legend



Elementary School

Current School Boundaries



Crossroads PS



St. Davids PS



Proposed Transfer Zone



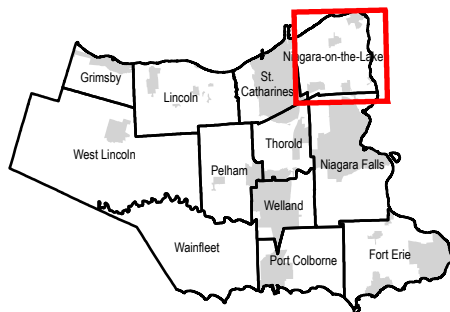
Urban Boundaries



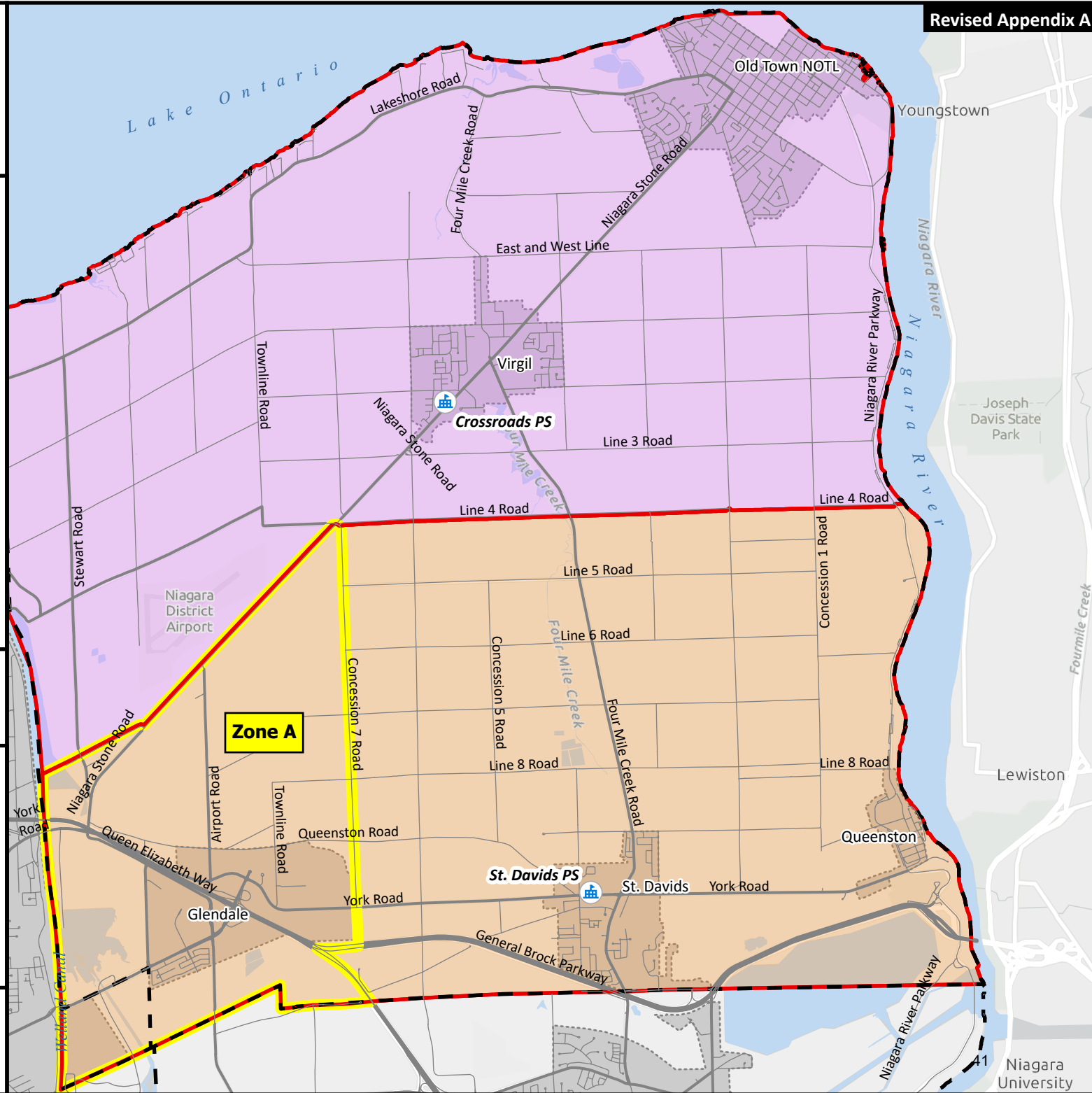
Municipal Boundary



0 2 km



• Map prepared by: DSBN Planning Services, October 2025
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Proposed School Boundaries for St. Davids PS and Crossroads PS

