

## Enrolment Planning and Program Revision – Kincardine

### Background

As part of Bluewater District School Board’s (BWDSB) facility planning, staff have identified enrolment growth in the Kincardine area schools. Staff have examined the future projected enrolment in the Kincardine area in order to plan appropriately and ensure sufficient pupil spaces exist in the area. BWDSB has four schools in the Kincardine area; Kincardine Township Tiverton Public School, Elgin Market Public School, Huron Heights Public School and Kincardine District Secondary School. Kincardine Township Tiverton Public School programs JK to Grade 3, Elgin Market Public School programs for JK to Grade 8 including French Immersion, Huron Heights Public School programs for Grades 4 – 8 and Kincardine District Secondary School programs for Grades 9 – 12 including French Immersion.

The current enrolment at the elementary level is 102% utilization. This makes it very difficult to provide programs based on the configurations required to comply with ministry class sizes. Enrolment at all four Kincardine schools is illustrated in Table 1. Portables are being used to accommodate the over utilization.

**Table 1 – Kincardine Schools 2018-19 Enrolment**

Current Full Time Enrolment (as of Sept. 13/18)	Kincardine Township Tiverton Public School	Elgin Market Public School	Huron Heights Public School	Kincardine District Secondary School
Capacity (OTG)	375	222	344	714
Enrolment	371	264	327	484
Utilization	99%	119%	95%	68%
Temporary Accommodation	23	23	23 (Nov. 2018)	0
Current Grade 3 students	80	-	-	-
Current Grade 7-8 students	-	27	141	-

### Projected Growth from Development

In the next 5-10 years, there are approximately 600-764 residential units expected in Kincardine. There are two main developments “West Ridge on the Lake” (405-469 units) and “David Brown subdivision” (162-262 units).

### Projected Enrolment Impact

The number of students generated per household can vary. For this area, based on recent development, staff have used a .31 student per family household yield. There is an estimated 185-236 total students coming into the Kincardine area over the next 5-10 years. Given that the current elementary utilization is at 102% the additional students will create overcapacity at the elementary schools. There may be limited capacity (with portables) at the Kincardine elementary schools to accommodate pupils given a low level of growth in the area. It is very possible that development could advance faster than expected and could generate a higher than expected number of pupils in the area. It will be difficult to accommodate the students utilizing the existing program structure at the schools given current capacity.

By 2022-23, it is expected that there will be 96 pupil spaces required over the current capacity of these elementary schools. When you factor in development growth the number of pupil spaces needed increases to 252 - well over the current capacity of these elementary schools. By 2026-27, an estimated 300 extra spaces will be required. In order to support the growth of students, an additional school or expansion will be required. Staff have had early discussions on this possibility. In the best of business cases, the ministry prefers new builds in areas where all existing pupil spaces have been utilized.

**Table 2 – Kincardine Schools 2019-20 projections without development growth**

2019-20 Enrolment Projections – Average Daily Enrolment (ADE)	Kincardine Township Tiverton Public School	Elgin Market Public School	Huron Heights Public School	Kincardine District Secondary School
School Capacity (OTG)	375	222	344	714
Average Daily Enrolment	375	248	335	477
Utilization	100%	112%	97%	67%
Potential Surplus Space/Space Shortage(-)	0	-26	9	237

**Table 3 – Kincardine Schools 2022-23 20 projections without development growth**

2022-23 Enrolment Projections (ADE)	Kincardine Township Tiverton Public School	Elgin Market Public School	Huron Heights Public School	Kincardine District Secondary School
School Capacity (OTG)	375	222	344	714
Average Daily Enrolment	364	264	409	489
Utilization	97%	119%	119%	68%
Potential Surplus Space/Space Shortage(-)	11	-42	-65	225

### Options and Analysis

By the 2019-20 school year, there will be a need for additional capacity at the Kincardine elementary schools. Temporary accommodations will provide some support given the expectation of growth in the area. However, development could generate a higher than expected number of pupils in the area. This would provide a challenge in accommodating the students in the current program structure at the elementary schools.

An option to address the over utilization for 2019-20 include a combination of school boundary changes and additional portables. However, additional portables are limited by available site space and cost is a factor. A boundary change would not create sufficient spaces.

