NOVEMBER 17, 2026

Public Session: 6:30 pm

AGENDA

1. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY**

2. **CALL TO ORDER AND NOTING OF MEMBERS ABSENT**

3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

4. **SINGING OF O'CANADA**

5. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
   Recommended Motion:
   "That the Agenda be adopted."

6. **APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**
   Pages 6-13
   Recommended Motion:
   "That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated October 27, 2026, be confirmed as submitted."

7. **DELEGATIONS**

8. **CEO REPORT TO BOARD**
   a. **2025-2026 DSBN Annual Report**
      Page 14
      Recommended Motion:
      "That the 2025-2026 DSBN Annual Report be received."

   b. **Verbal Updates**

9. **BUSINESS OF THE BOARD**

a. **Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee**
Pages 15-16
S. Hancox
Recommended Motion:
"That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated October 28, 2026 be received."

b. **Report of the Audit Committee**
(The report was not available at the time of agenda publication and will be circulated following the Audit Committee meeting.)
S. Veld
Recommended Motion:
"That the report of the Audit Committee dated November 9, 2026, be received and the recommendations adopted."

c. **Student Trustee and Indigenous Student Trustee Report**
Page 17
W. Connor/D. Dong/I. Jones
Recommended Motion:
"That the Student Trustee and Indigenous Student Trustee report dated November 17, 2026, be received."

d. **Amendments to Board By-Laws and Rules of Order**
Recommended Motion:
"That the following amendments to the By-Laws and Rules of Order of the District School Board of Niagara be approved, with such amendments to take effect upon the passing of the recommendations contained therein."

Q-2		No amendment, alteration or addition to the By-Laws shall be made unless written ~~notice~~ recommendation setting forth the proposed amendment, alteration or addition is given after consideration of the change at a Governance Committee meeting previous to that Board Meeting at which the same comes up for consideration and unless confirmed by two-thirds vote of all the members of the Board.
Q-4		**Insert New By-Law:** The CEO may make administrative or editorial revisions to the Board By-Laws and Rules of Order and to Board Policies including: • correction of grammatical, typographical, formatting, or numbering errors; • updates to position titles, department names, organizational structures, and contact information; • revisions to terminology, nomenclature, legislation citations, document references, hyperlinks, forms, or cross-references; • changes required to maintain consistency within the Board By-Laws and Rules of Order and approved Board policies; and • housekeeping changes that do not materially affect the authority, responsibilities, or substantive requirements established by the Board By-Laws and Rules of Order or Board Policies. Administrative or editorial revisions to the Board By-laws and Rules of Order or Board Policies will be presented to Trustees for information at the next Board meeting. The requirements for prior notice and confirmation by two-thirds vote as set out in By-Law Q-2 do not apply. The revisions shall take effect immediately upon receipt by the Board."

e. **Report of the Nominating Committee**

(Recommended trustee committee assignments will be distributed at the Board meeting following the Nominating Committee meeting the same evening.)

Recommended Motion:

"That the trustee committee assignments, as recommended by the Nominating Committee, be approved by the Board."

10. **STAFF REPORTS TO BOARD**

a. **Student Achievement Update Report**

Pages 18-20

N. Sheard

Recommended Motion:

"That the Student Achievement Update report, dated November 17, 2026, be received."

b. **Naming of Three New Elementary Schools**
Pages 21-22
J. Sinnett
Recommended Motions:
"That the Naming of Three New Elementary Schools report dated November 17, 2026, be received."

"That the new elementary public school in Thorold be named Rolling Meadows Public School, and that the recommended name be submitted to the Ministry of Education for final approval."

"That the new elementary public school in Welland be named Fairground Fields Public School, and that the recommended name be submitted to the Ministry of Education for final approval."

"That the new elementary public school in Welland (Dain City) be named Dain City Public School, and that the recommended name be submitted to the Ministry of Education for final approval."

c. **Accommodation Planning**

i. **Introduction of Watson & Associates**
Pages 23-27
S. Veld

ii. **School Boundary Review Report**
Pages 28-38
S. Veld
Recommended Motion:
"That the School Boundary Review Report dated November 17, 2026, be received.

11. **QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS**

12. **CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS**

13. **FUTURE MEETINGS**
    a. Board and Committee Meetings
    b. Days of Significance

14. **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**
    a. **Motion to Move to Committee of the Whole (Private Session)**
       Motion:
       "That the Board do now enter Committee of the Whole."

    b. **Motion to Return to Open Board (Public Session)**

15. **RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**
    Recommended Motion:
    "That the business transacted in Committee of the Whole be now ratified by the Board."

16. **RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN THIS REGULAR MEETING**
    Recommended Motions:
    "That the business transacted by the Board of Trustees at its meeting held on November 17, 2026, be now ratified by the Board."

    "That the Chair and proper officials of the District School Board of Niagara are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the business as decided by the Board of Trustees this day."

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

MINUTES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2026

Public Session: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

(*denotes approval received to attend electronically)

BOARD

Kate Baggott (Chair), Sue Barnett, Nancy Beamer, Mike Brousseau, Helga Campbell, Jonathan Fast, Elizabeth Klassen (Vice Chair), *Deanne MacIntosh, Shannon Mitchell

ADMINISTRATION

Kelly Pisek (Chief Executive Officer), Karen Bellamy, Jennifer Feren, Ann Gilmore, Simon Hancox, Milica Petkovic, Breann Pyke, Melanie Sendzik, Neil Sheard, Stacy Veld

INDIGENOUS STUDENT TRUSTEE

Ivy Jones

STUDENT TRUSTEE

William Connor
Daisy Dong

RECORDING SECRETARY

Jennifer Reid

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Nate Burns, Ann Hamm

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

Chair Kate Baggott opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of the Traditional Territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples.

2. CALL TO ORDER AND NOTING OF MEMBERS ABSENT

Chair Baggott called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 6:00 p.m. and noted that Trustee Deanne MacIntosh was participating virtually. Trustee Owen Riel and Trustee Lora Campbell were absent.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. SINGING OF 'O CANADA'

The Board stood for a video performance of '*O Canada*' by the John Brant Public School Kindergarten class and remained standing for a moment of silence to honour the passing of members of the DSBN community.

