MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, THE BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION, HELD IN THE J. L. MILNE BOARDROOM, ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, 1031 - 6TH STREET, BRANDON, MANITOBA, AT 8:00 P.M., TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2010.

PRESENT:
Mr. G. Buri, Chairperson, Mr. D. Karnes, Vice-Chairperson, Mr. P Bartlette, Ms. R. Coey, Mrs. B. Jolly, Mr. B. Mayes, Mr. J. Murray, Dr. L. Ross, Mr. M. Snelling.

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. G. Barnes, Recording Secretary, Ms. S. Bailey

Senior Administration: Dr. D. M. Michaels, Superintendent, Mr. G. Malazdrewicz, Associate Superintendent, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. K. Zabowski

CALL:

The Chairperson called the meeting to order 8:00 p.m. and referred to the Call.
The meeting had been called for the purpose of considering the following:

a) Implementation of Physical Education for Grade 7 and 8 Green Acres and George Fitton School Students.

b) Teacher Arbitration Award (In-Camera)

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the public for the input the Board had received to date with respect to the implementation of the Single Track French Immersion Program.

a) Implementation of Physical Education for Grade 7 and 8 Green Acres and George Fitton School Students.

The Chairperson provided a brief review of the discussions held at the Regular Board Meeting on April 12, 2010 with respect to the issue of implementation of physical education for Grade 7 and 8 Green Acres and George Fitton School students. He noted the direction given to Senior Administration to provide a report for the Board to review at tonight's meeting addressing the issues expressed by concerned parents and staff. He noted that the Board must make a decision at tonight's Special Board Meeting due to time constraints and the need to move forward.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels and Associate Superintendent, Mr. Greg Malazdrewicz, presented their report entitled "Single Track French Immersion Implementation Considerations – English Program Physical Education at George Fitton and Green Acres Schools for Grades 7 & 8 Students, September 2010" attached as Appendix "A" to these Minutes, which contained three timetable models. They noted the timetable models took into consideration the historical/current operation of other larger Kindergarten to Grade 8 schools within the Brandon School Division.

Following the presentation of the report, Trustees asked a number of questions with respect to the three models presented as well as clarification of the following:
- the physical education class size for the grade 7 and 8 students involved;
- whether or not the physical education teachers involved had been consulted;

- how the 15 minute shortfall is made up across the Division;
- expansion of outdoor physical education;
- confirmation that Green Acres students currently attending Grade 7 and 8 at Harrison school, walk to Harrison and are not bussed;
- the projected enrollment for each school involved;
- the similarity between the Harrison School timetable and the Meadows School timetable.

Trustees thanked Senior Administration for their work on this matter noting the thoughtful consideration that had been put into the report. A discussion was held regarding the recommendations which had been put forth.

Trustee Jolly noted she favoured Model/Option 2D as there was no busing involved, students from both Green Acres and George Fitton would have physical education at Harrison School and there would be no doubling up classes for the older grades. She also noted both schools taking physical education at Harrison allowed for the possibility of forming a team and practicing together for volleyball and basketball.

Trustee Bartlette also favoured Model/Option 2D and agreed with the comments made by Trustee Jolly. He was also glad to see the gym would be available over the noon hour.

Trustee Snelling supported Model/Option 2D but asked Senior Administration to look into the possibility of consulting with the Physical Education Co-Coordinator and the physical education teachers before September to discuss the possibility of improving this option and expanding outdoor physical education classes.

Trustee Karnes noted he favoured Model/Option 2D as it did not involve busing of students. He also agreed with Trustee Snelling regarding expanding outdoor physical education classes.

Trustee Mayes confirmed he supported Model/Option 2D. He noted there are Grade 7 and 8 students in the Division who hold classes in smaller gyms than George Fitton or Green Acres Schools and sited Alexander School as an example. Trustee Mayes also reviewed for the public why the Board of Trustees chose Harrison Middle School for implementation of the Single Track French Immersion Program and why the numbers did not make a phase-in option viable for implementation of the program. Mr. Mayes also reviewed some of the other suggestions that had been made over the course of reviewing this matter and why those reasons were rejected by the Board.

