

**KITCHEN TABLE TALK FEEDBACK**  
**SEPTEMBER 21, 2009 – MES, GES, DAP, JAH STAFF**  
**TABLE 1**

**TOPIC 1 – Variety of Course Selection**

- Online course prepare for universe
- Not viable because we could limit
- It is not cost effective to have 2-3 students in a class

**TOPIC 2 – Declining Enrolment**

- Keeping Beavertown open if it is fiscally
- Important to the community
- Amalgamating Midway and Greenwood sharing resources, library books
- Easier on parents
- Loss of mentoring, the grade 7s helping younger grades
- More collaborative environment for teachers
- Need to look what is going to happen to older schools

**TOPIC 3 – GFSS Declining Enrolment**

- Like the idea of grade 7
- More mature now, less appropriate with younger students
- Nice to remain younger longer
- Middleschool 6, 7, 8
- As a grade 7 enjoyed rotation

**TOPIC 4 – Community Use of School**

- Utilize empty classrooms
- Selkirk close it off
- Midway Elementary – medical facility use
- Community event
- Student adjust to bus runs

**TOPIC 5 – All Day Kindergarten**

- Longer snack time
- Not ready for all day
- Delay it until 2010
- Expectation for these kids need to play
- Keep them out until age 7
- 2011 government may change their minds
- Not go to all day K until 2011
- Could be very tiring

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**TABLE 3**

**TOPIC 1 – Variety of Course Selection**

- District will keep funding in District rather than student find course out of District
- Can we do it with band width
- Can you run a lab class that way?
- Do you bus for labs?
- Can there be module work, then get kids from different schools together?
- We are open to the idea of tech sharing of two high schools. Concern about labs.
- Itinerant specialist (senior Sciences, French, etc.) seems like a good idea.
- Is there data of student success from places doing this?
- Can we expect personnel to travel so much between schools? Gas, mileage.
- We do already share CCWs, SLP.
- What about special needs students and their ability to work in a technology-base classroom?
- Sharing Arts, Drama, Music specialists – get these people to all kids – especially in very small schools – may not work at Perley, Hutton (reporting on 400+ students)

**TOPIC 2 – Declining Enrolment**

- Long bus rides for small children.
- More services at WBES rather than Beaverdell
- Should Big White stay open?
- Two brand new buildings at Greenwood and Rock Creek – why keep Midway open?
- Use a small bus to pick up Beaverdell primaries and take right to WBES (express bus)
- Midway and Greenwood should be merged
  - Less loss of time for cultural events
  - Advantages of buddy system – older student leadership
  - Elementary student of same family in same school

**TOPIC 3 – GFSS Declining Enrolment**

- There are lots of positives some have heard from other Districts about 7-12 school
- Can you rent out part of GFSS rather than close a section down?
- Both schools should become 7-12 if one does!
- Would benefit some students to have exposure to Industrial Arts
- What about GFSS as a middle school (7,8,9) and (10,11,12) high school in two different parts of the building?
- What about:
  - Perley 6 – 9
  - Hutton K – 5
  - GFSS 10 – 12 and agencies renting, or maybe
  - Perley 6, 7, 8
  - Hutton K-5
  - GFSS 9 – 12 and agencies

#### **TOPIC 4 – Community Use of School**

- We did this with the annex at Perley and we had concerns, but never materialized
  - Undesirables, parking, etc.

#### **TOPIC 5 – All Day Kindergarten**

- In favour of all-day kindergarten
- It is nice to keep Buddy Programs of K-7 or K-6
- Not as much diversity
- Families will not want kids in two different schools – rather go to a middle school
- Challenges of daily P.E. with all day k in school
- Intermediate/Primary not a good idea – need older kids as leaders or older kids who need to play below their age group
- What about Walker Development Centre?

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 TABLE 2**

**TOPIC 1 – Variety of Course Selection**

- BCSS/GFSS common timetable
  - Where is it working?
  - Active Science No
  - What courses work?
- Itinerant Teacher Moving
  - Like this better
  - Lab day – lecture day
  - Ab Ed it is
  - Bussing students

**TOPIC 2 – Declining Enrolment**

- Configuration
  - Greenwood Midway combine into one school
  - Every community keeps a school
  - Beaverdell, young kids, long travel
  - Costs of new School
  - BCSS become the primary school for Midway kids
  - K-12 built with additional building at WBES
  -

**TOPIC 3 – GFSS Declining Enrolment**

- GFSS 7-12
  - No saving, why do it
  - Lots of choices
  - 7s more course options
  - Different timetable/area
  - Status quo – works ... it's lovely
  - Need to consider the options that will provide viable education
  - Communities make their own
- Pilot change in one place, move to the other areas in the District

**TOPIC 4 – Community Use of School**

- Services can be good for students and family support
- Can create lack of flexibility in school buildings

**TOPIC 5 – All Day Kindergarten**

<b>Pros</b>	<b>Cons</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perley Intermediate</li> <li>• Learning opportunities</li> <li>• Resources efficiency</li> <li>• Collaboration opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families kids in one school</li> <li>• Empathy</li> <li>• Lose k-7 dynamic</li> <li>• Lose choice</li> <li>• Compassion</li> </ul>

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**TABLE 4**

**TOPIC 1 – Variety of Course Selection**

- Fear that families will leave our District without a variety of course options
- Use of webinar courses/interactive and live but can also be “archived” between BCSS and GFSS
- Will there be a rural consortium using technology?
- Use technology instead of bussing kids (such as whiteboard)
- Government to develop and provide
- To do in-District first/common timetable before going out of District
- Use teachers part of the time for tutorials
- Sharing specialists shared between schools
- Need to cultivate a culture of sharing

**TOPIC 2 – Declining Enrolment**

- Beaverdell merge to WBES – not a priority
- MES/GES should/could consider merging
- Explore the concept further a k-12 West Boundary school
- Status quo not a viable option

**TOPIC 3 – GFSS Declining Enrolment**

- Positively we’d be addressing that the kids are already emotionally/mentally able to fit in a secondary
- Concern of the drain from the elementary schools
- Would have to be a planned transition to move them from an elementary school to a secondary
- Concern of keeping 7s ‘younger’ – will they grow up too fast at a secondary school
- Secondary schools can keep/attract more specialist teachers
- We need to keep secondary schools strong so we need to have more students at secondary
- It would create more space at elementary schools for younger kids
- No to closing off – petitioning it off for another use such as MCFD – for other uses
- Depends on needs of schools and communities

**TOPIC 4 – Community Use of School**

- GFSS – MCFD would be okay
- Adult education – explore with Selkirk and others (offers more opportunity both ways) Community Futures
- Be careful not to fill all of the elementary space – because of mandate which may need surplus space
- Explore further ‘artisan’ community use to benefit students

## TOPIC 5 - All Day Kindergarten

<b>Pros</b>	<b>Cons</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Age groups are always having to accommodate the different groups</li><li>• Older kids learn to accommodate the younger kids in the halls etc.</li><li>• Can specialize one school as an Early Years</li><li>• Can have a larger community of professionals for planning</li><li>• Would eliminate Hutton vs Perley dynamic</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Miss grade 6/7 contact with young kids</li><li>• Big/little buddy opportunities not there</li></ul>