

In an effort to redistribute students

Local elementary school boundaries may be in for a change

By HERB GARBUTT
Staff Writer

Halton Hills public elementary schools may have boundaries redrawn to redistribute the student population.

While schools in Burlington and Oakville may face closure or consolidation, it's likely boundaries will be the focus of the Halton District School Board's accommodation study in Halton Hills.

"The boundaries will be an important issue," said Ethel Gardiner, board chair and trustee for Halton Hills. "It may be

necessary to change them to maximize efficient use of our school buildings."

Gardiner and board staff met with approximately 50 parents last Wednesday at Georgetown District High School. Gardiner said the purpose was to explain why the board was conducting another accommodation study and present some of the facts being used in the study.

Gardiner said boundary changes were discussed but only in general terms. She said as the board gets further into its study, information about potential changes



ETHEL GARDINER

will become more specific.

More public meetings in each area are scheduled for the week of Oct. 26 and a third round the week of Nov. 19. The accommodation management committee had meetings at the board office in Burlington scheduled for last night (Tuesday), Nov. 3 and Nov. 26 beginning at 7 p.m. Those meetings are open to the public. There will also be public forums tomorrow (Thursday) and Nov. 19, also at 7 p.m.

Though last week's meeting was much smaller than two years ago when the board last looked at school accommodation,

Gardiner said that's understandable.

"At that time we were looking into the possibility of moving Grades 7 and 8 into the high school and we were a little more specific about targeting specific schools," she said.

Although that is not expected to happen this time, Gardiner urged parents to attend future meetings.

"Even though our numbers (in Halton Hills) are solid, it's still important to be informed," she said.

The board will make its recommendations concerning school closures and consolidations on Dec. 9 and will vote on them Dec. 16.




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