Trustee Murray agreed Model/Option 2D solved a lot of the problems presented by the public regarding physical education for the Grade 7 and 8 students of George Fitton and Green Acres Schools. He expressed concern that the option was 15 minutes short per cycle but noted schools can retrieve that lost time through 1 ½ field day per year. Mr. Murray reviewed all the work that had gone into this issue and the length of time the Board has taken to deal with the matter. He confirmed that decisions made tonight must move forward in order to implement the program in September 2010.

Trustee Coey also supported Model/Option 2D. She noted the Board has listened to the Community and heard that they had no problem with the Single Track French Immersion Program but were concerned about implementation of the Grade 7 and 8 Physical Education program which she felt Model/Option 2D addressed.

Trustee Ross agreed that Model/Option 2D addressed the concerns of most people. She noted upon reviewing the minutes over the last 2 years the Board has planned carefully for the implementation of the Single Track French Immersion Program. She confirmed there is always room for improvement and noted the Single Track French Immersion students will also be compromising as well with respect to physical education classes.

Trustee Buri confirmed he also supported Model/Option 2D. He thanked Senior Administration for presenting the timetabling models this evening noting they alleviated fears regarding space and addressed issues regarding bussing.

Mrs. Jolly – Mr. Bartlette

49/2010 That Model/Option 2D, as presented in the report of the Superintendent at the Special Board Meeting held on April 20, 2010, to provide George Fitton School and Green Acres School Grade 7 and 8 physical education classes at École Harrison in single classes and requiring no school bus transportation, be approved.

Carried.

The Chairperson directed the Secretary-Treasurer to expedite a meeting with the Public Schools Finance Board and the Minister of Education, to take place in Winnipeg as soon as possible, to address the issue of gym renovations for George Fitton and Green Acres Schools.

Mrs. Coey – Mr. Snelling
That the Board do now resolve into Committee of the Whole In Camera.

Carried.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN CAMERA

b) Teacher Arbitration Award (In-Camera)

Legal correspondence on a Teacher Arbitration Award was discussed and referred to motions.

Mr. Karnes – Mr. Snelling
That the Committee of the Whole In Camera do now resolve into Board.

Carried.

IN BOARD

Dr. Ross – Ms. Coey

50/2010 That the Arbitration Award dated 25th March 2010 by R.J.M. Adkins, Chairman, resulting from the arbitration proceeding between Brandon Teachers' Association and Brandon School Division regarding parental leave top up, be accepted.

Mr. Karnes – Mrs. Jolly
That the meeting do now adjourn (9:10 p.m.).

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer

Appendix A

BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION
1031 – 6TH STREET BRANDON MB R7A 4K5

To: Board of Trustees

From: Dr. Donna M. Michaels
Superintendent of Schools / Chief Executive Officer

Date: April 20, 2010

Re: Single Track French Immersion Implementation Considerations – English Program Physical Education at George Fitton and Green Acres Schools for Grades 7 & 8 Students, September 2010

Originated by: G. Barnes, G. Malazdrewicz, D. M. Michaels and Members of the Single Track French Immersion Implementation Steering Committee

For: Board Consideration & Decision

Strategic Goal and/or Administrative Area: Quality Learning and Quality Teaching

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I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At the Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees on April 12, 2010 Trustees discussed in detail the April 5, 2010 Senior Administration report "Single Track French Immersion Implementation Considerations – English Program Physical Education Transportation" and received public presentations and correspondence from parents, students, teachers, members of the Harrison Middle School, George Fitton School, and Green Acres School communities.

The public feedback on this specific matter was very negative with clear opposition to option #3 "Alternate Site Delivery: Physical Education programming is delivered at an alternate site where the gymnasium facility and timetable permit". This option would provide bus transportation for Grades 6, 7 and 8 students (at George Fitton) to École New Era School, September 2010 and Grades 7 & 8 students (Green Acres) to Earl Oxford School for Physical Education. The details of this feedback are recorded in the official Board meeting minutes to be approved on April 26, 2010.

Senior Administration advises that the matter of streamlining classes at Earl Oxford School (i.e. busing students once for multiple classes) would require further analysis of option #3 related to busing. We interpreted that the Board's direction was to maximize gymnasia utilization and eliminate busing of Grades 6, 7, 8 students for Physical Education. Thus, we have provided the following information and subsequent recommendation accordingly.