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Nancy Beamer
Seconded by Mike Brousseau

"That the Agenda be adopted."
CARRIED

6. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Moved by Shannon Mitchell
Seconded by Helga Campbell

"That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the District School Board of Niagara dated August 25, 2026, be confirmed as submitted."
CARRIED

7. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

8. CEO REPORT TO BOARD

a. Provincial Education Requirements for Ontario School Boards

Moved by Helga Campbell
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

"That the Provincial Education Requirements for Ontario School Boards report be received."
CARRIED

b. Verbal Updates

CEO Kelly Pisek provided updates on the three new elementary school builds in Welland (Dain City), Thorold (Rolling Meadows), and Welland/Thorold (Fairgrounds), noting all three new builds are on schedule to open in September 2027.

In recognition of the final Board meeting of the current term, CEO Kelly Pisek expressed sincere appreciation for trustees' commitment to student achievement and well-being, and expressed appreciation for their leadership, strong governance, collaboration through change, and unwavering support of DSBN students and families.

9. BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

a. Report of the Audit Committee

Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Sue Barnett

"That the report of the Audit Committee dated September 21, 2026 be received."

"That the Regional Internal Audit Status Report be received."

CARRIED

Trustee Sue Barnett reported that Regional Internal Audit Manager, Andrea Eltherington presented the 2025-2026 Regional Internal Audit Status Report. CEO Kelly Pisek provided MOE updates regarding Police Record Check requirements under Ontario Regulation 521/01. Committee members were reminded to submit their annual Conflict-of-Interest Declaration, as required under Ontario Regulation 361/10, and self-assessment for 2026-2027.

b. Report of the Ad Hoc Governance Committee

Moved by Mike Brousseau
Seconded by Nancy Beamer

"That the report of the Ad Hoc Governance Committee dated September 22, 2026 be received."

"That the Policy Governance Framework report dated September 22, 2026, be received."

"That the report of the Ad Hoc Governance Committee dated October 6, 2026 be received."

"That Policies i-01: Policy - General; i-02: Policy Committee; i-03: Policy Generating Process be revoked."

"That Policy i-01: Policy – General be approved."

"That the Policies listed in Category 1a – For Trustee Approval (attached) as amended are confirmed as ongoing governance policies that will be reviewed cyclically though the Governance Committee or as determined by Policy i-01: Policy Framework."

"That the Policies listed in Category 1b – For Trustee Receipt (attached) as amended are confirmed as ongoing governance policies that will be received cyclically by the Board or as determined by Policy i-01: Policy Framework."

"That the Policies listed in Category 2 – Policies to Revoke – Community Facing Resources Exist or is Recommended (attached) are hereby revoked for inclusion in a community facing resource."

"That the Policies listed in Category 3 – Policies to Revoke – No Community Facing Resource Recommended (attached) as amended are hereby revoked."

"That the Board approve Trustee Honoraria for the period commencing November 15, 2026, in accordance with Ontario Regulation 320/26, Honoraria for Board Members."

"That commencing November 15, 2026, Board and Statutory Committee Agenda and official approved minutes are posted and remain on DSBN's public website for a period of the current year plus three years."

"That, for the purpose of implementing this retention period, Board official approved Minutes from the Board years commencing November 15, 2023, November 15, 2024, and November 15, 2025, be posted to DSBN's public website; and that such records be removed from the website as they exceed the current Board year plus three-year posting period established by Board policy."
CARRIED

Trustee Beamer reported that during the September 22 meeting, committee members received and supported a new policy framework, a revised preamble policy, and the posting of draft minutes pending formal approval. At the October 6 meeting, the committee approved a revised Policy General and new Trustee Honoraria, effective November 15; reviewed and revised the policy library using the new framework and discussed two proposed By-Laws amendments to be considered at the November Board meeting.

c. Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee

Moved by Elizabeth Klassen
Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

"That the report of the Special Education Advisory Committee dated September 23, 2026 be received."
CARRIED

Trustee Mitchell reported that the committee received MOE updates from CEO Pisek. Superintendent Hancox highlighted professional learning in IEP development and special education programming and confirmed representation for SEAC's next four-year term. The committee was presented with the 2026-2027 Special Education Plan, Parent/Guardian Guide, and draft DSBN SEAC Handbook and discussed ongoing efforts to strengthen family engagement, supports and outcomes for students with special education needs.

d. Report of the Parent Involvement Committee

Moved by Shannon Mitchell

Seconded by Sue Barnett

"That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee dated September 24, 2026 be received."
CARRIED

Trustee Mitchell reported that the committee met at Thundering Heights Public School, where Principal, Amy Morocco and Senior Manager of Facility Services, Carrie Stasiak led a tour of the new facility. CEO Kelly Pisek provided updates on recent MOE requirements for Ontario school boards. The committee also received updates on the redesigned DSBN website and new Ministry guidelines for secondary students. A sub-committee was established to review and revise the PIC By-Laws, and the upcoming "Chairing with Confidence" event on November 4 was discussed.

e. Student Trustee and Indigenous Student Trustee Report

Moved by Sue Barnett
Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

"That the Student Trustee and Indigenous Student Trustee report dated October 27, 2026 be received."
CARRIED

Indigenous Student Trustee and Student Trustee's presented the report and highlighted student engagement initiatives, events, and leadership opportunities as well as the ongoing collaboration between students, staff, and administrators, to support student voice.

f. Notice of Recommended Motion:
"Take Notice that in accordance with the Board By-law and Rules of Order section Q-2, the following proposed amendments to the By-Laws and Rules of Order of the District School Board of Niagara will come forward for consideration at the Board meeting scheduled on November 17, 2026, with such amendments to take effect upon the passing of the recommendations contained therein."

Q-2		No amendment, alteration or addition to the By-Laws shall be made unless written ~~notice~~ recommendation setting forth the proposed amendment, alteration or addition is given after consideration of the change at a Governance Committee meeting previous to that Board Meeting at which the same comes up for consideration and unless confirmed by two-thirds vote of all the members of the Board.
Q-4		**Insert New By-Law:** The CEO may make administrative or editorial revisions to the Board By-Laws and Rules of Order and to Board Policies including: • correction of grammatical, typographical, formatting, or numbering errors; • updates to position titles, department names, organizational structures, and contact information; • revisions to terminology, nomenclature, legislation citations, document references, hyperlinks, forms, or cross-references; • changes required to maintain consistency within the Board By-Laws and Rules of Order and approved Board policies; and

		• housekeeping changes that do not materially affect the authority, responsibilities, or substantive requirements established by the Board By-Laws and Rules of Order or Board Policies. Administrative or editorial revisions to the Board By-laws and Rules of Order or Board Policies will be presented to Trustees for information at the next Board meeting. The requirements for prior notice and confirmation by two-thirds vote as set out in By-Law Q-2 do not apply. The revisions shall take effect immediately upon receipt by the Board."

