

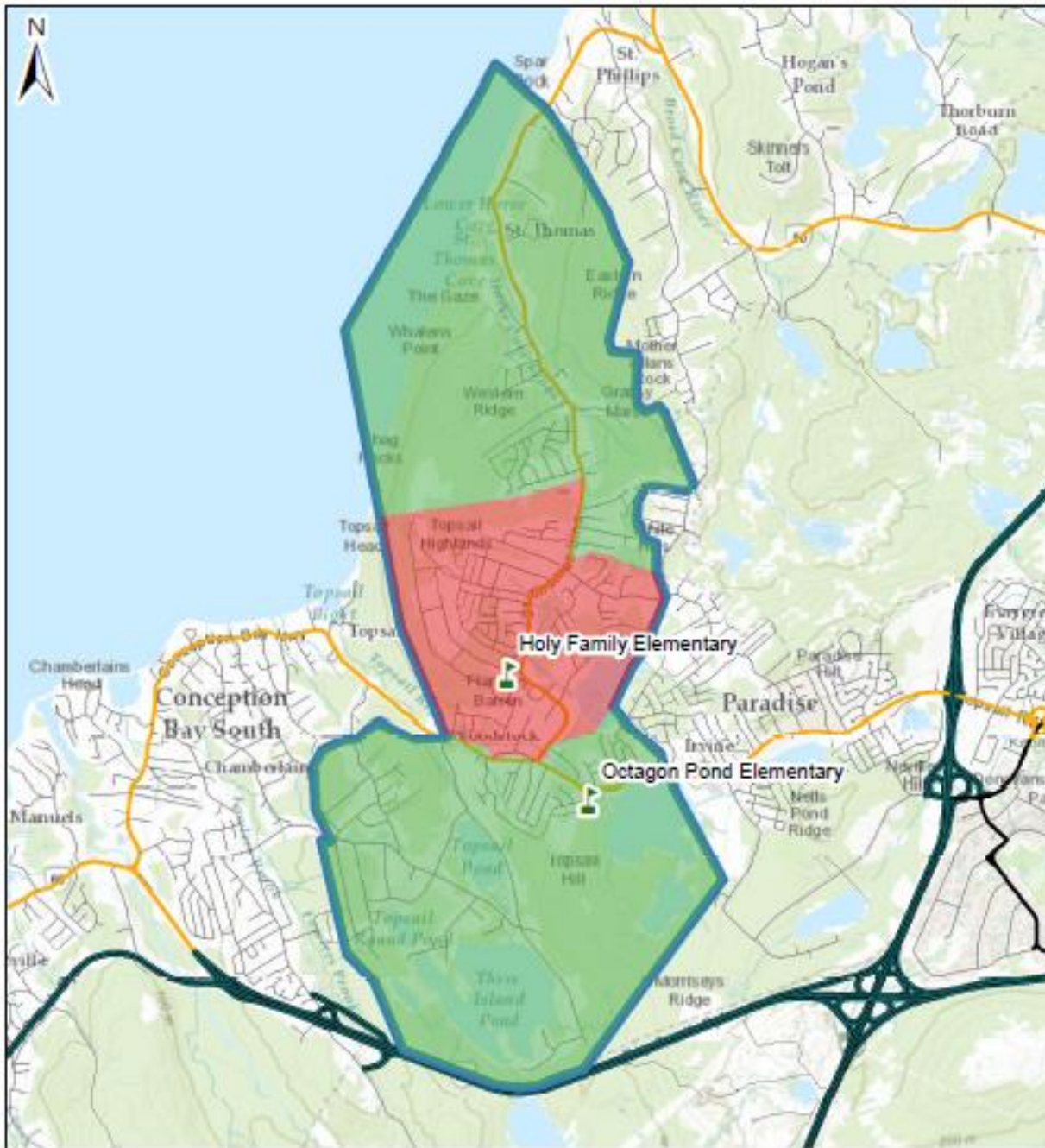
Paradise Area Planning: Holy Family Elementary & the New Elementary School at Octagon Pond

Public Meeting Presentation




**Newfoundland & Labrador
English School District**

March 30, 2015



**Approved
Catchment Area
For
Holy Family
Elementary
And
New K-6 School at
Octagon Pond**

-  School
-  Holy Family Elementary
-  Octagon Pond
-  Current Catchments



Date Created: Feb 13 2015

Two options to consider

- In consideration of all feedback to date, the Board has selected two options to consider to deal with the increasing enrolment at Holy Family Elementary until the new school at Octagon Pond is opened.

