

Transition Committee Meeting

February 4, 2016 at Wallace Public School

Attendees: Pat Berfelz, Ron Gailbraith, Crystal Heenan, Jim McCutcheon, Jean Stacey, Chet Hudson, Maddy Petrie, Kathy Boyd (Co-chair), Jane Morris, Lisa Schaefer, Helen Shaw, Tyler Alexander, Sheila Andriessen, Blake Andriessen, Alisa Williams, Nancy Rothwell, Laurel Mitchell, Hugh Cox, Jane Morton (co-chair), Deputy Mayor Doug Kellum attended sending his regrets on behalf of Julie Behrns

Non-Participants:

Recorder: Kara Greydanus

Members of the public were also in attendance

Meeting began at 6:30

Welcome:

Kathy Boyd opened the meeting introducing the 2 members unable to attend the last meeting: Superintendent Jane Morris, and Wallace representative Alisia Williams. Also introduced Kara Greydanus as the representation from the board who would record the minutes but not participate in discussions or votes.

Reminder of our jobs as a committee

- Naming the school
- Team name and colours
- Recommending what to do for memorabilia
- Orientation for parents and students
- Closing celebrations, committee are already doing most of the logistics of this
- Issues of concerns that arise as part of the transition (ie transportation)

Reminder of Norms decided up at last meeting:

- At the table, participates in discussion and voting
- Audience, open to public, not able to participate but can address co-chairs afterwards
- Meetings by general consensus
- Meetings will start on time at 6:30
- If unable to attend, let them know
- Minutes will be posted on website. Link is up and working for the website, link also posted on facebook
- Everyone, regardless of age of position, has an equal say

Come Celebrate Central/Wallace Closing Events

- Tyler Schaefer and Mark Tarbush spoke about the Come Celebrate Central. Saturday May 28:
9:00-11:00 Joint Wallace & Central Staff Social with Sandie Arlein (519)291-3764 as the contact for that
11:00-3:00: Open house at Listowel Central, Rotary making food if people desire to purchase. 1:00: Will be a short ceremony
The Legion and North Perth Arts Council are hosting a community concert that night as well with 'Need an elevator' at Parkview Gardens. Doors open @ 7 and Show starts @ 8. Tickets are \$10 at Chocolates on Main and Life's a Party
Email address for Memorabilia: comecelebratecentral@gmail.com
- Floor opened for questions/Suggestions
- Pat Berfelz informed us that the day Care will also be doing their closing/open house celebrations that day.

- Kara Greydanus spoke about the Celebrate Wallace event happening simultaneously. The joint event for staff will be the same. The open house will run the same time (11:00-3:00) at Wallace. The Jr. Farmers will be selling food from 11:30-1:30. They will also be promoting the need an elevator event. Email address for memorabilia: celebratewallace@outlook.com
- Tyler requested the Transition Committee's approval for the event committees to go ahead and continue planning and advertising. Committee Approved

Motion to accept minutes: from last meeting Jean Stacey, seconded Alisia. Accepted

Review of Day care

- Pat Berfelz gave us an update on the Day Care. Which includes Infant, toddler and preschool aged care, as well as continued school aged before and after school programs. They are 75% complete, and have been doing lots of fundraising. Recently a large local industry donation came through, resulting in a new name as part of the promised funds. The new name will be 'North Perth – Sprinrite Child and Family Centre'. The donation was \$50,000, plus \$5,000 per year for 10 years to total \$100,000. The facility will also include the Best Start Child and Family Centre where agencies such as The Huron Perth Centre, CAS, Public Health, and the Family Health Team will be able to meet with children and their families at one location. If a child attends the daycare and school the agencies will be able to meet them at the centre.

Naming The New School:

- Kathy Boyd and Jane Morton spoke to other schools who recently opened and liked the idea of a dot-mocharcy. They explained the process: Everyone gets 5 stars (for votes). The names for the schools were posted in charts on the wall. Everyone was to place their stars on the chart beside whichever names they desired. And then as a committee they would decide after the vote where to go from there, and how to begin narrowing down or choosing a name.
- The floor was open for any other suggestions. None were given.
- Kathy explained that variations of similar names given by the public were lumped together. The following chart shows names voted on and number of votes received. Jane Morris explained that the Board would like Elementary School, not Public School to be used in naming schools now. Because Secondary Schools are also Public Schools

School Name	Number of Votes
A.E. McKeever Public School	4
Binning Street Public School	0
Building Bridges (Building Bridges Elementary)	0
Central Wallace Public School (Central Wallace School or Wallace Central Public School or Wallace Central School)	0
Community Builders Public School	0
John Binning Elementary (Public School)	8
Listowel (or North Perth or Perth) West Heights Public School (Elementary School)	7
Listowel Academy of Excellence	0
Listowel District Public School	0
Listowel Public school	0
Maple Keys Public School	2
Meadowvale	5
North Perth Academy	0
North Perth Community Public School	8
North Perth Consolidated Elementary School	0
North Perth Elementary School (Public School)	36
North Perth Publicans	0
North Perth United Elementary School	0
Perth Hall	0
W. C. Kidd Elementary	0
Wallace Westdale	0
West Acres Public School	0
West Discovery Public School	1
West Fair Elementary School	0
West Field Elementary School (Public School)	12
West Lancaster Elementary	3
Westside Trails Elementary	1
Westview Public School	7

- After everyone finished voting, the question was posed where to go from here. Everyone agreed on taking the clear majority names and re-vote. There were 6 clear majority names left for the second round of voting.
- Alisia Williams and Lisa Schaefer asked if it would be possible to remove Listowel, North Perth, and Perth off West Heights Elementary option. Committee approved.
- The new 6 names were posted in charts for voting and everyone was given another 5 stars.