10. STAFF REPORTS TO BOARD

a. Staffing and Recruitment 2026-2027

Moved by Mike Brousseau
Seconded by Nancy Beamer

"That the Staffing and Recruitment 2026-2027 report dated October 27, 2026, be received."
CARRIED

Executive Officer of Human Resource, Breann Pyke presented the report noting that changes to the Human Resources department have been made to strengthen recruitment practices, broaden candidate pools, improve hiring quality and to operationalize a process for police checks as required by the Ministry.

b. Responsive Instruction: Early Reading Strategy

Moved by Helga Campbell
Seconded by Jonathan Fast

"That the Responsive Instruction: Early Reading Strategy report, dated October 27, 2026, be received."
CARRIED

Superintendent Melanie Sendzik presented the report, outlining that the report is consistent with PPM 168, and supports the early identification of student learning needs and provides responsive instruction and intervention to improve reading.

c. Outdoor Education Annual Report 2025-2026

Moved by Jonathan Fast
Seconded by Mike Brousseau

"That the DSBN Outdoor Education Annual Report 2025-2026 be received."
CARRIED

Supervisor of Outdoor Education, Colleen Fast presented highlights from the annual report, marking the 10th year of Outdoor Education at the Living Campus. The presentation highlighted the hands-on, curriculum-connected learning the programs provide, including four new Secondary Special Education Days and an overnight camping experience with the NPCA. Colleen noted that the programs build students' confidence, relationships, independence and sense of belonging.

11. QUESTIONS ASKED OF AND BY BOARD MEMBERS

There were no questions asked of and by Board members.

12. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS

a. Correspondence regarding School Naming for new school in Thorold
b. Correspondence regarding School Naming for new school in Welland
c. Correspondence regarding School Naming for new school in Dain City
d. Correspondence from the City of St. Catharines

13. FUTURE MEETINGS

a. Board and Committee Meetings
b. Days of Significance

14. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved by Sue Barnett
Seconded by Deanne MacIntosh

"That the Board do now enter Committee of the Whole"
CARRIED

Moved by Kate Baggott
Seconded by Shannon Mitchell

"That the Board return to Open meeting"
CARRIED

15. RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved by Helga Campbell
Seconded by Elizabeth Klassen

"That the business transacted in Committee of the Whole be now ratified by the Board."
CARRIED

16. RATIFICATION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN THIS REGULAR MEETING

Moved by Shannon Mitchell
Seconded by Sue Barnett

"That the business transacted by the Board of Trustees at its meeting held on October 27, 2026, be now ratified by the Board."

"That the Chair and proper officials of the District School Board of Niagara are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the business as decided by the Board of Trustees this day."
CARRIED

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

KATE BAGGOTT	**KELLY PISEK**
Chair	Chief Executive Officer and Secretary

November 17, 2026

2025-2026 DSBN Annual Report

INFORMATION

I am pleased to share the 2025-2026 DSBN Annual Report in accordance with the requirements of the Education Act.

The report highlights accomplishments across our schools and celebrates the successes of our students, staff and school communities. Aligned with the goals of the 2023–2028 Strategic Plan, it reinforces the Board's commitment to student achievement and well-being.

Presented as an accessible and interactive online resource, the report showcases selected examples of the work and accomplishments across our schools and system. It is intended to provide an overview of highlights from the year, rather than a comprehensive account or evaluation of all work, activities and initiatives undertaken.

Throughout the year, Board reports from various portfolios, committee minutes, the Director's Performance Plan, and Ministry-mandated reports, such as the Student Achievement Plan, complement this annual report and provide a broader picture of the DSBN's work and accomplishments.

To access the 2025–2026 DSBN Annual Report, visit the DSBN website. The report will initially be featured in a banner on the website and will subsequently be available in the Publications section.

DSBN Annual Report

RECOMMENDED MOTION

"That the 2025-2026 DSBN Annual Report be received."

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Pisek
Chief Executive Officer
Chief Education Officer

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2026

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members Present
Tessa Alexander – VOICE for Children Who Are Deaf and Hard of Hearing**,** Jolene Bateman – Contact Niagara, Kylee Daley - Niagara Children's Centre, Patty Ferrie – Inclusion West Niagara, Brianne Friewat - Autism Ontario – Niagara Chapter, Tom Janzen – Down Syndrome Niagara, Katie McKay – Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Coalition, Leya Pouloski- NSS-NTEC, Michelle Toy – Pathstone Mental Health, Barb Wilson – Inclusion Action Ontario

Administration/Resource
Simon Hancox - Superintendent of Student Achievement and Well-being, Catherine Hodson- Student Achievement Leader Special Education - Elementary, Matt Ezrin – Student Achievement Leader Special Education - Secondary, Tracey Krysa – Senior Manager Special Education, Shannon Mitchell - Trustee, District School Board of Niagara, Elizabeth Klassen – Trustee, District School Board of Niagara

Regrets
Flavia Orvitz – Autism Ontario
Kelly Pisek – Chief Executive Officer

Recording Secretary
Jennifer McGugan, Safe Schools and Student Well-Being Coordinator

1. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY**
   Quorum was established and the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. Simon Hancox, Superintendent of Student Achievement and Well-being, opened the meeting with the Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
   Moved by Tom Janzen
   Seconded by Katie McKay

   "***That the Agenda dated October 28, 2026, be approved as presented."***
   CARRIED

3. **WELCOME**
   Simon Hancox welcomed new representative for Contact Niagara, Jolene Bateman.

4. **STUDENT VOICE**
   Matt Ezrin, Student Achievement Leader for Special Education – Secondary, shared a video featuring two students with cerebral palsy and physical disabilities in West Niagara Secondary School's SSTC program, noting that World Cerebral Palsy Day is recognized in October. The video showed how a specialized desk, a slant

board, large-print books, choice boards, talker buttons, and occupational and physical therapy goals have helped both students overcome barriers to participation.

