



SUMMARY OF POLICY 409 CONSULTATIONS

Prince Charles School

SEPTEMBER 2017 – JANUARY 2018

Meeting Date & School Name	Numbers Attending	Questions
<p>Prince Charles October 16, 2017</p>	<p>9 Community members including Principal 7 DEC members 3 District Staff</p>	<p>DEC Chair welcomed all in attendance and provided information on the Policy 409 process, including: school sustainability and triggers, New Brunswick’s rapidly declining enrolment; our aging infrastructure; the Ernst & Young report “options” vs recommendations. He talked about last year’s process and how we got to these new “options”. He reviewed four potential scenarios that were considered by Ernst & Young and the one supported by DEC which was Phase 1 – to build a new K-8 school to replace Prince Charles and St. John the Baptist/King Edward. He explained that the remaining options would be discussed over time. He noted that this study was paid for by the Department of Education and Early Childhood. He advised that the DEC decision would ultimately need Ministerial approval, is long term planning and likely four years out if approved.</p> <p>District staff provided information including: quick facts about our district; ASD-S historical enrolment (22% drop in 15 years) and in Saint John Education Centre a 27% drop in 15 years; the age of our schools; functional capacity; school boundaries for both schools; limitations within the schools i.e. no green space (has access to Chown Field); 62 years old (but in good condition); limited parking, no room for an expansion; no separate bus drop off lane, etc.; the eight factors that determine a school’s sustainability which the DEC will consider.</p> <p>Slides were reviewed on staffing; operating expenses; transportation; key community and PALS partners, and capital improvements required and those completed in the last five years and businesses located in and/or supporting the school community.</p> <p>DEC Chair then called for any questions.</p>



SUMMARY OF POLICY 409 CONSULTATIONS

Prince Charles School

SEPTEMBER 2017 – JANUARY 2018

	<p>Questions/concerns raised included: “where” the school would be built to which he explained that the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure would make that decision. They would need to find sufficient land to build on but the DEC will recommend that it be built in a central location to the two schools. He advised that he met with the City of Saint John and they are eager to help find the right spot.</p> <p>Questions were asked about the location of a new school and the fear children will be bused long distances. Question was raised about functional capacity and what that means and are there empty spaces in this school? Is there any communication with Big Brothers, Big Sisters, the YMCA and other community groups? Staff advised that yes, communication was taking place, and that partners are important.</p> <p>How would students get to afterschool programs? Staff advised that there is a YMCA member in attendance and that the school has a YMCA after school program.</p> <p>Question was asked why did the other plan not happen? The Chair explained that people understood that things have to change, but there was concern with the first report. The PSSCs provided considerable feedback and now we have come up with something we feel will work. The city of Saint John is focused on growth in the southern peninsula and is already looking at land availability. Land is a challenge, but Seaside Park is built on about 6 acres of land and is three stories.</p> <p>Would this mean we could have French Immersion (FI)? Princess Elizabeth and Millidgeville North get our students for FI, our numbers could go up if we keep our FI.</p> <p>Comment was made that the Irving Oil building next door will be vacant and this will mean space. Was this taken into consideration?</p>
--	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



SUMMARY OF POLICY 409 CONSULTATIONS

Prince Charles School

SEPTEMBER 2017 – JANUARY 2018

		<p>Question was asked about new schools and playgrounds noting parents are working on ways to get a playground at Seaside Park. Staff explained that the \$80K that Seaside Park received from the Department was part of the project. More funds are often required; however, a playground can be built over time, in phases.</p> <p>The Chair spoke about 19 new schools built in the last ten years in NB and that ASD-S, the largest district in the province, has only had two. He believes all of our students, including those in our priority neighbourhoods, deserve new buildings. He suggested that the District could provide a tour of the new elementary school (Seaside Park) for anyone who might be interested to take a look at all a new school has to offer.</p> <p>The Chair explained the Ernst & Young report will be posted on the ASD-S website and information was given on how to submit feedback to the DEC - via email or regular mail. The date of the second meeting was given.</p>
<p>Prince Charles School November 28, 2017</p>	<p>12 Community members including Principal 9 DEC members 3 District staff</p>	<p>DEC Chair welcomed everyone to the 2nd scheduled 409 sustainability review for Prince Charles. An explanation was given for the purpose of the meeting; to receive feedback on the proposed option for the school.</p> <p>Two scheduled speakers expressed their opinions on the proposed plans for Prince Charles. The floor was then opened for further comments after the two submissions were heard. One non-scheduled speaker followed the presentations.</p> <p>The following comments and opinions are grouped based on the eight categories below identified within Policy 409.</p> <p>Enrolment: ASD-S historical enrolment data shows a 22% drop in the last 15 years (6,445 students) and in the Saint John Education a 27%</p>