The 6 names up for voting were:

North Perth Community
 North Perth Elementary
 West Field Elementary

West View Elementary
 John Binning Elementary
 West Heights Elementary

Only 4 of the options received votes:

John Binning Elementary: 13
West Heights Elementary: 14
North Perth Elementary: 36
West Field Elementary: 32

- The floor was again opened for discussion:
- Sheila Andriessen mentioned that people she spoke with would all like to know where the school is, so they expressed desire to have the location in the name. Lisa Schaefer mentioned she spoke with people who wanted the opposite. They did not want the location in the name. She also noted that there is more than one school in North Perth, including Elma and people from the other schools may be offended if only the new school was called North Perth.
- Some of the reasons given on the survey were read for the names still in the running. The question was posed to the committee of where do we go from here? Jim McCutcheon expressed a desire to wait until the next meeting, as this was a major decision to be made and people needed more time to process the last 4 choices. Committee agreed they would all like to decide at the next meeting, choosing from the pool of remaining 4 names. Everyone was encouraged to talk to the community and ask for what people would prefer. Hugh Cox will also be double checking that no other school has the same name in Ontario as the 4 remaining choices to know if a name needs to be modified.

Team Name and Colours:

- A small discussion occurred to decide if they wanted to continue with choosing a team name or school colours. The committee quickly agreed the school name needed to be decided upon first and foremost, as that would affect their votes for team name and colours.

Orientation and Opening of New School:

- The floor was opened for suggestions:

- Crystal Heenan asked if it was possible for the school to be open for people to go through before the end of the school year. Hugh Cox said no. Jane Morris said they won't have occupancy etc. until the summer, unfortunately.
- Tyler Alexander said that as a student they want to know where they are going in the building and see the interior layout before school starts. That all students should get a chance to go through it. Jim McCutcheon liked the idea of using students as tour guides.
- Kathy Boyd spoke with Maitland River to see how they did it. It was the last week in August, 1 part open house for community to see classrooms and celebrate, second half of the day was just for parents and students. They could meet teachers, find lockers, tour the gym, see where the washrooms are. Bus information would be posted and people would be able to ask questions. Gr. 6 students came in prior to that day and got their private tour and then got to be tour guides during the public time. This is how it was done in the past and not how we have to do it.
- Sheila Andriessen felt it was important for students get a separate time then the community to see the school. Lisa Schaefer worried about the time of day of the event. Because of people who work, especially for community members. She feels they need to have evening session for people. Also thinks students would take great pride in showing members around. Jane Morton wondered if we could have a community group there in the evening running a BBQ.
- Nancy Rothwell asked if any mixers were being planned for students to get to know each other. Jim McCutcheon said they are hoping to get mixer for Gr 6's for sure. With Central, Eastdale and Wallace students. Possibly all going to JUMP together. Kathy Boyd explained that many classes are working on blogging projects and are sharing them between schools to get to know each other better. Jane Morton said there were teachers working on planning things to get students together.
- Ron Galbraith asked if there was a way to get students to meet their teachers before school ended? Jane Morris explained that students can't meet the teacher because there are so many changes that happen in staffing over the summer, that would be harder and more confusing on students if changes occur. It is not a practice of the school board to tell students their teachers before school begins.
- Crystal Heenan explained that there is only so much you can do. In her experience of Eastdale kids coming to Central, it doesn't take very long to integrate. It's more important that students are comfortable with the building, and the teachers – they will adjust quickly to the environment and making community together. It will be the adults that struggle more. The two communities already know each other well, sports etc. and believes students will very quickly gel.
- Alisia Williams wondered if year-end field trips, could be done together. Jane Morton said that would be a teacher decision and many of the year end field trips would already be booked.
- Jane Morton asked for possible dates for orientation. Hugh and Laurel assured everyone that there would be no time pressure picking a date as permits will for sure be completed by August. Kathy Boyd put forward the date of Wed Aug 31st. With students and parents likely coming during the day and public during the evening.

- Pat Berfelz said the Day Care hasn't logistically worked through their transition process for the young children yet, so would not be able to do an open house during the day most likely but would absolutely want to be part of the evening community open house.
- The tentative date of **Wed, August 31st** was scheduled with details to be decided later.
- Pat asked if there would be a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Open House. Laurel Mitchell said no. Maitland River did a ribbon cutting later in the fall. Laurel said you would want to do ribbon cutting once the school has opened. Pat said the day care would also do one and therefore would like to do it all together. Laurel will share what was all involved in the ribbon cutting ceremonies of other schools. Ie. Choirs. Doing it later into the year gives time to get students organized to assist with the ceremony.

Next 2 Meetings:

- Kathy Boyd mentioned the board would like name recommendation by end of March for the school as they need to begin ordering signs etc. Team names and colours aren't mandatory by the end of March but the sooner the better.

Thurs Feb 25th: 6:30 @ Listowel Central: Snowdate Thurs Mar 3

Thurs Mar 10th 6:30 @ Wallace: Snow date Mon 21st

- The floor was opened for any other business. None arose.
- Move to adjourn

Meeting Adjourned 7:50