5. **DSBN PRESENTATIONS/UPDATES**
   Simon Hancox highlighted the importance of data-informed decision-making in Special Education and its role in the department's review over the past few years. Paula Condon, Special Education Data Coordinator, and Tracey Krysa, Senior Manager – Special Education, presented the department's work to connect information with practice through timely, consistent, evidence-informed decisions that support more responsive and measurable outcomes.

6. **SEAC COLLABORATION AND FEEDBACK**
   Simon Hancox explained that the Special Education Plan needs to be reorganized to emphasize Ministry standards and better align with reporting mechanisms. He presented the revised table of contents and identified the Special Education Advisory Committee as the first topic for review at a future meeting.

   Simon introduced an activity to gather members' input on the SEAC Handbook. Members worked in pairs to review sections and provide feedback for DSBN to consider as it revises and improves the handbook for SEAC members.

7. **ASSOCIATION INFORMATION**
   Committee members shared information and updates from their respective associations and roles.

8. **TRUSTEE UPDATE**
   Trustee Mitchell shared highlights from the October Board meeting.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE**
   Correspondence was received and discussed from Lakehead District School Board SEAC.

10. **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**
    There were no questions.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**
    The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

    Next Meeting: Wednesday November 25, 2026

Tuesday, November 17, 2026

STUDENT TRUSTEE & INDIGENOUS STUDENT TRUSTEE UPDATE

INFORMATION

Indigenous Student Trustee:

- Indigenous Student Voice: Indigenous Student Representatives will gather on November 25, with Tribal Vision joining as guests.
- Post-Secondary Pathways: The Indigenous Post-Secondary Information Program will take place on November 26 at Niagara College.
- Treaty Education: Secondary schools are engaging in Treaty Week learning, with educators and Indigenous Student Alliances supporting learning about treaties and what it means to be Treaty People.
- Indigenous Cultural Learning: Elementary students continue to participate in Indigenous cultural learning, including lacrosse teachings with Miigwan and powwow dance teachings with Tribal Vision.

Student Trustees:

- Student Senate: Planning underway for the November 18 Student Senate meeting.
- Student Leadership: Development of Senate subcommittees to support student voice and leadership priorities.
- Leadership Forum Follow-Up: School teams reflecting on learning from the Student Leadership Forum and how it is being carried forward in their schools.
- DSBN representation on student panel at AI Symposium for the Public Council of Ontario Directors of Education (PCODE) on October 30.

Respectfully submitted,

Student Trustee William Connor
Student Trustee Daisy Dong
Indigenous Student Truste Ivy Jones

Tuesday, November 17, 2026

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT UPDATE

BACKGROUND

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) administer assessments based on Ontario curriculum expectations in reading, writing, and mathematics at key points in students' education. These assessments provide a standardized measure of student learning. Students in Grades 3 and 6 complete assessments in reading, writing, and mathematics each spring. Grade 9 students complete the mathematics assessment at the end of the (de-streamed) Grade 9 mathematics course. In Grade 10, students write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT), which assesses the reading and writing skills needed to meet the provincial literacy graduation requirement. Grade 3, 6, and 9 results report the percentage of students achieving at or above the provincial standard (Level 3). OSSLT results are reported as successful or not yet successful.

The Ministry of Education launched the Math Achievement Action Plan (MAAP) in 2023–24. Under MAAP, boards must analyse student data, identify school- and board-level needs, and implement strategies that support both designated priority schools and the wider system. The Ministry used 2021–22 EQAO results to select the priority schools receiving additional MAAP support. In DSBN, six elementary schools and one secondary school hold this designation.

DSBN EQAO RESULTS

GRADE 3

In 2025-26, DSBN Grade 3 students continued to achieve well above the provincial average in reading, writing, and mathematics. Results remained stable compared with the previous year, with continued growth in mathematics.

GRADE 3 ACHIEVEMENT: Two-Year Trend and Provincial Comparison

	2024-25 DSBN	2025-26 DSBN	Year-Over-Year	2025-26 Province	DSBN vs. Province
Reading	87%	**86%**	-1 pp	75%	**+11 pp**
Writing	80%	**80%**	0 pp	67%	**+13 pp**
Mathematics	79%	**81%**	+2 pp	65%	**+16 pp**

GRADE 6

In 2025-26, DSBN students in Grade 6 continued to achieve well above the provincial average in reading, writing, and mathematics. Reading and writing results held steady at a high level, while mathematics declined slightly and remains a priority area of focus.

GRADE 6 ACHIEVEMENT: Two-Year Trend and Provincial Comparison

	2024-25 DSBN	2025-26 DSBN	Year-Over-Year	2025-26 Province	DSBN vs. Province
Reading	94%	**94%**	0 pp	86%	**+8 pp**
Writing	94%	**94%**	0 pp	85%	**+9 pp**
Mathematics	71%	**68%**	-3 pp	52%	**+16 pp**

GRADE 9 - MATH

In 2025-26, DSBN Grade 9 math students continued to achieve well above the provincial average. Results improved for a third consecutive year, reflecting steady progress in the de-streamed Grade 9 mathematics course.

GRADE 9 MATH ACHIEVEMENT: Two-Year Trend and Provincial Comparison

	2024-25 DSBN	2025-26 DSBN	Year-Over-Year	2025-26 Province	DSBN vs. Province
Gr. 9 Math	66%	**68%**	+2 pp	59%	**+9 pp**

GRADE 10 - OSSLT

In 2025-26, DSBN Grade 10 students continued to achieve above the provincial success rate on the OSSLT. Results improved compared with the previous year, reflecting continued strength in student literacy.

GRADE 10 OSSLT ACHIEVEMENT: Two-Year Trend and Provincial Comparison

	2024-25 DSBN	2025-26 DSBN	Year-Over-Year	2025-26 Province	DSBN vs. Province
OSSLT	89%	**91%**	+2 pp	86%	**+5 pp**

DSBN MATH ACHIEVEMENT ACTION PLAN (MAAP) SCHOOLS

In 2025-26, DSBN's MAAP schools achieved well above provincial results in Grades 3, 6 and 9 mathematics. Grade 3 results remain steady, and Grade 9 results continued to rise, while Grade 6 results declined from the previous year and will be monitored closely. Support in MAAP schools continues to centre on job-embedded professional learning, high-quality instruction, and targeted intervention.

