



Beavercrest Community School Update

Background

Bluewater District School Board (BWDSB) received approved funding for a new 236 pupil school to be placed in the town of Markdale to replace the current Beavercrest Community School. Funding in the amount of \$6.4 million will be used for a new school with additional funding of \$2.1 million used to create two childcare rooms and two EarlyON rooms at the same location.

On November 6, 2020 the ministry approved the facility space template that was submitted to the ministry for review and approval. The approval indicates that the total number of pupil places being planned for is consistent with the ministry approved scope for this school. In addition, the child care space identified on the space template falls within the child care space requirements.

Update

Staff continue to work with the architect, the adjacent land developer, and the ministry to move this project forward. We continue to keep the webpage up to date.

To recap, on April 8, 2021, the purchase of the additional lands was finalized and recently BWDSB has an agreement in place with the land owner for construction access to the site. This will allow us to continue to operate the existing school without sharing the existing site with construction vehicles.

School designs prepared by +VG Architects have been shared with the public. We did receive a few questions and responses were shared. An updated detailed design has been provided and posted to the site.

Early cost estimates indicate that the timing for tendering this project is not optimal given the construction environment. Covid-19 has had an impact on the general supply chain and is resulting in extreme price increases and swings that are difficult to predict.

Financial Impact

Current estimates are expected to be higher than the funding commitment. The project team continues to work with the ministry to determine options to move forward. This might include a more promising tender window this winter.

Recommendation:

That the Business Committee of the Whole receive the 'Beavercrest Community School Update' for information.

Submitted to
Bluewater District School Board
Business Committee of the Whole
October 5, 2021

For further information, please contact
Rob Cummings, Superintendent of Business
Services and Treasurer