Upon hearing the public feedback the Board Chairperson George Buri suggested that a Special Board Meeting be held at which time he would ask Senior Administration to present a report regarding maximizing the use of the gymnasia in all schools with a special emphasis on the Grades 7 and 8 students using the École Harrison gym. Trustees also requested that the report address the consultation reports on an interim dual track model. The Board agreed to hold this Special Meeting on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at 8:00 p.m.

Following the April 12th Board meeting the Single Track French Immersion Implementation Steering Committee met to develop additional models related to Option 2 "Hybrid Site Delivery" (April 5, 2010). Senior Administration has prepared the following report based on the Board's direction.

II. Requested Further Models

Based on Board direction, Senior Administration has prepared three timetable models. These additional models take into consideration the historical/current operation of other larger Kindergarten to Grade 8 schools within Brandon School Division (Appendix A).

The models as presented on the following pages are presented for Board analysis and evaluation:

Implications

Model	Positive	Negative	Neutral
# 2B: 6.0 Hr Gym Usage Model	• Meets time requirement for Gr. 7 & 8 PE within timetable • PE assignments within the traditional school day • No busing	• Split schedule for Harrison lunch • No access to Athletics time at lunch • Classes are doubled for K-2 • Staggered student/staff lunch • Additional staff cost	• Need curtain to maintain separate spaces

2B: 6.0 hour Gym Usage Model

No Athletics Access

	Jour1	Jour 2	Jour 3	Jour 4	Jour 5	Jour 6
8:55-9:25	G.A. 7/8	G.F. 7B	G.A. 7/8	G.F. 7B	G.A. 7/8	G.F. 7B
9:25-9:55						
9:55-10:25	Grade 7	G.F. 7A	Grade 7	G.F. 7A	Grade 7	G.F. 7A
10:25-10:40	RECESS					
10:40-11:10	Grade 5	Maternelle Grade 1A	Grade 4	Maternelle Grade 1 B	Grade 6	Grade 4/5
11:10-11:40	G.F. 8 B	Grade 7/8	G.F. 8B	Grade 7/8	G.F. 8B	Grade 7/8
11:40-12:10						
12:10-12:40	G.F. 8A	Grade 8	G.F. 8A	Grade 8	G.F. 8 A	Grade 8
12 :45-1 :15	Grade 1 A Grade 1 B	Grade 4/5	Grade 3	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 6
1 :15-1 :45	Grade 2A Grade 2B	Grade 2A Grade 2B	Maternelle Grade 1B	Grade 1A Grade 1 B	Maternelle Grade 1A	Grade 2A Grade 2B
1:45-2:15	Grade 4	Grade 3 Grade 4	Grade 2A Grade 2B	Grade 2A Grade 2B	Grade 3	Grade 1A Grade 1 B
2:15-2:30	RECESS					
2 :30-3 :00	Grade 4/5	Grade 5	Grade 4/5	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 5
3 :00-3 :30	Grade 6	Grade 6	Grade 6	Grade 5	Grade 4/5	Grade 3

Model	Positive	Negative	Neutral
# 2C: 5.5 Hr Gym Usage Model	• Creates more time in schedule to accommodate single Gr. 7 & 8 classes • Maximizes academic instructional time • PE assignments within the traditional school day • No busing	• Short 15 min/cycle for Gr. 7 & 8 PE • Access to Athletics time at lunch too short to be useful in scheduling • All classes are doubled K-2 and one Gr. 3/4	• One and one half Field Days can complete required time • Need curtain to maintain separate spaces