DSBN MAAP SCHOOLS ACHIEVEMENT: Two-Year Trend and Provincial Comparison

MAAP Schools	2024-25	2025-26	2025-26 Province	DSBN MAAP vs. Province
Grade 3 Math	86%	**87%**	65%	**+22 pp**
Grade 6 Math	85%	**77%**	52%	**+25 pp**
Grade 9 Math	62%	**67%**	59%	**+8 pp**

DSBN RANKING AMONGST PUBLIC ENGLISH SCHOOL BOARDS

In 2025-26, DSBN ranked in the top three of Ontario's 31 English public school boards on every EQAO assessment. The board placed first in all Grade 3 and Grade 6 assessments, third in Grade 9 mathematics, and second on the OSSLT.

CONCLUSION:

DSBN students deserve foremost recognition for exceeding provincial averages in every assessed grade in 2025-26. Their sustained effort, persistence, and willingness to take on rigorous work translated strong teaching into strong achievement. DSBN congratulates students and thanks parents and guardians for supporting their learning.

EQAO results are one source of evidence guiding DSBN's efforts to strengthen student achievement. Mathematics, particularly in Grade 6, remains a priority. Through DSBN's existing data review process, these results will inform student, class, and school summaries and shape school and board Student Achievement Plans. Responsive instruction and targeted intervention will remain central to helping every learner succeed and thrive.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

"That the Student Achievement Update report, dated November 17, 2026, be received."

Respectfully submitted,

Neil Sheard, Superintendent of Student Achievement & Well-being

Tuesday, November 17, 2026

Naming of Three New Elementary Schools

This report provides an overview of the process used to name three new elementary schools and seeks Board approval of the recommended school names before submission to the Ministry of Education for final approval.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Policy A-09: Naming/Renaming of Schools, letters requesting initiation of the naming process for three new elementary schools were submitted to the Chair of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer on September 11, 2026. The requests were related to the new schools serving the Ontario Public School and Kate S. Durdan Public School communities in Thorold; the Quaker Road Public School and Glendale Public School communities in Welland; and the McKay Public School community in Welland (Dain City).

NAMING OF SCHOOLS PROCESS

The naming process was conducted in accordance with Policy A-09 and followed a consistent process and timeline across all three new elementary schools.

A Naming Committee was established for each new school. Voting members included administrators, representatives from each school council, and staff representatives. Non-voting members included the Trustees for each school, Superintendent representation, and Communications Officers. Each of the Naming Committees met virtually on September 28, 2026, to review the policy, the committee's role, the naming criteria, and the process for gathering community suggestions.

The naming campaign ran from September 29 to October 12, 2026. The opportunity to provide input was communicated to the affected school communities, and community members submitted suggestions through links posted on the participating schools' websites.

The Naming Committees met in person on October 28 and 29, 2026. During these meetings, voting members reviewed and evaluated all submitted names using the criteria outlined in Policy A-09: Naming/Renaming of Schools.

Committee members used dot-matrix voting to narrow the eligible submissions to a shortlist of preferred names in the first round. They then considered the shortlisted names further and held additional voting to identify the recommended names and reach consensus.

In accordance with the policy, the recommended names were shared with the respective school communities on October 29 and 30, 2026, the day after each Naming Committee's in-person meeting. The communities were also informed that the recommended names would be presented to the Board of Trustees at its November meeting.

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS:

"That the new elementary public school in Thorold be named Rolling Meadows Public School, and that the recommended name be submitted to the Ministry of Education for final approval."

"That the new elementary public school in Welland be named Fairground Fields Public School, and that the recommended name be submitted to the Ministry of Education for final approval."

"That the new elementary public school in Welland (Dain City) be named Dain City Public School, and that the recommended name be submitted to the Ministry of Education for final approval."

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Sinnett
Superintendent of Student Achievement and Well-Being



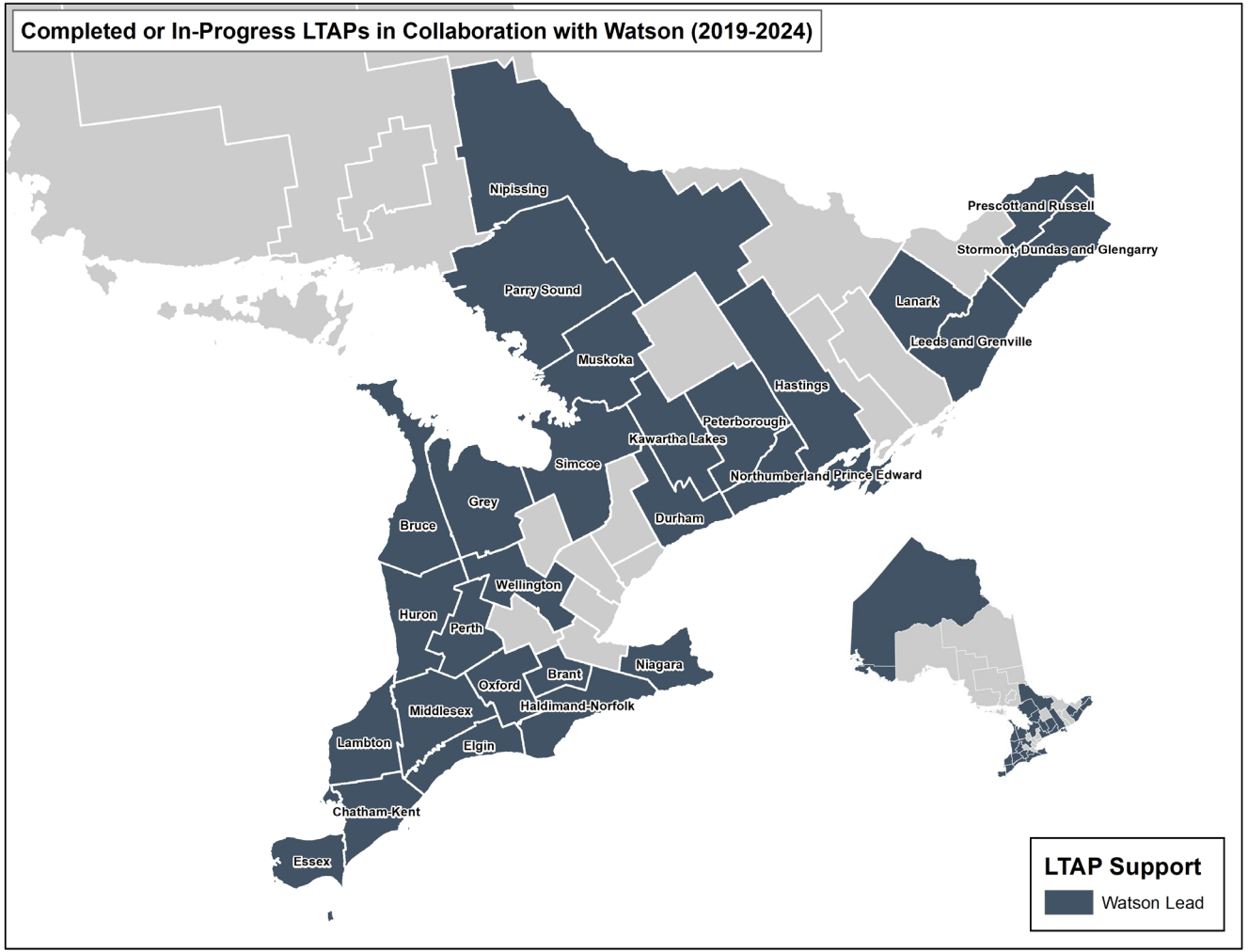
Watson & Associates ECONOMISTS LTD.

