

YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO: Corporate Services Committee

FROM: Administration

DATE: June 7, 2023

RE: **2024-2029 Long Term Accommodation Plan Principles and Parameters**

Executive Summary:

This report is intended to provide Trustees with an overview of the steps required in the development of the 2024-2029 Long Term Accommodation Plan (2024 LTAP), and to seek the endorsement of the Principles and Parameters, which will be used to guide the development of the 2024 LTAP.

The 2024 LTAP will be developed within the context of other strategic board documents such as the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan, EDC Background Study, and overall student achievement goals.

The 2024 LTAP document will identify a general direction for accommodation related matters over the next 5 years, in accordance with Ministry of Education direction, legislation and funding available to the Board. The proposed 2024 LTAP is intended to contain a summary of accommodation initiatives, many of which will require further input and approval from a variety of sources before implementation.

The LTAP is a dynamic "living" document, which will be updated from time to time based on critical changes in funding, enrolment shifts, government initiatives and the implementation of accommodation solutions.

Background Information:

The current 2019-2024 Long Term Accommodation Plan (2019 LTAP) was approved by the Board on [May 28, 2019](#). A Long Term Accommodation Plan is a comprehensive, multi-year planning document that outlines the utilization of current facilities and possible accommodation initiatives that respond to changing demographics within York Region and program and partnership needs. The Long Term Accommodation Plan is a key piece of the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan and is guided by Ministry of Education legislation and expectations. Additional information regarding the Long Term Accommodation Plan can be found in Appendix A.

The development and drafting of the 2024 LTAP has commenced with the development of the principles and parameters. There are various milestone tasks in the development of the 2024 LTAP which have corresponding consultation procedures to seek input into the decision making process. Table 1, outlines the proposed timeline, tasks and stakeholders involved in the development of the 2024 LTAP.

Table 1: 2024 LTAP - Proposed Timeline

Task	Stakeholder	Projected Timing
Confirmation of 2024 LTAP Principles and Parameters	Board of Trustees and Senior Administration	June 2023
Confirmation of 2024 LTAP Outline	Board of Trustees and Senior Administration	September 2023
Trustee Workshop	Board of Trustees	Late Fall 2023
First draft of 2024 LTAP	Board of Trustees and Senior Administration	Early Winter 2024
Consultation of the first draft of 2024 LTAP	External/Public	Early Winter 2024
Final 2024 LTAP Report	Board of Trustees	March/April 2024

Principles and Parameters:

The first step in the development of the 2024 LTAP, is the establishment of the principles and parameters to be used in the evaluation of priorities and solutions. The proposed principles and parameters for the 2024 LTAP have been developed in consultation with the LTAP Steering Committee, and are attached as Appendix B and C. Tracked change versions of each document have been provided for your reference (Appendix D). A number of housekeeping items were addressed. The more substantive changes have been highlighted below.

Principles

Principle 1: Ensure viable school organizations and programs

In recognition of declining enrolment throughout the Board, and the increasing number of surplus pupil places 1.iv has been added to reinforce the desire for the Board to maintain a presence in each of our communities and to signal to the community that an active school building may be required to accommodate facility partners, to ensure the viability of the facility.

1.iv To maintain schools in local communities, spaces may be shared with other uses/partnerships.

Principle 2: Optimize the Use of Facilities

In addition to a number of housekeeping issues and updates to Principle 2, the principle has been reorganized to illustrate the intended order of preference for various potential school partnerships

(2iv) starting with the expansion of Child Care, followed by internal YCDSB partners such as Adult Continuing Education etc.

Parameters

The proposed 2024 LTAP Parameters are contained in Appendix C. A number of the parameters have been modified to reflect the above noted changes in the principles and to reflect current Provincial direction. Two major changes are proposed for the 2024 LTAP Parameters:

1. New Schools and Additions

First, Parametre 1b regarding “*Consideration should be given to establishing new schools in communities where there is no existing Catholic school*” has been removed. A new parameter : “*In areas of intensification/redevelopment, schools with alternative or non-traditional designs may be considered (refer to Policy 707)*” has been added to reflect of the direction from the Province for school boards to: ‘make better use of existing facilities (e.g. co-locate in underutilized schools) and for boards to explore schools integrated with other public service facilities, in high-rise developments, in strategic growth areas, and other areas with a compact built form’. Parametre 1b was removed as the Ministry has provided feedback in recent capital priority processes (e.g. Mount Albert submission) that submissions should clearly identify pressing accommodation needs in order to receive consideration for capital priorities funding.

2. Accommodation Reviews

In 2017, the Ministry of Education placed a moratorium on Pupil Accommodation Reviews (PAR) or school closures. To date, it is unknown when the moratorium may be removed. However, it is prudent to maintain this parameter, and for the plan to consider school closures in preparation for if or when the moratorium is lifted. Given the uncertainty regarding some of the Ministry requirements for PARs sections 4a, b and c have been removed.

Next Steps:

Pending approval of the principles and parameters, the next update to the Board is projected for September 2023 where an outline of the LTAP will be brought for approval. The outline would be an annotated table of contents of key sections accompanied by short descriptions as well as a preliminary Summary of Initiatives. Some of the preliminary initiatives or key themes anticipated include:

- a) Secondary schools boundary review
- b) Flexibility of enrollment moving forward (e.g. holding schools)
- c) New capital projects – Vaughan Metropolitan Centre joint school
- d) Accommodation plans (e.g. Partnerships, PARs, etc.) to address accommodation needs

Summary:

Similar to a Municipal Official Plan, the 2024-2029 *Long Term Accommodation Plan* will provide an overall context for the future direction of the Board with respect to major capital projects, partnerships, boundary changes and program changes. It is intended as a tool to help analyze accommodation needs and identify solutions with the goal of ensuring that York Catholic students are given the best opportunity to achieve, consistent with the Board's Mission, Vision, Core Values and Strategic Commitments.

Like all plans, the Long Term Accommodation Plan is intended to be a 'live' document that is constantly monitored and amended from time to time to reflect the current needs based upon the most up-to-date information and funding available.

Recommendation:

THAT Trustees approve the **2024-2029 Long Term Accommodation Plan - Principles** as presented in Appendix B.

THAT Trustees approve the **2024-2029 Long Term Accommodation Plan - Parameters**, as presented in Appendix C.

Attachments:

1. Appendix A - [Long Term Accommodation Plan Q&A](#)
2. Appendix B - [2024-2029 Long Term Accommodation Plan - Principles](#)
3. Appendix C - [2024-2029 Long Term Accommodation Plan - Parameters](#)
4. Appendix D - [Track change version of Principles and Parameters](#)

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