



**CBE Area I/II - Schools Impacted by New Schools Openings**

**Colonel Macleod School**

**Session Notes and Evaluation**

**October 25, 2016**

This summary of the feedback from the Colonel Macleod School engagement on the Area I/II Scenario opportunities, challenges and other questions and comments was compiled and summarized by Stantec Consulting Ltd.

November 9, 2016



**Number of Attendees:** 24

**Affected Schools:** Colonel Macleod  
Belfast  
Vista Heights  
Mount View  
Mayland Heights  
Stanley Jones

### **Scenario 1 Discussion**

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

- Like Mandarin, good opportunity for growth with scenario #1.
- Scenario 1 overall, good to allow alternative programs to grow.
- Would love to have TLC here at Colonel Macleod, be able to enroll my child in it.
- If an alternative program does get added to Colonel Macleod would like current students to have opportunity to attend alternatives.

#### **CHALLENGES**

- North Mandarin parents said that if the north Mandarin program moves to Colonel Macleod School (CBE Scenario 1), they will most likely take their kids out of the Mandarin program.
- Colonel Irvine is already facing space issues. Parents in this school have their children in a lottery system and have their numbers capped/limited.
- If Midnapore School becomes only K-4, parents will take their child out because Mandarin is such a difficult language to learn.

### **Scenario 2 Discussion**

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

- Balance the genders better (less boy heavy) (at Colonel Macleod). Benefits to education and programs they are able to have at the school.

#### **CHALLENGES**

- The scenario of having to bus our children to a north Mandarin junior high puts the whole Midnapore/south Mandarin program at risk because most parents won't be willing to bus their children so far. Issues include: winter conditions, long 1 hr. plus bus rides, Deerfoot (safety issues).
- Evanston community must travel far.



### Scenario 3 Discussion

#### OPPORTUNITIES

- Like idea of TLC. Gives the boys an opportunity for that style of learning in this region.

#### CHALLENGES

*[None explicitly identified in talking groups, refer to general comments and questions below.]*

#### Other Comments and Questions

- Families in Evanston could be given the choice between a couple schools. (e.g.: stay in current school or move)
- Has the CBE considered a combined K-9 program in the south so the Mandarin program can continue to grow?
- Midnapore parent community feels that the small number of our Grade 6 students is the only item that CBE is looking at to make a decision for our children to bus to the north. We feel the decision has been made solely based on the small numbers THIS year with no long-term planning in mind.
- Will the CBE provide staggered start times to accommodate parents who have children in Midnapore and Colonel Irvine?
- Transition junior high to current north junior high for 1-2 years until south numbers increase and then create junior high in south when numbers increase to sustain it
- Encourage CBE to look at an Area V option for Midnapore South Mandarin parents. Is the South Mandarin program actually being considered by the CBE in the Area V discussions/planning scenarios?
- Put community locations on the map handed out at engagement sessions.
- Communities included in "Home Areas" (also listed on engagement documents).
- Sir John A. Macdonald doesn't list an "Issue". Should handout note that it has a small amount of extra space? (x2)
- Neighbourhoods around Colonel Macleod have changed a lot, more families.
- Stanley Jones, as feeder to Colonel Macleod, is full. Need to ensure those kids have a place to go, and are factored into scenarios.
- Do these scenarios allow the alternative programs to grow substantially? (i.e. address wait lists?) There are still other limitations: i.e. needing teachers able to teach Mandarin won't solve the wait lists.
- There are schools listed as under capacity (Cambrian Heights, North Haven), so why do they lose kids in some scenarios?
- Is there a new school planned for Evanston?
- What happens when some kids are / aren't in uniforms?
- Can Midnapore accommodate a growing K-6 Mandarin program for much longer?
- Why are we being asked now to bus our children to the north Mandarin junior high?
- Why are we being asked to bus our children to a school that is already full? Do we want our child to go through a lottery system?
- Why would we be asked by CBE to bus our children to a more "central" location for Mandarin junior high if the north parents also aren't willing to do this?
- Why can't south schools with capacity be an option for a south junior high?
- Has the CBE considered a combined K-9 program in the south so the Mandarin program can continue to grow?
- When will the CBE give a clear decision about next year's Grade 5/6 students?
- Put community locations on the map handed out at engagement sessions.



**SCENARIO 1**

- Is a 1-2 hour bus ride one way acceptable?
- If a separate program joins a school, do kids remain completely separate or are some things combined (e.g.: Physical Education)?
- If program moves, does bus service move too?
- How many students are you looking to add to Colonel Macleod?
- Do local students have priority access to TLC programs?

**SCENARIO 2**

- If program moves, does the bus service move too?

**SCENARIO 3**

- Did CBE consider the option of a late-entry Mandarin program in Grade 7? This would help boost junior high numbers and allow more students to learn Mandarin.
- Why did Midnapore/south Mandarin parents not have the chance to share their ideas before the 3 Scenarios were created?
- Is there another option other than the 3 Scenarios CBE is suggesting? These feel like the south Mandarin program is very severely affected by them because all of them are really negative for our program.

## Participant Engagement Evaluation

Colonel Macleod School – Host Location: October 25, 2016

- |                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| ▪ Colonel Macleod School | ▪ Belfast School       |
| ▪ Vista Heights School   | ▪ Mount View School    |
| ▪ Mayland Heights School | ▪ Stanley Jones School |

Number of participants in attendance: 24

Number of evaluations completed: 0

To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements:

**P1) I was encouraged to share my thoughts and/or feedback during this engagement.**

Agree  Somewhat Agree  Somewhat Disagree  Disagree  Not Applicable

**P2) I was able to ask questions and learn about the opportunity for input/feedback prior to my participation in this engagement.**

Agree  Somewhat Agree  Somewhat Disagree  Disagree  Not Applicable



**P3) I had the information I needed to participate in a meaningful way.**

Agree  Somewhat Agree  Somewhat Disagree  Disagree  Not Applicable

**P4) I was able to provide input on the best way for me to share my thoughts and ideas.**

Agree  Somewhat Agree  Somewhat Disagree  Disagree  Not Applicable

**P5) I clearly understand all of the factors being considered in the decision making process and which of these factors I can and cannot influence.**

Agree  Somewhat Agree  Somewhat Disagree  Disagree  Not Applicable

**P6) My input was documented as part of the engagement process.**

Agree  Somewhat Agree  Somewhat Disagree  Disagree  Not Applicable

**P7) What did you like most about this engagement? What did you like least about this engagement?**

**Comment:**  **No Comment:**