Accommodation Planning & School Boundary Reviews

District School Board of Niagara

November 17, 2026

Accommodation Planning Overview



Watson Overview

School Board Support Across Ontario

25

What do we assist with?

Key Services

Enrolment Projections

Supporting with demographic analysis and enrolment forecasting to inform planning and decision-making.

Online Data Dashboards

Developing interactive tools that help make data more accessible, transparent, and actionable.



School Boundary Review Support

Providing analytical and engagement support to assist boards through the boundary review process.

Policy Reviews

Offering research, analysis, and strategic advice to support policy development and review.

Long Term Acommodation Planning Support

Technical analysis and planning support to help boards develop Long-Term Accommodation Plans and plan for future accommodation needs.

Internal & Public Engagement

Providing an independent, third-party perspective to support transparent engagement with trustees, staff, stakeholders, and the broader community.

Accommodation Planning

The Accommodation Planning Toolbox

TOOLS











ACTIVITIES

Construct	Study	Partner	Develop	Monitor
New School Facilities	School Attendance Area Reviews	Child Care Spaces	Board Policies	Long Term Needs
Additions to Existing School Facilities	● Pupil Accommodation Reviews	Joint Use Facilities	Administrative Procedures	Changing Demographics
Temporary Facilities	Program Delivery Reviews	Co-build Opportunities	Process Improvements	Growth and Development
● Consolidation of School Facilities	Grade Structure Reviews		Program Initiatives	
	School Site Reviews			

● **Note**
Limitations on the use of School Consolidations & Pupil Accommodation Reviews tools remain in effect. Recommendations may include school facility consolidations or pupil accommodation reviews as part of a longer-term strategic approach.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026

SCHOOL BOUNDARY REVIEW REPORT

BACKGROUND

Residential growth in Welland, including approved subdivisions and new housing construction, continues to increase demand for elementary school accommodation.

In September 2025, French immersion programming in Welland was consolidated at a single-track location at Brideview PS, reducing accommodation pressures at Princess Elizabeth PS and Gordon PS. Enrolment growth has continued at Plymouth PS and Diamond Trail PS, the other regular-track elementary schools serving Welland.

Plymouth PS has reached the maximum number of portables that can be accommodated on the site. As a result, a boundary adjustment is required. Boundary changes are necessary to address enrolment pressures at Diamond Trail PS. These changes form part of accommodation planning for Welland, alongside the new school in Dain City.

INFORMATION/NEXT STEPS

The attached presentation from Watson and Associates outlines the accommodation pressures, initial proposed changes and the consultation process, which is expected to commence shortly.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

“That the School Boundary Review Report dated November 17, 2026, be received”.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Veld, Chief Finance and Operations Officer

East Welland Overview

Key Schools

Overview

Princess Elizabeth PS

92%	332	360	2 / 12
UTILIZATION	ENROLMENT	OTG	PORTABLES

KEY PRESSURE

1,328 planned units in Hunters Pointe; development has historically been slow with low yields.



Plymouth PS

125%	497	397	8 / 8
UTILIZATION	ENROLMENT	OTG	PORTABLES

KEY PRESSURE

Enrolment has increased steadily over eight years; the site has reached its maximum portable capacity.



Diamond Trail PS

151%*	547	363	9 / 12
UTILIZATION	ENROLMENT	OTG	PORTABLES

KEY PRESSURE

Growth has been driven by housing affordability, development and the attractiveness of the modern facility.



Key Schools

Enrolment Projections

Enrolment:

East Welland	OTG	Portables	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Princess Elizabeth PS	360	2/12	332	342	358	380	390	389	393	391	399	407	414
Plymouth PS	397	8/8	497	538	575	613	634	646	645	642	634	633	612
Diamond Trail PS	363	9/12	547	555	567	595	615	633	646	666	654	655	642
New South Welland PS	608	-			292	356	387	433	483	541	626	661	677
Area Total	**1,728**	**19/32**	**1,376**	**1,435**	**1,792**	**1,943**	**2,026**	**2,100**	**2,166**	**2,239**	**2,314**	**2,355**	**2,344**