Legend



Elementary School

Proposed School Boundaries



Crossroads PS



St. Davids PS



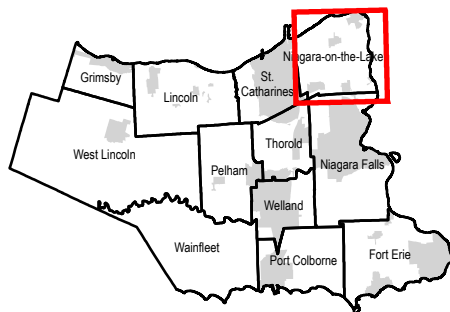
Urban Boundaries



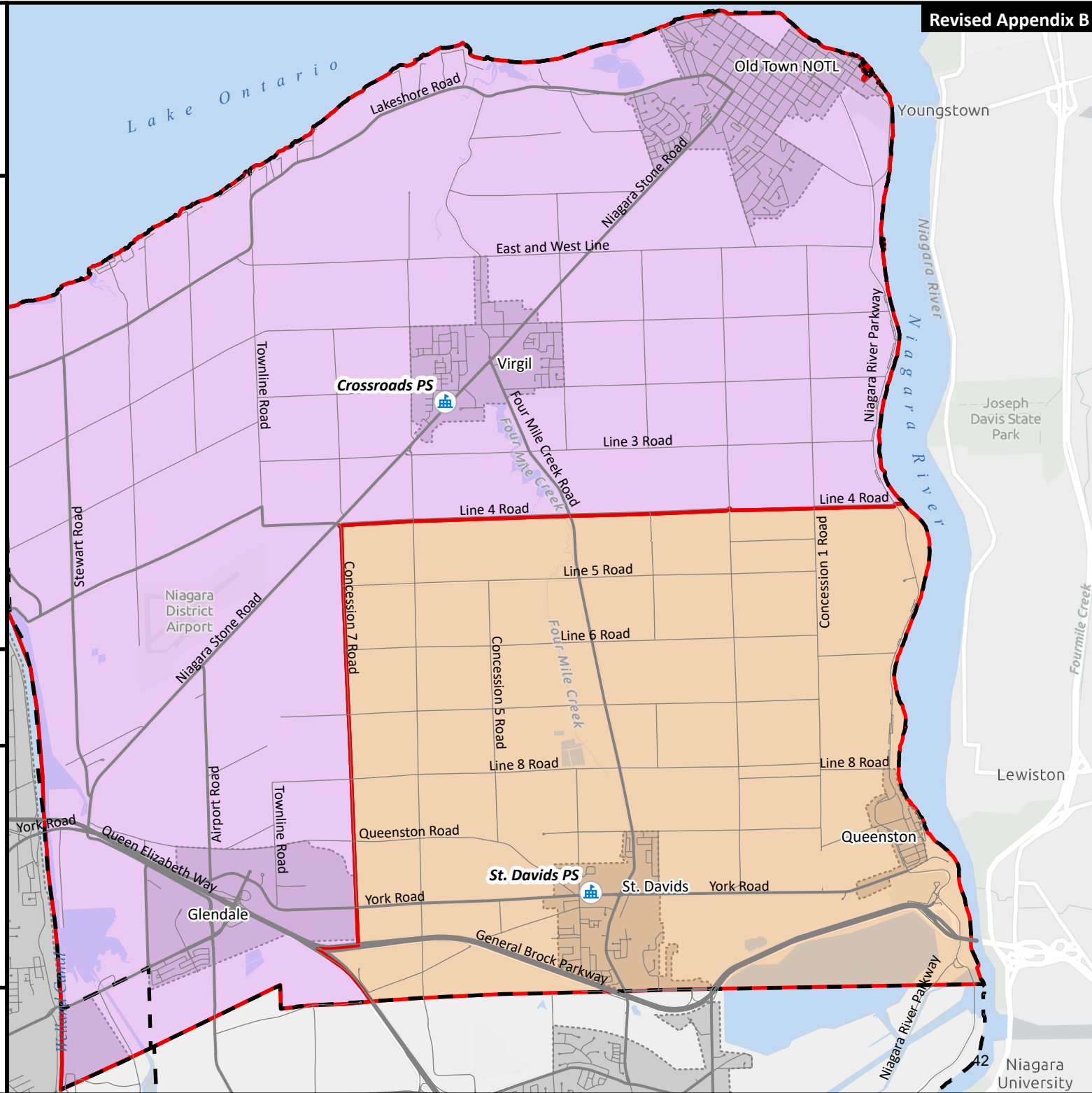
Municipal Boundary



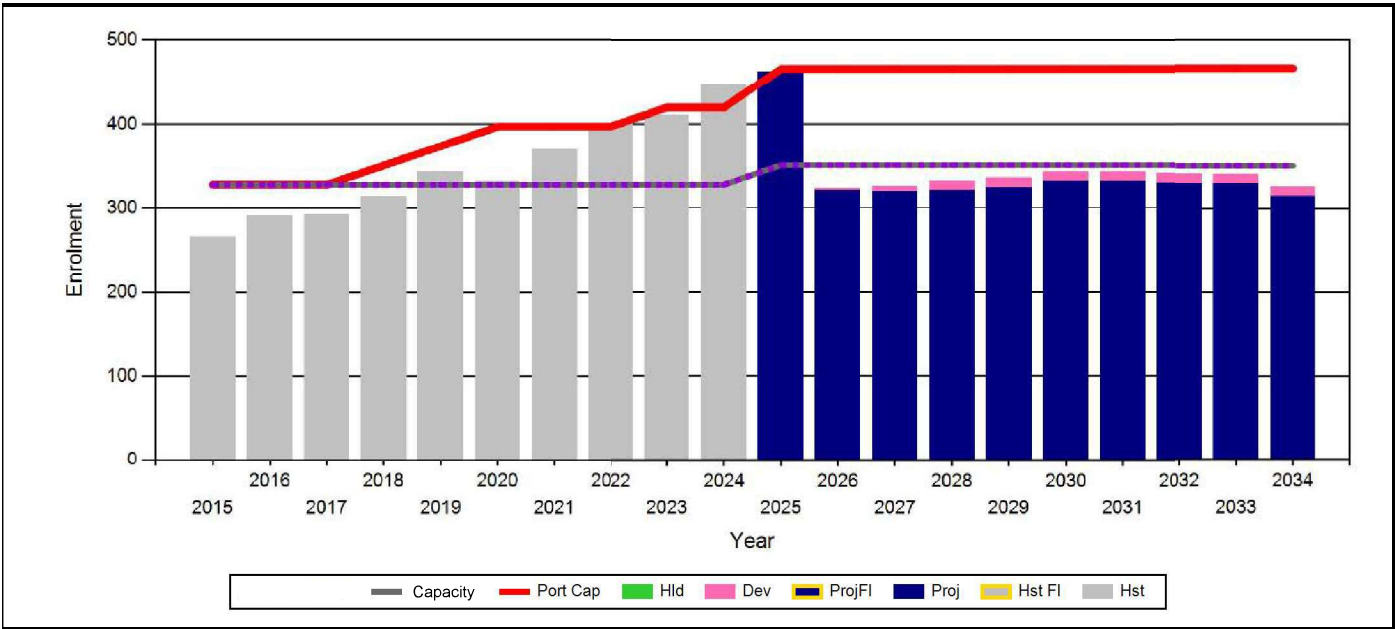
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Capacity: 351.0
Portables: 5