The recommended option that ensures sufficient space and is cost effective is to:

- a) create a JK- Grade 2 program at Kincardine Township Tiverton Public School
- b) create a Grades 3-6 program at Huron Heights Public School
- c) create a JK- Grade 6 French Immersion program at Elgin Market Public School
- d) create a Grades 7-12 program at Kincardine District Secondary School

There currently exists space at Kincardine District Secondary School and the location is not a significant change from the other schools in Kincardine. This would free up space at Kincardine Township Tiverton Public School, Elgin Market Public School and Huron Heights Public School for an increase in elementary students in JK – Grade 6. This is a lower cost, mid-term solution that provides accommodation to support student success. It provides time for staff to further research development timelines, pupil yields and enter into discussions about the need and feasibility of an additional school in the area or a school addition.

## Program Revision

Staff is recommending a program revision at Kincardine Township Tiverton Public School, Elgin Market Public School, Huron Heights Public School and Kincardine District Secondary School in order to better support growth in student enrolment in the area. Kincardine Township Tiverton Public would become a JK - Grade 2 school. Elgin Market Public School would become a JK – Grade 6 school including French Immersion. Huron Heights Public School will provide program for Grades 3 – 6. Kincardine District Secondary School will become a combined school and program for Grades 7 – 12 including French Immersion. This program revision will utilize available capacity over the short to mid-term period.

## Timing

There will be approximately 150 Grade 7 and 8 students by September of 2019.

**Table 4 – Program revision solution 2019-20 projections without development growth**

<b>2019-20 Enrolment Projections (ADE)</b>	<b>Kincardine Township Tiverton Public School</b>	<b>Elgin Market Public School</b>	<b>Huron Heights Public School</b>	<b>Kincardine District Secondary School</b>
School Capacity (OTG)	375	222	344	714
Average Daily Enrolment Estimate	301	221	292	633
Utilization	80%	100%	85%	89%
Potential Surplus Space/Space Shortage(-)	74	1	52	81

**Table 5 - Program revision solution 2022-23 projections without development growth**

<b>2022-23 Enrolment Projections (ADE)</b>	<b>Kincardine Township Tiverton Public School</b>	<b>Elgin Market Public School</b>	<b>Huron Heights Public School</b>	<b>Kincardine District Secondary School</b>
School Capacity (OTG)	375	222	344	714
Average Daily Enrolment Estimate	282	223	339	694
Utilization	75%	100%	98%	97%
Potential Surplus Space/Space Shortage(-)	93	-1	5	20

Staff will investigate additional school space options that will meet the enrolment outlook.

## Student Well-Being

Staff recognize that a program change can create anxiety among those impacted by the change. Staff will be certain to provide regular communication and support to students, parents and staff as we proceed. BWDSB understands that strong support for our students and staff is critical to ensure well-being and provide the best opportunities for student success.

## Communication Plan

Staff will schedule a community information meeting in January 2019 to review the proposed program change at these schools. Community members can also provide feedback in writing to [kinprogramreview@bwdsb.on.ca](mailto:kinprogramreview@bwdsb.on.ca).

## **Transportation**

The proximity of the schools involved in this program review will have little to no impact on transportation for students attending these schools. There will be no financial increase in transportation costs because of this program change.

## **Facility Investment in Student Spaces**

There are eleven closed rooms at Kincardine District Secondary School. A number of these rooms can be opened and prepared for Grades 7 and 8 students next September. A section of the school will be dedicated to Grades 7 and 8 students as well as dedicated outdoor play space. Bluewater is committed to providing support on this matter.

## **Future Facility Plan**

As stated, this is a short to mid-term plan to provide quality spaces for Grades 7 and 8 students due to capacity constraint at the local elementary schools. Staff are examining a long-term plan that would include expansion of existing elementary schools or a replacement senior/secondary school.

## **Recommendations:**

That the Business Committee recommend to the board that Bluewater District School Board staff conduct a public information meeting for Kincardine residents on the program revision at Kincardine Township Tiverton Public, Elgin Market Public School, Huron Heights Public School and Kincardine District Secondary School effective 2019-20 school year.

Submitted to  
Bluewater District School Board  
Business Committee of the Whole  
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For further information, please contact  
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Services