



YK1 Town Hall Meeting
École J.H. Sissons Site Options Comments
February 15, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

CHART COMMENTS

Chart One

- Option 4: Build on existing site.
- Too disruptive to district.
- Disruptive to Immersion programming.
- Best option for infrastructure, wind, sun, beautiful natural playground.

Chart Two

- Bad budget process: secure money first then make decisions. What can we afford? Get money commitment first.
- Portables could cost same amount as blasting.
- Like option “E” (pictured below).
- House all kids in another location (take over ski club?)
- Priority is French Immersion all in one spot. Partner with École Allain St-Cyr.
- Need rough cost estimates of options – including costs of disruptions (can those dollars be used for something else).
- Can there be staged construction? I.e. Classrooms near existing site, then demolition, then build the rest of the site.
- Investigate acquisition from Allison McAteer?
- Take time to fully examine the total budget implications of disruption and actual design before including “on site” is the only way.
- Survey bias: Asking “what’s important” to school but failed to ask concerns / experiences with students and school disruptions, moves, portables and other losses.
- Will multi-grade teachers (music etc.) have to drive between schools? Impact on their students’ transport accommodations.

Chart Three

- Don’t feel real options were presented. Very half baked!
- Please come back with real thought out options with real specifics.
- Use of adjectives “desolate”.
- Misleading area of footprints (with option B).
- Disruption of kids is a huge factor – multiple schools in unacceptable.

- Concern with level of French environment.
- More than two years of disruptions.
- Do not diminish the concerns of parents. Feel misled by the timeline, presentation was biased (architects).
- School culture and learning of other schools impacted (programs, spaces).

Chart Four

- Keep the gym of the current school and use it as the winter playground for the school.
- The other part of the old school ground should become the new parking lot.

Chart Five

- Foundation is a legitimate concern. What happens if there's a Grand Canyon? Will we know before the GNWT budget / approvals?
- Need broader consultation / information sharing. It is felt that most parents in YK1 are not aware of the impact.
- Would like community consultation and consideration. Want to know more about Option 3.
- Nature is good for wellness.

Chart Six

- General comments: Jason from ECE's comment about "relocation of students".
- Students and programming are more important than a playground. We can be creative about a playground.
- Disrupting 100% of YK1.
- Middle years' concept needs to be kept intact.
- Forced to make a decision regarding location without any relocation information.
- What's the long range vision? Population growth, programs etc.
- Disruption is not an option. Best interests of all students should be the first priority.
- Forrest Drive playground is half a block away.
- Enrollment at YK1 will be affected!