SUMMARY OF POLICY 409 CONSULTATIONS

Prince Charles School

SEPTEMBER 2017 – JANUARY 2018

	<p>drop over the same time period (3,459 students). Prince Charles enrolment has seen a decline over the last 15 years - 194 students in 2001 compared to 153 in 2016.</p> <p>Health and Safety: There are no outstanding safety issues at Prince Charles School. Overall the school is in good condition for the year it was built (1954 - 62 years old). The school does not have any green space (but has access to city owned Chown Field next door) and parking is very limited. There is no separate bus drop off lane and no room on the property for an expansion. There are outstanding capital improvements required estimated in the range of \$650,000. It was noted that the building's exterior has been repointed at a cost of \$100,000 within the last five years.</p> <p>Quality of Programs: Both schools offer strong education programs. The middle school numbers in both schools are small (96), so combining them would be positive for programming. Our experience has been that community partners will follow students when schools are closed.</p> <p>The school houses a Community Resource Centre and YMCA after school program.</p> <p>One speaker spoke about her son with Autism and other special needs and how resources available to her children at Prince Charles are amazing. Her children require help – from the school and the Boys & Girls Club. She noted that she worries about her children having to cross Union Street, about school partners, about her children getting sick and having to walk. She questioned why the new school could not be built on their site – take over the Irving building.</p> <p>Another speaker agreed and raised the idea of using the building next door (Irving). He suggested that Prince Charles is a nice school, very well kept – he moved from Ontario and chose this school. It's not the facility that makes a school what it is. Why tear it down? Monies need to be spent on</p>
--	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



SUMMARY OF POLICY 409 CONSULTATIONS

Prince Charles School

SEPTEMBER 2017 – JANUARY 2018

	<p>resources. The school is at 35% capacity and is in a great location, easy access to both sides of Union Street. Could a pedestrian bridge be constructed? It is cheaper to do a renovation and land is scarce in Saint John. A new school further away would mean new busing costs.</p> <p>The Chair spoke of the first study which suggested we could work on having St. John the Baptist/King Edward become part of this building and people feared Union Street.</p> <p>Transportation: There are currently 153 K-8 students at Prince Charles School. 6 take the bus. Average distance from the school for all students is 700 meters and for bused students it is .50 km. Average time on the bus for riders is 10 minutes – special needs busing only. Currently there is one bus serving this school and the entire zone is within 1.5 km.</p> <p>The boundaries of both Prince Charles and St. John the Baptist/King Edward border on each other and can easily be combined for transportation purposes.</p> <p>Finances: As noted in the District’s power point presentation, there are currently 27.86 full time equivalents staffing the school. The total yearly operating costs are \$1,704,525. There could be savings in operating expenses and some in salaries. Future capital repair costs would be avoided.</p> <p>Community Impact: The expectation would be that a new K-8 school with up-to-date facilities would be a huge benefit to the local community and may draw more families with young children to the city centre.</p> <p>One speaker noted that a new school is a once in a generation opportunity and wants to see a mix of incomes in our school. They want to see community schools. The presence of an Early Learning Centre is a model that should be</p>
--	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



SUMMARY OF POLICY 409 CONSULTATIONS

Prince Charles School

SEPTEMBER 2017 – JANUARY 2018

		<p>replicated across NB. Prince Charles has an amazing partnership with the Boys & Girls Club. This is an amazing opportunity and it is wonderful to see the DEC and community working in partnership.</p> <p>Impact on other schools: Prince Charles and St. John the Baptist/King Edward School will be closed. No other impact noted on surrounding schools.</p> <p>Economic Development: If a new school is able to draw in new families, it would have a positive economic impact on the Saint John city centre area.</p>
--	--	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------