

**TRILLIUM LAKELANDS DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

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**DATE:** February 6, 2018

**TO:** Trustees

**SUBJECT:** 2017-2018 Pupil Accommodation Long Term Plan Report

**ORIGIN:** Larry Hope, Director of Education

**REFERENCE:** Committee of the Whole Board Meeting – February 13, 2018

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**PURPOSE:** To present a report on school facilities that may be identified for an accommodation review, or identified as having underutilized space that could be available for potential partnerships.

**CONTEXT:** With the release of the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) information in April 2015, the Ministry of Education also released a new Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and a new Community Planning and Partnerships Guideline. The timing of these releases was purposeful, as the Ministry had revised the funding formula to reduce the grants provided to support the operation of underutilized school spaces. The two guidelines were released to assist boards in establishing new policies which would drive both the pupil accommodation reviews, as well as community planning and partnerships. In 2016, the board developed new policies and procedures to comply with these guidelines. As part of that process, a Long Term Pupil Accommodation Plan was developed and approved to identify those school sites which may be involved in pupil accommodation reviews, or available for potential partnerships. It was the understanding that each year the plan would be reviewed, updated and extended for an additional year. The plan was updated last year for the period from 2017 to 2022.

In April 2017, the Ministry began a province-wide rural engagement process to seek input from all stakeholders regarding quality rural education, sustainable use of school space and decision making around school closures. In response to the feedback received, the Ministry released Memo B09, Plan to Strengthen Rural and Northern Education, on June 28, 2017. The plan identified five initiatives

1. Rural and Northern Education Fund
2. Incentivising Boards to Share Space (Joint-use Schools)
3. Planning Among School Boards and Community Partners
4. Strengthening the Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline
5. New Pedagogical Supports for Instructional Practice

**CONTENT:**

Under initiative 3, Planning among School Boards and Community Partners, the Ministry has indicated that after a consultation process to take place in the fall of 2017, new Community Planning and Partnership Guidelines will be issued and boards will be required to update their Community Planning and Partnership policy to comply with the new guidelines. Initiative 4, Strengthening the Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline (PARG), provides that the ministry will engage stakeholders in the fall of 2017 to seek input to revise the Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline. After the release of the revised Guideline, boards will be required to revise their Pupil Accommodation Review Policy and have a consultation process of several months before approving the policy. Boards are not to undertake new Pupil Accommodation Reviews until the new Guideline is completed.

In response to this direction, the current 2018-2023 Pupil Accommodation Long Term Plan Report does not identify any Pupil Accommodation Reviews at this time. However, there are schedules attached identifying current long term school enrolment projections and facility capacities, by district as well as regionally, to assist in identifying where new schools or additions may be needed; which schools will remain well-utilized; and which open and operating schools may have unused space.

From this information a number of sites have been identified as having potential community partnership opportunities or facing possible accommodation pressures.

**ACTION:**

Recommendation that the board approve the 2018-2018 Pupil Accommodation Long Term Plan Report.