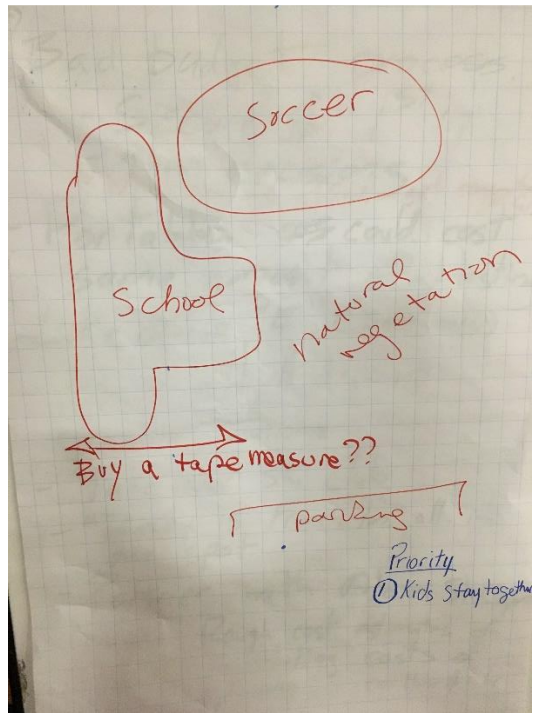
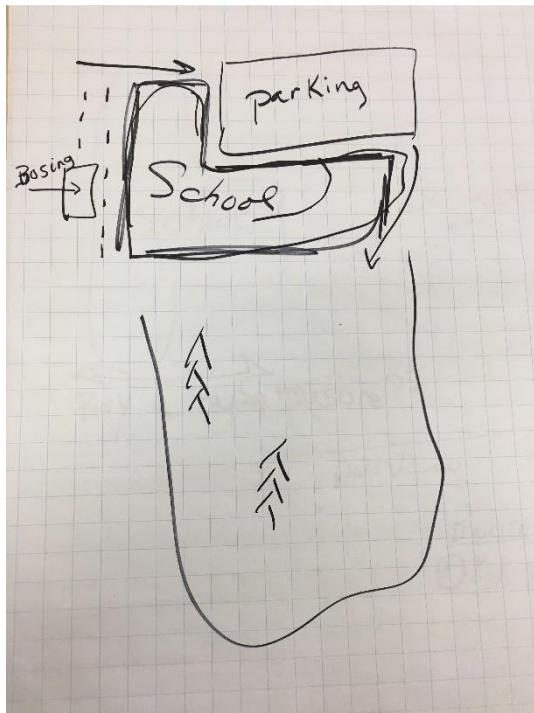
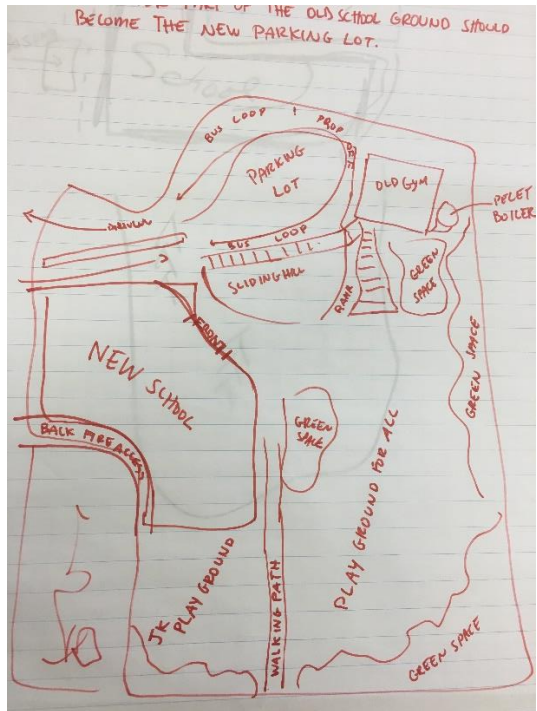
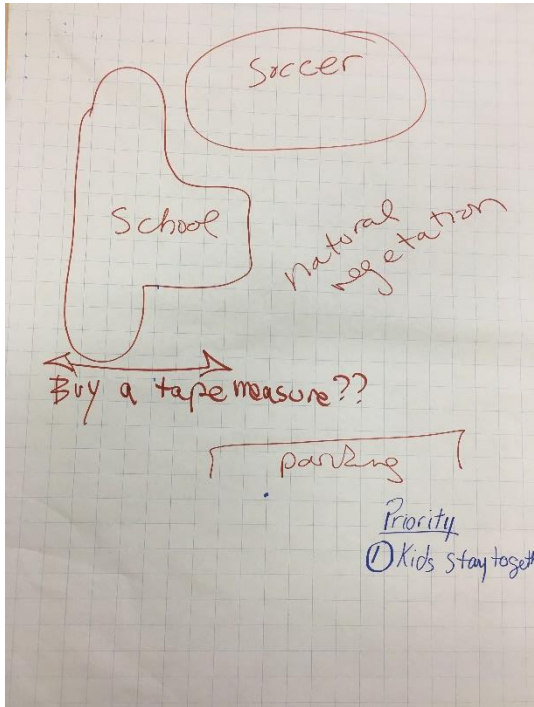
Chart Seven

- Parents were not presented the full range of "real options". Where are the relocation options? Student population growth analysis? Long range YK1 facility planning factoring in?
- More information and analysis is needed to inform important decisions.
- Minimize disruption as much as possible. Analyze the options to do new construction elsewhere or maintain existing school and build within the playground.
- The biggest challenge of French Immersion across Canada is finding teachers (for the next at least six years). Keeping our teachers will be key! Many will leave if displaced.
- Think long-term.