2C: 5.5 hour Gym Usage Model

Limited Athletics Access

	Jour1	Jour 2	Jour 3	Jour 4	Jour 5	Jour 6
8:55-9:25	**G.A. 7/8**	**G.A. 7/8**	Grade 4/5	**G.A. 7/8**	Grade 5	**G.A. 7/8**
9:25-9:55	Grade 4/5	Maternelle Grade 1A	Grade 5	Grade 5	Maternelle Grade 1 B	Grade 8
9:55-10:25	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 6	Grade 6	Grade 3	Grade 3 Grade 4
10:25-10:40	RECESS					
10:40-11:10	**G.F. 7A**	**G.F. 8 A**	**G.F. 7A**	**G.F. 8 A**	**G.F. 7A**	**G.F. 8 A**
11:10-11:40	**G.F. 7B**	**G.F. 8 B**	**G.F. 7B**	**G.F. 7B**	**G.F. 7B**	**G.F. 8 B**
11:40-12:10	**G.F. 8A**	**G.F. 7A**	**G.F. 8B**	Grade 4/5	**G.F. 8 B**	Grade 6
12:10-12:40	Open Gym					
12 :45-1 :15	Grade 1 A Grade 1 B	Grade 4/5	Grade 4	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
1 :15-1 :45	Grade 2A Grade 2B	Grade 2A Grade 2B	Maternelle Grade 1B	Grade 1A Grade 1 B	Maternelle Grade 1A	Grade 2A Grade 2B
1:45-2:15	Grade 3 Grade 4	Grade 3 Grade 4	Grade 2A Grade 2B	Grade 2A Grade 2B	Grade 7	Grade 1A Grade 1 B
2:15-2:30	RECESS					
2 :30-3 :00	Grade 4/5	Grade 7	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 8	Grade 7/8
3 :00-3 :30	Grade 6	Grade 7/8	Grade 8	Grade 7/8	Grade 7/8	Grade 7

Model	Positive	Negative	Neutral
#2D: 5.0 Hr Gym Usage Model	• Creates more time in schedule to accommodate single Gr. 7 & 8 classes • Maximizes academic instructional time • PE assignments within the traditional school day • Full access to Athletics scheduling	• Short 15 min/cycle for Gr. 7 & 8 PE • Doubling of PE classes in more grades K-5	• One and one half Field Days can complete required time • Need curtain to maintain separate spaces

2D: 5.0 hour Gym Usage Model

Full Athletics Access

	Jour1	Jour 2	Jour 3	Jour 4	Jour 5	Jour 6
8:55-9:25	**G.A. 7/8**	**G.A. 7/8**	Grade 6	**G.A. 7/8**	Grade 4/5 Grade 5	**G.A. 7/8**
9:25-9:55	Grade 4/5 Grade 5	Maternelle Grade 1A	Grade 4/5 Grade 5	Grade 4/5 Grade 5	Maternelle Grade 1 B	Grade 8
9:55-10:25	Grade 6	Grade 4/5 Grade 5	Grade 2A Grade 2B	Grade 6	Grade 6	Grade 3 Grade 4
10:25-10:40	RECESS					
10:40-11:10	**G.F. 7A**	**G.F. 8 A**	**G.F. 7A**	**G.F. 8 A**	**G.F. 7A**	**G.F. 8 A**
11:10-11:40	**G.F. 7B**	**G.F. 8 B**	**G.F. 7B**	**G.F. 7B**	**G.F. 7B**	**G.F. 8 B**
11:40-12:10	**G.F. 8A**	**G.F. 7A**	**G.F. 8B**	Grade 3 Grade 4	**G.F. 8 B**	**G.F. 7B**
12:10-12:40 12 :45-1 :15	Open Gym					
1 :15-1 :45	Grade 7/8	Grade 2A Grade 2B	Maternelle Grade 1B	Grade 1A Grade 1 B	Maternelle Grade 1A	Grade 2A Grade 2B
1:45-2:15	Grade 1 A Grade 1 B	Grade 3 Grade 4	Grade 3 Grade 4	Grade 2A Grade 2B	Grade 7	Grade 1A Grade 1 B
2:15-2:30	RECESS					
2 :30-3 :00	Grade 2A Grade 2B	Grade 7	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 8	Grade 6
3 :00-3 :30	Grade 3 Grade 4	Grade 7/8	Grade 8	Grade 7/8	Grade 7/8	Grade 7

III. Requested Further Analyses of October 2009 Interim Dual Track Model

At the April 12, 2010 Board meeting, Trustees considered various presentations from the public regarding the implementation of the Single Track French Immersion program. In discussing the presentations Trustees requested information regarding a phased-in option presented by Amy Buehler, Teacher, and previously by Mr. Greg Dinsdale, leaving the Grade 7 and 8 students at Harrison until such time as they transfer to high school. This matter had been previously raised at the October 26, 2009 Regular Board Meeting (Appendix B) with a reply being provided in the Senior Administration Report (Appendix C) at the November 9, 2009 Regular Board Meeting. The motion regarding this item was considered at the November 9, 2009 meeting with written correspondence and Trustee discussion of the matter (Appendix D).