Total Projected Enrolment

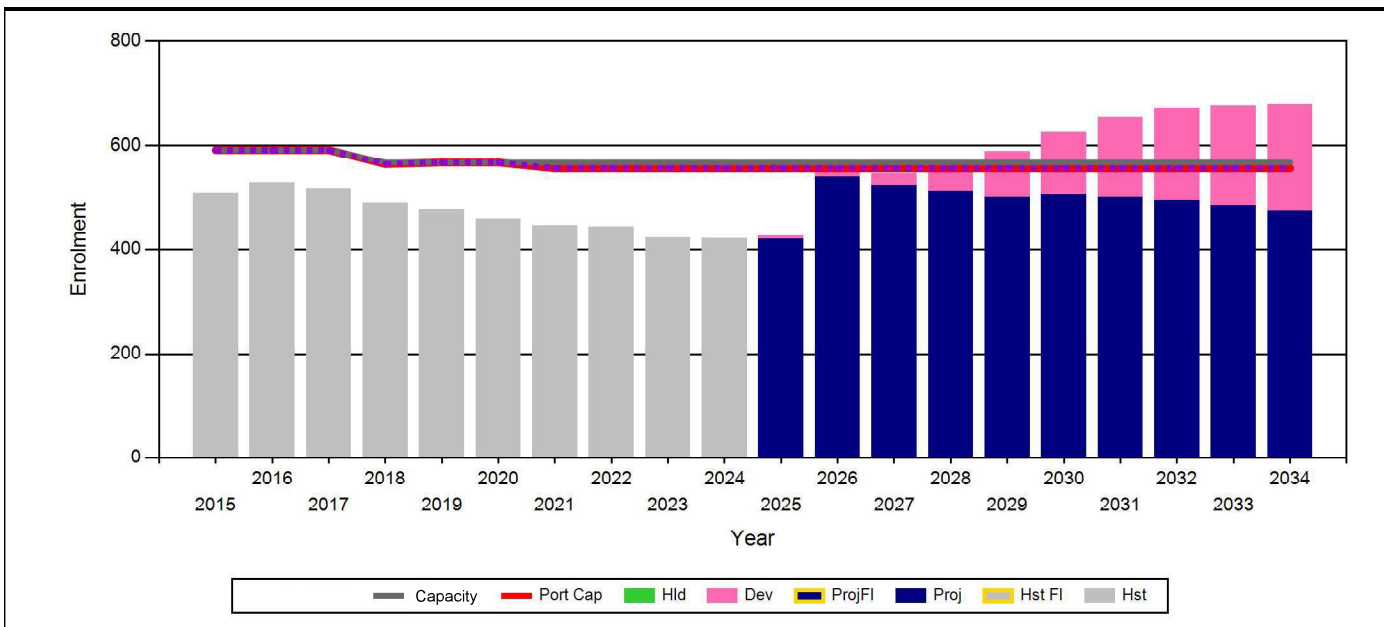
Year	JK	SK	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	Total	Util %
2025	43.0	58.9	45.0	49.9	44.1	39.2	44.7	49.0	43.0	45.0					461.8	131.6%
2026	22.6	32.9	43.2	31.8	35.2	33.2	28.9	31.5	33.3	31.3					324.1	92.3%
2027	25.9	24.5	32.5	45.2	33.7	34.8	34.9	29.2	31.8	33.6					326.2	92.9%
2028	30.0	28.1	24.4	34.2	47.9	33.5	36.6	35.3	29.6	32.3					331.9	94.5%
2029	31.6	32.2	27.5	25.4	36.0	47.1	34.9	36.8	35.4	29.7					336.6	95.9%
2030	31.5	33.7	31.5	28.6	26.7	35.3	48.9	34.9	36.8	35.4					343.1	97.8%
2031	30.9	33.6	32.9	32.7	30.0	26.1	36.7	48.9	34.9	36.8					343.4	97.8%
2032	30.3	32.9	32.9	34.2	34.2	29.4	27.1	36.7	48.9	34.9					341.6	97.3%
2033	29.8	32.3	32.2	34.1	35.8	33.6	30.5	27.1	36.7	48.9					341.2	97.2%
2034	29.5	31.8	31.6	33.4	35.8	35.1	34.9	30.5	27.1	36.7					326.5	93.0%



