

**Minutes of Windsor Board of Education
Elementary Schools Task Force Community Workshop # 3
December 2, 2009**

The meeting began at 6:40 p.m.

Dr. Feser welcomed members of the community to the 3rd Community Workshop. She then introduced Jim Barrett of DRA.

Mr. Barrett quickly reviewed the process to date of the study being conducted around the elementary schools. He indicated that the key issue heard at that workshop was full-day kindergarten, the desire for it. He spoke to the key driver of the study, i.e., declining enrollment and the projected continual decline over the next 10 years. He indicated that the Board of Education looked at the declining enrollment and asked if this is an opportunity.

Mr. Barrett then reviewed what occurred at the 2nd Community Workshop, which was held in late October, going over the six options that had been put forward. He shared that a 7th option emerged from the 2nd workshop, which is: 4 buildings configured as Pk-2, K-2, 3-5, 3-5.

Mr. Barrett then spoke to the four options being more closely looked at:

Option A: the existing 5 building configuration of Pk-K, 1-5, 1-5, 1-5, 1-5 with half day kindergarten;

Option C: 4 buildings configured as Pk-K, 1-5, 1-5, 1-5 with full day kindergarten

Option F: 4 buildings configured as Pk-5, K-5, K-5, K-5 with full day kindergarten

Option G: 4 buildings configured as Pk-2, K-2, 3-5, 3-5 with full day kindergarten.

The participants were then invited to discuss the options. Mr. Barrett suggested three lenses through which to consider each option: flexibility, parity for all students, transitions between grades. A lengthy discussion ensued with a number of questions being raised on issues such as: if sufficient flexibility exists in each option to accommodate an enrollment increase 10 years out; if kindergarten can be returned to the existing buildings without renovation, particularly of bathrooms; if programs will be considered in relation to each option; how particular programs like strings, Challenge and CMTs will be impacted with the options that splits between grade 2 and 3; what additional factors will be considered in selecting options; if the Task Force will look at the implications of the options on students and families. Mr. Barrett and Mr. Moore from DRA fielded many of the questions.

As the meeting neared 8:15 Mr. Barrett reiterated the charge of the Task Force moving forward indicating that the Task Force would be meeting later in the month. He then called on Mr. Curtis for some closing remarks.

Mr. Curtis spoke to the continuing work of the Task Force leading to it recommending options to the Board of Education.

The meeting ended at 8:22 p.m.