Option 1

- Grade 2-6 students zoned for Octagon Pond to be accommodated at former Newfoundland School for the Deaf (NSD) in 2015-16. When the new Octagon Pond school opens all K-1 students zoned for Octagon Pond will begin attending the new school.
- With this option, the projection for the former NSD for 2015-16 is 301 students with 664 students remaining at Holy Family Elementary.

Option 2

- Addition of four modular classrooms with all students remaining at Holy Family Elementary for 2015-16 school year. (Enrolment closely monitored for 2016-17).
- The latest NL Stats (high) projected enrolment at Holy Family Elementary is 965 students.

Option 1 Summary

- Description
 - All Grade 2-6 students zoned for Octagon Pond accommodated at NSD in 2015-16.
 - Youngest students are not required to be bused to NSD.
 - When the new Octagon Pond school opens, all K-6 students zoned for Octagon Pond will begin attending the new school (i.e. K-1 and 2-6 will re-join each other at the new school).
- Advantages
 - HFE population immediately reduced significantly thereby reducing traffic/parking issues and reclaiming cafeteria and library.
 - Greater flexibility with programming; for example with Physical Education and Music.
- Disadvantages
 - French Immersion splits in Grades 4-6 result in small classes
 - Will need to monitor school construction schedule to 2016 and enrolment numbers to determine if additional action is needed.

Additional Measures if NSD utilized

- District would seek proposals from a community organization for the provision of a user-pay early morning drop off and/or after school care program at the former NSD.
- District would endeavour to utilize courtesy seating protocol to address busing drop off at or near major daycares where feasible.
- Grade 6 French Immersion (9 students) may be accommodated at Villanova Junior High.

Option 2 Summary

- Description
 - Addition of four modular classrooms to allow all students to stay at HFE for 2015-16 school year.
 - Requires close monitoring of school population for 2016-2017.
- Advantages
 - No requirement to use former NSD in 2015-16.
- Disadvantages
 - Traffic/parking issues exacerbated, no ability to reclaim space, programming impacts (access to gym, music); loss of some outside green-space; and, a solution will be required to address the shortage of washroom spaces given larger population.
 - Will need to monitor school construction schedule to 2016 and enrolment numbers to determine if additional action is needed.

Additional Measures if Modular Classrooms added to Holy Family

- District would request additional busing in order to bus students residing within the 1.6 km zone.
- Additional washrooms would be installed at Holy Family.

Feedback Summary

206 Responses

95 in favour of Option 1 (use of former NSD)

91 in favour of Option 2 (use of four modular classrooms)
(18 offered no clear choice & two duplicates)

Holy Family Elementary Catchment Respondents (76)

- **57** favour Option 1
- **19** favour Option 2

Octagon Pond Catchment Respondents (108)

- **37** favour Option 1
- **71** favour Option 2

Feedback Themes

- Reluctance to have children bused to the former NSD
- Daycare and afterschool care/activities considerations
- Concerns for student safety while on the bus (bullying, no supervision)
- Reluctance to split siblings
- Concern over impact of splitting up current classes/cohorts
- Concern among some pervasive needs/alternate needs families about continuity
- Lack of clarity on what will happen for French Immersion students
- Fast-track plans for the new Octagon Pond school to ensure on-time completion
- Immediate plan needed for junior high and high school in area
- Modulars do not address overcrowding issue – washrooms, library and gym facilities still necessary
- If modulars occur, busing will be needed for all students inside 1.6 km zone to address traffic concerns

Recommended Motion for March 30, 2015 vote

WHEREAS the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and,

WHEREAS a reorganization of schooling is required to achieve that objective;

BE IT RESOLVED that:

EITHER

The school population for the new elementary school Octagon Pond be constituted in September 2015 with Grades K-1 being accommodated at Holy Family Elementary (Paradise) and Grades 2-6 being accommodated at the former School for the Deaf on Topsail Rd, St. John`s.

OR

Four modular classrooms be requested to accommodate projected increases to Holy Family Elementary (Paradise) enrolment for the 2015-2016 school year.