If the Grades 7 and 8 English classes were retained at Harrison the school population would be over 400 students, exceeding the school capacity of 375 students. This would result in reducing the K-8 Single Track French Immersion program to a K-5 or K-6 program, delaying the K-8 Single Track French Immersion program by two years. This is not practical as the registrations of students at École Harrison was undertaken based on Board approval of the K-8 Single Track French Immersion program. Further, other programming changes are being implemented at École New Era School for the EAL Reception Centre (as provided in the 2010/2011 Budget decisions) and the transfer of the Middle Years Student Support Program from Linden Lanes School. This work needed to be undertaken to have the programs available for commencement of classes in September 2010 including staffing considerations. Any changes at this time would result in substantial implications in planning for the 2010/2011 school year.

Senior Administration wishes to reiterate that an interim dual track model is not acceptable as all planning has been carried out in regards to a K-8 single track program which would be unfair to those parents who have acted in good faith in registering their students for École Harrison. The implementation plan was based on the Board's June 19, 2009 motion and approval of the Implementation Plan on August 23, 2009.

IV. CONCLUSION

Given the interdependence of all factors affecting the implementation of the Single Track French Immersion program at École Harrison (September 2010) and subsequent changes to George Fitton, Green Acres, and Harrison Middle Schools, Senior Administration recommends option #2D: 5.0 Hour Gym Usage Model, effective September 2010.

We make this recommendation taking into consideration all the public feedback and are providing options that we consider meet expressed concerns and fulfill the Board of Trustees' direction of April 12, 2010.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna M. Michaels

Dr. Donna M. Michaels
Superintendent of Schools /
Chief Executive Officer

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Appendix A

Current School Enrolments and Gymnasium Sizes

School	*Enrolment (April 12, 2010)*	*Gym Size (sq. ft.)*
Alexander	62	2080
Betty Gibson	235	3626
Earl Oxford	275	4800
George Fitton	314	2376
Green Acres	129	2115
Harrison	200	4674
J.R. Reid	234	4000
King George	268	4000
Kirkcaldy	361	
Linden Lanes	320	4400
Meadows	428	3840
New Era	604	6300
Riverheights	342	3500 2100
Riverview	153	2160
Valleyview	160	2535
Waverly	355	

other accommodations be made for either the child, or the kindergarten class; and why the construction had to take place during the school year. It was noted that the delays in receiving approval from the government caused the delay in construction which needed to be completed as soon as possible to accommodate the child requiring the grooming room. Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, confirmed she would be visiting the school on Tuesday, October 27, 2009 and will talk with the principal, Director of Facilities and Transportation as well as the Secretary-Treasurer regarding this matter. The Board thanked Ms. Winter and Mrs. Winter for expressing their concerns, noting they had received the message presented.

2.09b) Trustee Inquiries

a) Trustee Ross requested the following:

"That the French Immersion Single Track Implementation Committee consider the plausibility of the transition plan proposed by Mr. Greg Dinsdale at the "Town Hall" meeting of October 20, 2009 and report their findings to the Board."

POINT OF PRIVILEGE: Trustee Murray noted that he will not be in attendance at the November 9, 2009 Regular Board meeting due to another commitment.

POINT OF PRIVILEGE: Trustee Coey stated she felt the letter to be forwarded to the government regarding the H1N1 costs was both important and warranted.

b) Trustee Buri asked that the letter being forwarded to the government regarding H1N1 costs include evidence as to what other provinces are doing in this regard.