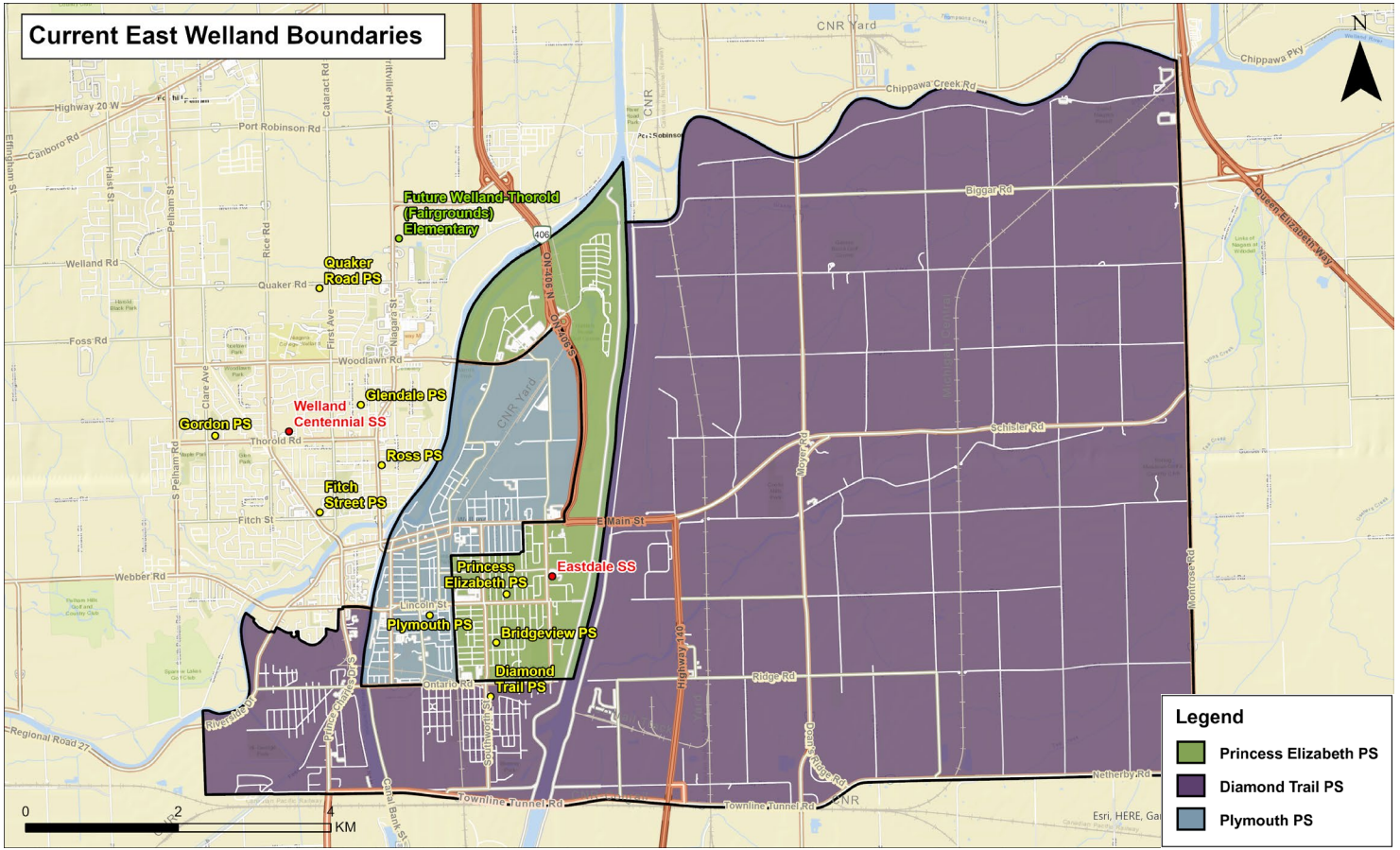
Utilization:

East Welland	OTG	Portables	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Princess Elizabeth PS	360	2/12	92%	95%	99%	106%	108%	108%	109%	109%	111%	113%	115%
Plymouth PS	397	8/8	125%	135%	145%	154%	160%	163%	162%	162%	160%	159%	154%
Diamond Trail PS	363	9/12	151%	153%	156%	164%	169%	174%	178%	183%	180%	181%	177%
New South Welland PS	608				48%	58%	64%	71%	79%	89%	103%	109%	111%
Area Total	**1,728**	**19/32**	**123%**	**128%**	**104%**	**112%**	**117%**	**122%**	**125%**	**130%**	**134%**	**136%**	**136%**

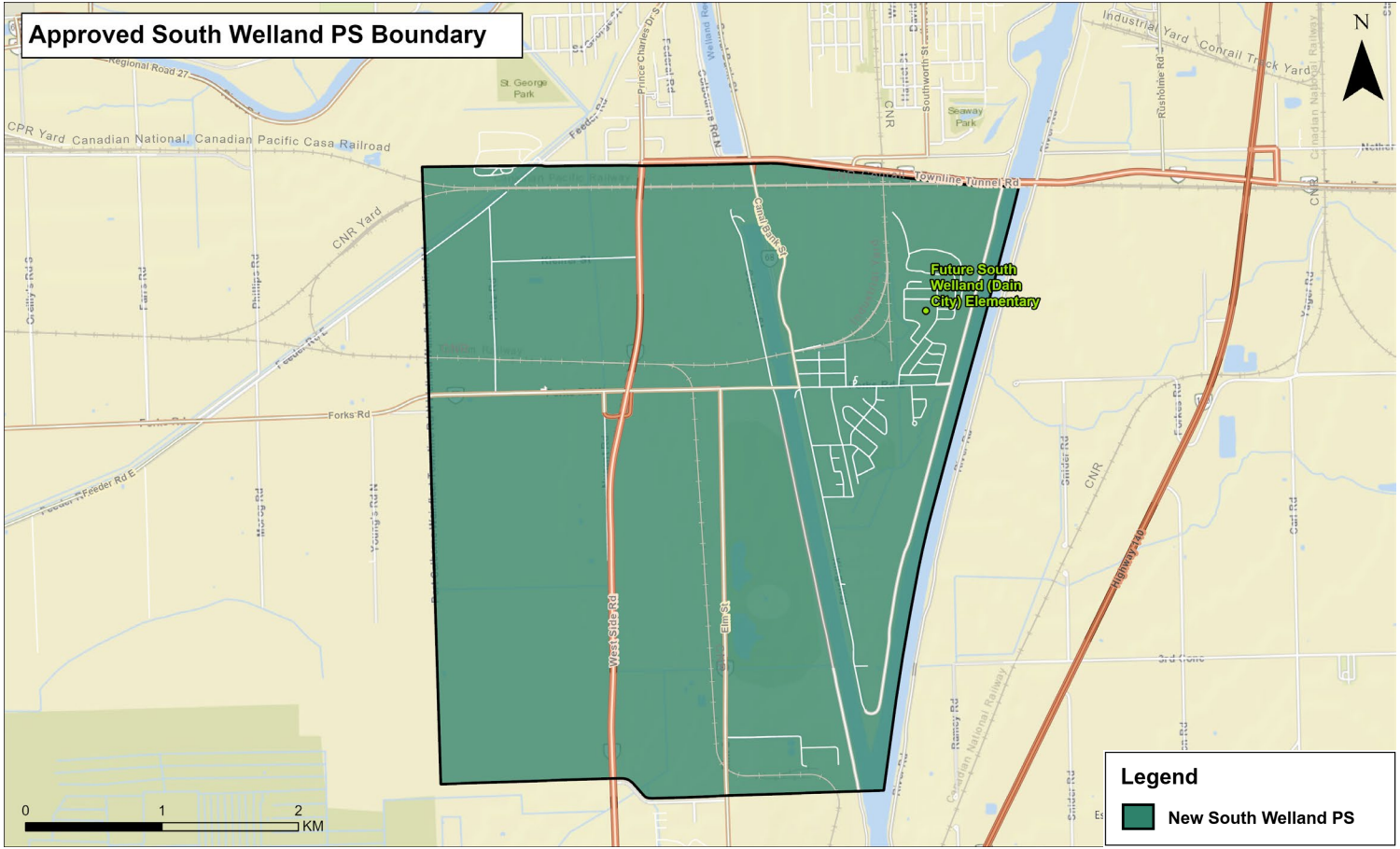
Surplus Space:

East Welland	OTG	Portables	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Princess Elizabeth PS	360	2/12	28	18	2	-20	-30	-29	-33	-31	-39	-47	-54
Plymouth PS	397	8/8	-100	-141	-178	-216	-237	-249	-248	-245	-237	-236	-215
Diamond Trail PS	363	9/12	-184	-192	-204	-232	-252	-270	-283	-303	-291	-292	-279
New South Welland PS	608				316	252	221	175	125	68	-18	-53	-69
Area Total	**1,728**	**19/32**	**-256**	**-315**	**-64**	**-215**	**-298**	**-372**	**-438**	**-511**	**-586**	**-627**	**-616**

Key Schools - Boundaries



New School Boundaries

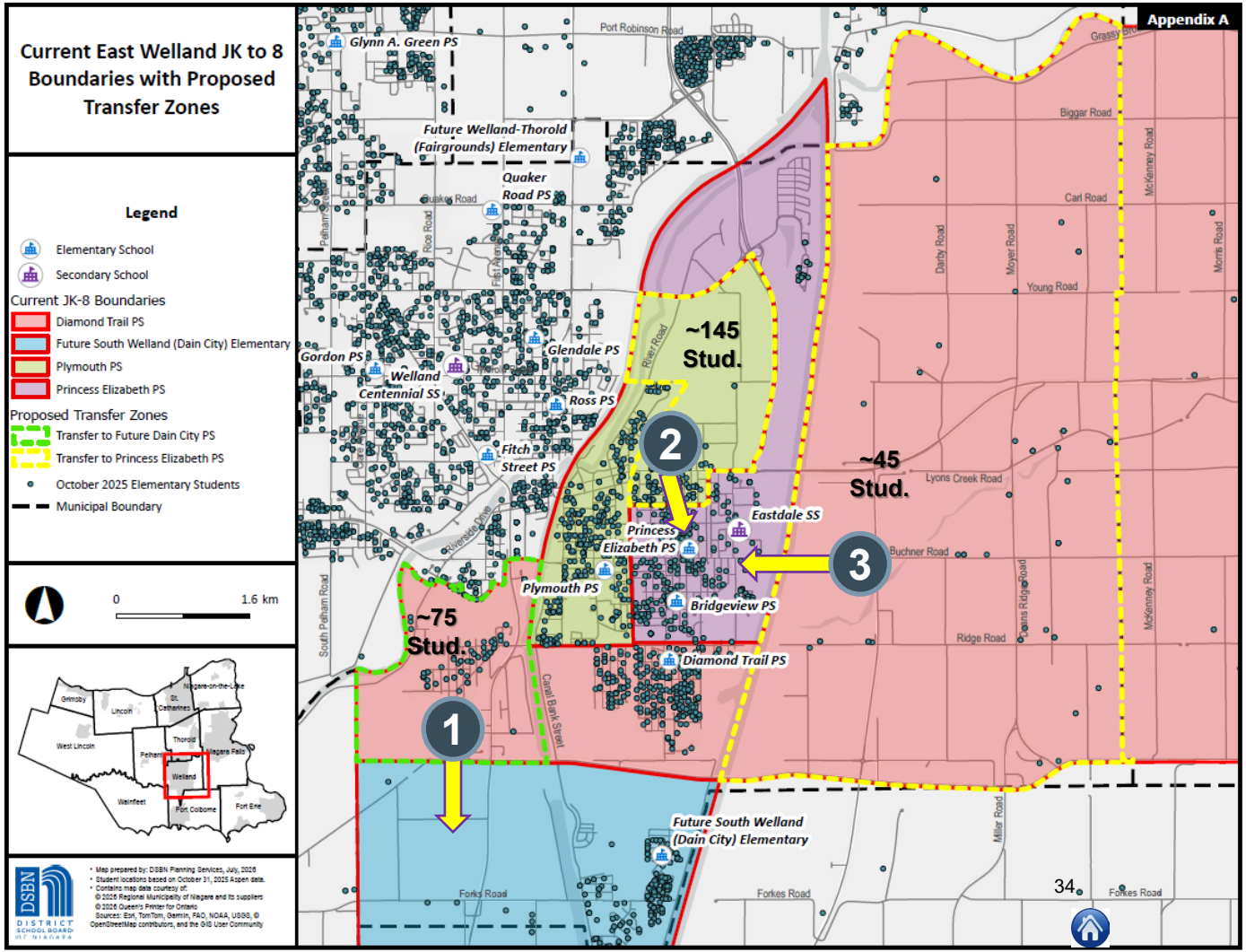


Current Proposed Changes

- #1: ~75 students from Diamond Trial PS directed to New South Welland PS.

- #2: ~145 students from Plymouth PS directed to Princess Elizabeth PS.

- #3: ~45 students from Diamond Trial PS directed to Princess Elizabeth PS.



An Engaged Boundary Review Process

The Boundary Review Process

Proposed Future Process:



- More opportunities for public input.
- Options presented to the community.
- Community consultation conducted.
- Public feedback gathered.
- CEO/Board receive recommendation for boundary change.



Proposed East Welland Boundary Review Schedule



QUESTIONS