Crossroads PS

Capacity: 567.0

Portables: 0



Total Projected Enrolment

Year	JK	SK	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	Total	Util %
2025	33.5	42.2	40.1	38.3	45.1	37.2	49.0	45.1	51.5	44.2					426.1	75.1%
2026	33.8	50.8	56.0	58.9	56.7	58.2	47.9	64.1	61.6	63.1					551.3	97.2%
2027	39.4	38.6	50.7	61.2	60.9	60.7	57.7	50.3	65.5	61.9					546.8	96.4%
2028	47.4	45.5	39.5	56.5	64.2	66.1	61.2	61.1	52.8	66.7					560.8	98.9%
2029	53.0	55.3	47.8	46.2	60.9	70.8	67.9	66.1	65.0	55.7					588.7	103.8%
2030	57.7	60.6	56.9	54.1	49.9	66.8	72.1	72.3	69.4	67.2					626.9	110.6%
2031	60.0	65.1	61.8	63.3	57.6	55.1	67.9	76.3	75.4	71.4					654.1	115.4%
2032	61.7	66.6	65.4	67.5	66.1	62.2	55.5	71.3	78.7	76.6					671.7	118.5%
2033	62.4	67.2	65.8	70.3	69.4	70.0	61.7	57.9	72.8	78.9					676.4	119.3%
2034	63.4	67.9	66.4	70.6	72.2	73.3	69.4	64.1	59.4	73.1					679.9	119.9%



REPORT TO BOARD



STAFFING 2025-2026

INFORMATION

The DSBN has increased the complement of Teachers and Educational Services staff to accommodate student enrolment for the 2025-2026 school year. There were no staff lay-offs across any employee groups. This includes maintaining specialized services and programming that addresses the needs of all learners.

CLASSROOM TEACHING

Consistent with budget projections, the DSBN continues to be a growth Board. Our enrollment has increased from last year in both the Elementary and Secondary panels. In support of this enrollment increase, combined with vacancies associated with retirements and resignations, the Board has hired 118 permanent Elementary Teachers, including both full-time and part time positions. Additionally, 106 (94.5 FTE) elementary Long Term Occasional teaching positions have been filled to cover various leaves of absence occurring throughout the year.

In the Secondary panel 23 permanent teachers, both full-time and part-time, have been hired. Additionally, 115 (59.0 FTE) secondary Long Term Occasional teaching positions have been filled to cover various leaves of absence occurring throughout the year.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

The Educational Services team has increased with the addition of two Food Services Technicians who will support students at Thorold Secondary School and Port Colborne High School. To accommodate increased enrollment, two part-time Secretaries have also been hired. For the 2025/2026 we have hired 13 Educational Assistants and 2 Designated Early Childhood Educators to replace staff due to retirements and resignations.

The overall staffing complement of all other educational services positions remains unchanged.



OCCASIONAL AND SUPPLY STAFF

Recruitment for all occasional and supply staff has been ongoing throughout last year and will continue through this school year to ensure a strong roster is in place to cover absences during the school year.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael St. John
Superintendent of Human Resource Services

For further information, please contact Michael St. John, Superintendent of Human Resource Services or the Director of Education.



NOV2025

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

01

02

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04

05

06

07

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09

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11

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13

14

15

Finance 5:30 pm
Audit 6:30 pm

SAL
1:00 pm

PIC
5:30 pm

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

Organization
Meeting 5:30 pm

Regular Meeting
6:00 pm

SEAC
5:30 pm

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30



NOVEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Indigenous Education Month Hindu Heritage Month Lebanese Heritage Month Albanian Heritage Month						01 Samhain All Saints Day
02 Treaties Recognition Week (Nov 2-8) Dia de los Muertos – Day of the Dead	03 Holocaust Education Week (Nov 3-9)	04	05 Guru Nanak's Birthday	06	07 Inuit Day	08 Indigenous (Aboriginal) Veterans Day
09	10	11 Remembrance Day	12	13 International World Kindness Day	14 World Diabetes Day	15
16 Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week (Nov 16-22) Louis Riel Day	17	18	19	20 International Transgender Day of Remembrance	21	22 Holodomor Memorial Day
23	24 Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur	25 Day of the Covenant * International Day of the Elimination of Violence Against Women	26	27 Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha	28	29 United Nations' International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People
30 Advent						

NOTE: Days of Significance/Holy Days may vary a few days before or after the indicated date due to the observance of the lunar calendar for some cultures/faiths and time zones.

** Denotes Days of Significance/Holy Days that begin in **the evening before** the indicated time.*