3.00 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:

3.01 Report of Senior Administration

Trustee Jolly referencing the chart regarding the distribution of EAL students throughout the Division inquired about the criteria for placing EAL students in schools and inquired about the possibility of grouping students according to country to ease their entrance into school life. Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, noted students are placed according to parents request and catchment area. Possible issues regarding segregation should students be placed together according to country of origin was noted. Further discussions were held regarding the number of EAL students who have left schools in the Division.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels noted Senior Administration will be providing the French Immersion enrollment report at the November 9, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Board together with their recommendations based on the numbers received. She noted the Board will likely require some dedicated time in the agenda to review and discuss the report. Trustee Murray requested that the information be provided to them as soon as possible after it is ready in preparation for the November 9, 2009 meeting. Discussions were held regarding Kindergarten registration for all schools involved and what is being done to follow-up on outstanding registrations.

Ms. Coey – Mr. Murray
That the report be received and filed.
Carried.

Appendix C

Brandon School Division

1031 – 6th Street Brandon MB R7A 4K5

To:	Board of Trustees
From:	Dr. Donna M. Michaels, Superintendent of Schools/Chief Executive Officer
Date:	November 9, 2009
Re:	Recommendation on Establishment of New School Configurations for Single Track French Immersion Program
Prepared by:	Mr. G. Malazdrewicz, Associate Superintendent, and Senior Administration
For:	Approval

In June, 2009 the Board of Trustees approved the establishment of a single track French Immersion school at Harrison Middle School, to commence September, 2010. This necessitates the reconfiguration of George Fitton and Green Acres Elementary Schools as K-8 schools; École New Era School as a dual-track school and the change of Harrison Middle Years School to a single track French Immersion school. A multi-phased implementation is necessary to address all matters related to students, staff, and parent/community. The Board of Trustees has received biweekly reports throughout September and October which have also been made available to the staff and community members on our Division web page.

The Single Track French Immersion Implementation Plan approved by the Board August 24th, 2009 requires that the Implementation Steering Committee report in early November to establish the enrolment for the Single Track French Immersion School for the purpose of a Board decision on the grade configuration for the Single Track French Immersion School.

Between October 19, 2009 and October 28, 2009, registrations were received for both Single and Dual Track French Immersion programs on behalf of the existing K-7 Brandon School Division French Immersion students. As of October 28, 381 of a possible 416 registrations were received; 238 requested Single Track French Immersion and 143 requested Dual Track French Immersion. The distribution of requests was as follows in *Table 1*:

Table 1: Distribution of French Immersion Enrolments

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Harrison (SINGLE TRACK)	40	37	23	26	32	25	27	28	*238*
New Era (DUAL TRACK)	29	29	32	16	12	7	12	6	*143*

As of October 28th, 2009 twenty eight (28) registrations were still outstanding; it is anticipated that they will be distributed in the 2:1 ratio, 19 for Single Track and 9 for Dual Track.

Kindergarten registrations were not requested from the general community, but will open January 4, 2010. Again, it is anticipated that the enrolments will be distributed in a fashion consistent with the Grade 1 and 2 registrations received to date; 50 for Single Track and 25 for Dual Track.

Based on the registrations received for the Dual and Single Track French Immersion programs and the current enrolments in the English Track program New Era, *Table 2* outlines the anticipated distribution of enrolments for 2010 through to 2013.

Table 2: Enrolment projections for Single Track French Immersion Program (Harrison), Dual Track French Immersion Program and English Program (New Era) 2010-2013

New Era (English)	20	17	20	26	19	27	18		23		170				>347 @ NE
New Era (French)	25	29	29	32	16	12	7	9	12	6	177				
New Era (English)	20	20	17	20	26	19	27		18	23		190			>386 @ NE
New Era (French)	25	25	29	29	32	16	12	9	7	12		196			
New Era (English)	20	20	20	17	20	26	19		27	18			187		>396 @ NE
New Era (French)	25	25	25	29	29	32	16	9	12	7			209		
New Era (English)	20	20	20	20	17	20	26		19	27				189	>416 @ NE
New Era (French)	25	25	25	25	29	29	32	9	16	12				227	
											654	690	723	768	

Based on the current and projected enrolments in the English Track programs at George Fitton, Green Acres, and Harrison, *Tables 3 and 4* outline the anticipated distribution of enrolments for 2010 through to 2013.