Chart Eight

- Having students together to preserve our 100% French Immersion is key to maintaining a high education.
- We should find a way to keep the kids at this site and build in a location that does not impact (or has minimal impact) to the playground. The easy way is not always the best way!
- Get a second opinion with different site building options. Optimize property and maintaining culture of École J.H. Sissons. This can be achieved by building on another site and keeping the school in place until the project is 100% complete. The transitioning students into the new school.
- 1/3 of JHS students are five and under!
- Investigate blast of current site after demolition to level building site for future playground. You can sell the fill!

ILLUSTRATIONS



OTHER WRITTEN COMMENTS

- Little, if any discussion, about the community and the impact of the construction and siting of the school on the community.
- In the fall, the GNWT showed leadership with the suggestion they would be engaged in planning this project with stakeholder consultations. Now we learn the GNWT has essentially pre-approved a design and location but without any plans to accommodate the students including issues such as: bussing or drop-off / parking, JK/K children's accessibility, after-school care, music, gyms, playgrounds and without fully investigating alternate site feasibility. When and how will the GNWT / ECE show real leadership and commit to school infrastructure that ensures accessibility for young students and all needs and a modern place of learning with technology, suited to equip our children for the future? What is the budget? How will you support all students during construction? Why can the GNWT / ECE not move forward with a plan for a new school, knowing there would be full demo and complete modern rebuild? Then conduct a full, proper and thorough examination of real options. Asking us to approve a plan without complete budget considerations.
- Option 1: Trees grow, two points of entry. Is that not better? Option 2: Elementary / primary – talking about OUR budget, no playground. Option 3: Dumb!

REASONS FOR LOCATING THE NEW JHS IN OPTION #3

- Existing parking lot area has space for a new JHS School (enrolment around 315) and drop-off lanes. For example NJM School, and its drop-off lanes, would fit on the JHS parking lot area (and NJM, with an enrolment of around 300, is a single story building, Weledeh School, with an enrolment of around 350, would also fit in the JHS parking lot area).
- The siting of the new school in the parking lot would mean very few trees would be removed for construction (if any).
- The siting of the new school in the parking lot maintains the existing playground area, and access to the playground would be at ground level. Better and safer for the little kids! Also, easier supervision of kids in the playground area.
- In the future staff and visitor parking at JHS would move to the upper area of the existing school.
- There would be a shorter distance from drop-off area to school entrance. It would be safer with less traffic in the drop-off area, particularly for JK and K students.
- Locating the new JHS to the parking lot allows for ground level entry to the school, less handi-cap access problems. Also, there could be separate entry to school for the JK and K aged kids as compared to the older kids.
- A new two story school, with a primarily north/south orientation allows natural sun light, but would avoid the direct south sunlight during school hours.
- A new two story school, allows direct viewing into a forested area, at the ground level and the tree top level, and would allow viewing in the main playground area.
- Having a school on a hill is not as energy effective as a school out of the upper winds. (Evidence: recent annual use of heating fuel; JHS 102,000 liters, NJM 70,000 liters, RLN 103,000 liters (bigger school)) A savings in O&M dollars and reduction in greenhouse gases.
- The siting of the new school in the parking lot allows construction to start when weather and site conditions permit potentially in the late spring of 2020, with

demolishing of the old school after the move to the new school. As compared to siting on the rock hill, where the existing school needs to be emptied of contents after school closes at the end of June 2020, then hazmat removal, then demolition, before the new school construction begins. This might mean new construction does not start until late summer of 2020.

- No disruption to all the other schools in the YK#1 District, and all the educational ramifications that would cause.
- And with the potential disruption of schools and kids, there is the possibility of lower enrolments, thus potentially less overall funding that would go towards educating kids in all schools in the District.
- Some potential savings in dollars and time by siting the new school in the parking lot area (all of which can go instead to helping educate students in all schools across the YK#1 District):
 - Only have to move the JHS school furniture, books, supplies, etc. once.
 - No storage costs for storing the above for two years.
 - No need to install portables.
 - No need for time spent by teachers, principals and senior administration for planning and organizing a "spread-out JHS school community".
 - No scattered JHS school administration across various classroom locations in other schools during the construction period.

In essence, I propose to switch the parking area for the school area.

I would rather move cars than kids!