

## New Kincardine District Senior School Update

### Background

Bluewater District School Board (BWDSB) was approved for funding by the Ministry of Education to support a new Kincardine District Senior School, under the 2019 - 2020 Capital Priorities Grant program. The ministry has committed \$26,450,989 in funding to build a school to replace the current Kincardine District Senior School. The Capital Priorities Funding will support a new Grade 7-12 school with the on-the-ground capacity of 881 students.

On November 19, 2020, and February 8, 2021, BWDSB met with the Municipality of Kincardine to review potential sites for building a replacement secondary school in Kincardine.

In March 2021, staff presented a report on attributes of an ideal new school site that included insights and preferences of 1100 surveyed respondents, staff planners and educators.

Additionally, in May 2021, the Ministry of Education invited proposals under the Capital Priorities program for new schools or large renovation projects. In accordance with the 'Facility Planning Strategy – Kincardine Area JK- Grade 6' report presented to Business Committee on December 1, 2020, BWDSB submitted a proposal and business case to the ministry for a replacement JK–Grade 6 school. Decisions on this opportunity have not been made at this time.

Since then, staff have had many discussions on potential sites and have procured a land appraiser to evaluate a potential site prior to discussing an offer with the ministry and owner. As an option, staff are looking at two sizes of land in order to support a potentially successful JK-Grade 6 bid.

### Next Steps

Staff continue to work towards determining feasibility of a site and are addressing a number of decision points prior to submitting an "Approval to Proceed" with a land purchase to the ministry. The following is a sample of considerations:

- availability and timing of servicing the potential site
- servicing requirements (road, water, sewer) of the board
- infrastructure connectivity
- land use planning process requirements and timelines
- re-zoning and possible official plan amendments
- optimal location on the site for a single school and/or an additional elementary school

### Recommendation:

That the Business Committee receive the 'New Kincardine District Senior School Update' report for information.

Submitted to  
Bluewater District School Board  
Business Committee of the Whole  
September 7, 2021

For further information, please contact  
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