Table 3: George Fitton enrolment projections 2010-2013

George Fitton	51	49	48	36	51	55		10			300			
George Fitton	55	55	51	49	48	36		10					304	
Harrison (GA return)							55		44	36	135			
Harrison (GA return)							51		55	44		150		
Harrison (GA return)							36		51	55			142	
Harrison (GA return)							48		36	51				135
***Combined (GF LS/HA LAC moved)**											435	450	446	458

Table 4: Green Acres enrolment projections 2010-2013

Green Acres	20	19	17	22	23	18	19	11	22	171			
Green Acres	20	19	17	22	23	18	19	19	11		168		
Green Acres	20	20	19	17	22	23	18	19	19			177	
Green Acres	20	20	20	19	17	22	23	18	19				178
										171	168	177	178

At the October 26th, 2009 Board of Trustees regular meeting, it was requested that a suggestion from the public of *"operating a Dual Track French Immersion Program at Harrison for a period of time to allow the school's existing English students to finish out junior high in the same building and buy some time until proper gymnasium space can be created at George Fitton and Green Acres for additional students"* be considered as an implementation model. This model was reviewed by the Implementation Committee. Even after repatriating Green Acres students, the enrolment projections for Harrison, as a dual track school, were 442 in 2010, 404 in 2011, 469 in 2012 and 487 in 2013, far above the maximum capacity of 375 students and even further above the practical capacity of 350 students. *This model has not been recommended for consideration as an implementation option* by the Implementation Steering Committee.

In conclusion, it is the recommendation of the Senior Administration that the Single Track French Immersion school is viable due to the enrolment response and *that the Board of Trustees moves forward with the implementation of a Kindergarten to Grade 8 Single Track French Immersion program situated at Harrison Middle Years School for September 2010.* It is also recommended that *École New Era School remain as a Kindergarten to Grade 8 Dual Track French Immersion program with the extension of the English Track program to Grade 8.* This implementation will necessitate the movement of Green Acres catchment students from Harrison to Green Acres and George Fitton catchment students from Harrison to George Fitton.

Trustees thanked Mrs. McLaren for her presentation. Discussions were held regarding the number of "Learner response devices" the Division currently had and their use in the classroom. Mrs. McLaren noted two teachers would be making a presentation on this topic at the next BYTE meeting. Further discussions were held regarding funding for the Literacy with ICT Across the Curriculum program noting that this was the last year for funding. Mrs. McLaren confirmed that the Government funding for K-8 was coming to an end. She noted the Board had been generous with PD funds to date with respect to this issue.

c) Items from Senior Administration Report
- Report on Establishment of Single Track French Immersion – Referred to Motions
- Policy 3001 – Budget Deadlines and Schedules – Referred to Motions.
- Reading Recovery Training Service – Referred Motions.

2.06 Motions

180/2009 Ms. Coey – Mrs. Jolly
That the recommendation on establishment of new school configurations for Single Track French Immersion Program as presented at this meeting be approved.

Trustee Jolly asked several questions of Senior Administration regarding the implementation of the Single Track French Immersion Program, including the following:

1. Will the "Finding My Way" program and students be moved to the same school?
   a. This particular program has not been discussed yet but likely will be moved to New Era School.
2. Will LAC students be moved to one school?
   a. Yes.
3. Have the concerns and issues regarding gym, shop and music been addressed?
   a. The gym has been placed on the 5 Year Capital Plan. Shop shall remain at Harrison because that is where the equipment is located. Music has not yet been determined.
4. Will SSP students be affected by this change?
   a. There are no SSP students at Harrison.
5. Will class size be reviewed and addressed?
   a. Yes.
6. What is the cost for instructional support?
   a. Mr. Barnes has indicated about $50,000 which will be included in the 2010/2011 operating budget.
7. Will the SmartBoards at Harrison move to George Fitton and Green Acres?
   a. The Boards will move with the students.
8. What about overcrowding in the future at George Fitton?
   a. Associate Superintendent, Mr. Malazdrewicz addressed enrollment predictions in the Report of Senior Administration.

Trustee Coey read a statement by Mr. Murray into the Minutes:

"As you know I will not be able to be at the board meeting Monday evening. I would request that perhaps Ramona (or another trustee if that is a problem) makes the following comments on my behalf.

I would like to start out by apologizing for not being here in person to make these comments myself. I realize that I have no vote in absentia but I would like my feelings on this noted.

