



March 3, 2025

Regional School Advisory Council (RSAC) Meeting 2

The second meeting of the Regional School Advisory Council (RSAC) was hosted by HRCE's Regional Executive Director, Steve Gallagher. Doug Hadley, Coordinator of Strategic Planning, Programs and Partnerships, led a discussion about growth and community consultation.

With the addition of more than 10,000 students in HRCE schools over the last eight years, there have been many challenges presented by enrolment growth and the necessary changes to ensure all students have comfortable places to learn. This growth pressure is addressed using temporary measures, including portable and modular classrooms, and more permanently through the process of recommending new schools to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

How can we improve the consultation process for families about changes to school boundaries, grade configurations, and new builds?

- Provide online tools, such as ThoughtExchange, through which participants can provide feedback.
 - Post survey links to social media, i.e., school community Facebook pages.
 - Be transparent about the limitations during a change and providing support to impacted families.
 - Consider both community and family input in the consultation process.
 - Consider integrating consultation sessions into existing school events to capture parent/guardian feedback. Develop a plan to implement a hybrid consultation approach, combining in-person and online options to accommodate different preferences.
 - Consider gathering feedback from parents/guardians after students have moved into new spaces to learn from their experiences.
 - Gather feedback after implementing changes to improve future processes.
 - Close the loop to build trust with the community after a consultation and before the official announcement.
 - Provide examples of how feedback has been used to inform decisions to reinforce that the input is considered.
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