I will be the first to admit that mistakes were made in the process of gathering public input. Well this could have been handled better or at least differently there was never an attempt to stop anyone from having input or to minimize anyone's opinions.

The first problem we were faced with was the issue of overcrowding at New Era School. This problem was one of many items on the agenda of the Facilities and Transportation committee. At the same time a recommendation came forward from the Education committee to offer a different approach to French Immersion than we had been offering. This was for the establishment of a milieu environment. Through the public consultation process that followed it became abundantly clear that this could not happen at New Era School for several reasons.

Subsequently the board had several meetings to discuss where and how to establish a milieu. All of these meetings were in open board. It was at this point that we failed to consult with the school communities of George Fitton, Harrison and Green Acres. Since then we have heard from members of these communities and attended a public meeting at Crocus Plains School.

In spite of the fact that many people believe that they were left out of the original debate, I believe that everyone has now been heard. We have to address the problem of overcrowding at New Era and we have the opportunity to offer what many believe is better program delivery. The numbers show strong support for a single track, French Immersion School.

Decisions such as these are never easy and I can assure everyone that this decision was not made lightly or hastily. I don't believe that we could have arrived at a different decision regardless of any additional consultations. I believe that this board has arrived at the right decision. Based on the numbers we have now I don't believe that this should be phased in or delayed. I support the establishment of a single track, French Immersion School to be established at Harrison for the 2010 school year, with other changes made as necessary.

While I realize that I can't vote I would encourage all trustees to support this decision and allow our Senior Admin and implementation committee to move forward, Thank You for your time, Jim Murray trustee."

Trustee Buri read a statement by Mr. Bartlette into the Minutes:

"I fully support the decision to implement a single track French school in Brandon and the community has shown its support through the registration process. A great deal of discussion was had with all of the relevant schools but one. The Harrison parents shared

with us their concerns after the decision was made and Mr. Dinsdale made a worthy suggestion that I promised would receive serious consideration. My thanks go to Mr. Malazdrewicz and the Implementation Committee for closely studying the numbers to determine feasibility. Unfortunately the temporary dual track numbers do not work, and the student population projections at both New Era and Harrison appear stable while accommodating future growth. Facility requirements for the elementary schools will be addressed through the division as well as the Public Schools Finance Board. Therefore it is my opinion that we should pass this motion and I encourage my fellow trustees to do so."

Trustee Snelling noted he felt the same as Trustee Jolly and shared many of the concerns she has with respect to gym size and safety. He referenced the letter presented this evening regarding quality of education. He noted the Board had a solution, but had not necessarily answered all concerns.

Trustee Mayes agreed with the comments of Trustee Murray. Although he agreed with Trustee Snelling regarding the gym he didn't feel the Board had the luxury of waiting for new gyms to be built as this had to be done this year. He noted the resolution calls for New Era's grades 7 and 8 to be returned to New Era and hopefully that will open up space at Earl Oxford. He confirmed that he supports the motion.

Trustee Karnes noted with the enrollment numbers that have come forth he is in favour of the motion.

Trustee Coey agreed with Trustee Murray's comments. She noted she doesn't believe in a dual track school in an urban setting. She noted safety in the gym has always been a concern however Senior Administration has advised that the curriculum can still be taught. She confirmed she supports the motion.

Trustee Ross agreed that the gym is large enough for the curriculum to be taught. She noted other school sports will be an issue that needs to be addressed. She confirmed that not all issues can be resolved in advance and that educationally Single Track is good therefore she supports the motion.

Further discussions were held regarding feeder schools, school of choice, gym size, new gyms that had been built at other schools, and upcoming meetings with the PSFB.

Trustee Buri concluded discussions by noting that he is prepared to fight for new gyms. He noted the process had been long and involved and the Board had learned many things on the way. He feels single track is what parents want and that the Board needs to move ahead with this. He noted that 2 years ago the Board had received a letter from Green Acres parents asking to have their Grade 7 and 8's back in the school. He would be supporting the motion.

Trustee Snelling asked the Board to consider postponing the motion until after the Board has met with the PSFB regarding the issue of gym space. The Board did not wish to postpone the motion.

Carried.(6 – 1, Trustee Snelling opposed).

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