

For Future Action

Report Title: Tiger Jeet Singh Secondary School Boundary

Alignment

**Submitted by:** J. Fowler, Superintendent of Education

D. Barnes, Superintendent of Education F. Thibeault, General Manager, Planning

Curtis Ennis, Director of Education

Meeting Date: May 6, 2025

### **Recommendation:**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Halton District School Board approve Option 1 and establish new boundaries for Craig Kielburger Secondary School and Elsie MacGill Secondary School for the English Program, as outlined in Board Report 250##, with an implementation date of September 2026.

## 1. Analysis

This report seeks the Board of Trustees' approval to align the Grade 8 to 9 transition for students living in the Tiger Jeet Singh PS English catchment area and choosing the English program for high school, ensuring a consistent and common pathway to secondary school.

A Boundary Review Steering Committee (BRSC) was established and met on April 7, 2025, at which time a series of decisions were made for this review. The BRSC agreed to the following conclusions:

- **Pathway 2** was selected as the most appropriate approach for this review. Under this pathway, the BRSC submits a recommendation to the Director, which is then presented to the Board with opportunities for public delegation. While the community will be kept informed, a Boundary Review Committee (BRC) will not be established.
- **Pathway 1** was deemed too resource-intensive for the limited scope of this review.
- The review will consider **one boundary option**, which affects a **minimal number of students**.
- Communication with the public through continuous references in the South Milton and Milton SE #13 PS boundary review materials, which consistently acknowledged the need for this review upon approval.

The BRSC confirmed that the schools involved in this review are Elsie MacGill Secondary School and Craig Kielburger Secondary School.



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The focus of this boundary review is to establish a unified Grade 8 cohort from **Tiger Jeet Singh Public School** transitioning to **Craig Kielburger Secondary School** for the English program.

#### **Materials Reviewed:**

- Current (status quo) enrollment projections for both schools
- Enrollment projections under Option 1 (Figure 2)
- Transportation patterns and designated transportation areas

The BRSC has recommended Option 1 to the Director of Education for the following reasons:

- It results in minimal impact on each school's enrollment
- It requires minimal changes to existing transportation resources
- It does not affect the current cohort of Grade 8 students

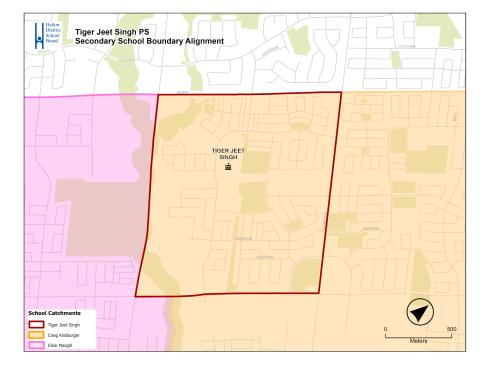


Figure 2: Option 1

#### Implementation:

As per Option 1, there is no change to the current pathway of grade 8s at Tiger Jeet Singh PS (2024/2025 school year). All Grade 8s, residing in the Tiger Jeet Singh PS English boundary and electing the English program, will be directed to Craig Kielburger SS in September 2026. See Appendix C.

There will be no changes to the French Immersion boundary.



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#### **Director of Education Recommendation:**

Subsequently, the Director and Administrative Council reviewed the recommendation from the BRSC and concurred with their rationale for moving it forward to the Board for consideration and approval. The rationale for Option 1 with additional considerations is as follows:

- 1. Has a minimum impact on overall enrolment across schools in the study areas;
- 2. Clear, identifiable boundaries that represent a neighbourhood scale;
- 3. Keeps neighbourhood communities together where possible;
- 4. Minimal impact to transportation services;.
- 5. Minimal impact on student experience.

Ultimately, the Director recommended that the Halton District School Board implement the boundaries as outlined in Option 1, effective September 2026.

For more information, please review the minutes of the BRSC meeting presented on the dedicated Boundary Review Website.

#### **Communication Plan:**

After the Boundary Review Steering Committee (BRSC), <u>Update #1</u> was sent to the community on April 14, 2025. This update was a notification to the community of the Boundary review and recommendation, as well as the next steps.

A dedicated website was created on the Board website (<u>link</u>) and shared as part of the initial communications to the community. Throughout the process, the public was encouraged to send their inquiries about the boundary review through email at <u>planhalton@hdsb.ca</u>. As of April 29, 2025, no emails have been received from the public on this topic.

The notes from the meeting and the various materials were posted on the website after the BRSC meeting on the dedicated <u>Boundary Review Website</u>.

Subject to final approval from the Board of Trustees, staff will communicate to the broader community the outcome of the review and the decision of the Board.

Below is the detailed plan for the communication rollout following Board approval on May 7, 2025:

- 1. The Trustee, school administrators at the elementary schools impacted, and Halton Transportation Services will be notified.
- 2. The "How am I affected?" tool on the boundary review webpage will be posted and available for public use for 2026/2027 in 2027, according to standard protocol.
- 3. School Transportation will provide information and bus plans for the families being redirected upon registration.

## 1.1 Governance Alignment

The Board of Trustees is responsible for determining the attendance areas for schools throughout its jurisdiction. The purpose of this report is to outline the recommended option that



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was developed throughout the Boundary Review Process, as presented by the Director of Education, in accordance with the Board's School Boundary Review(s) Administrative Procedure (link).

As per the above, the purpose of this report is to present the Director's recommendation, which was guided by the BRSC, to the Board of Trustees for consideration and approval, to be implemented starting as early as September 2025. As per the Board's Governance By-law, the report is to be presented twice to the Board of Trustees (see Appendix C of Governance By-law), and final approval will be sought on January 7, 2025

### 1.2 Alternatives

The alternative to approving this recommendation is the status quo scenario (click here for the link). If the Board determines that Option 1 is not suitable, they may choose to maintain the status quo. As a result, a new split cohort would be created at Tiger Jeet Singh PS, with a small number of English Grade 8 students attending Elsie MacGill SS, while the majority of English and French Immersion students would attend Craig Kielburger SS.

Based on the above, staff continue to recommend that Option 1 proceed, as presented.

## 2. Background

At the January 7, 2025, Board meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the following recommendation as pertains to Tiger Jeet Singh PS boundaries in report Board Report 24158:

**THAT** the Halton District School Board implement effective immediately the boundaries for Tiger Jeet Singh PS, specifically zones 4, 5, and 6, whereby new students between grades K to 7 enrolling after January 7, 2025, be directed to Tiger Jeet Singh PS, in accordance with Option 6a, as described in Board Report 24158 and Appendix D;

With this approval, a split grade 8 cohort was created, with the majority of grade 8 students directed to attend Craig Kielburger SS and a handful of students attending Elsie MacGill SS.

At the March 4, 2025 Board meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the following recommendation to initiate a boundary review in the <u>Board Report 25022</u>

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Halton District School Board direct staff to initiate and complete a boundary review for SRA 301 Milton West (formerly SRA 104) and SRA 302 Milton East Formerly ERA 105) to align pathways for Tiger Jeet Singh PS and eliminate the split Grade 8 cohort created by the approval of option 6a on January 7, 2025.

This boundary review proposes to eliminate the split grade 8 to grade 9 cohort at Tiger Jeet Singh PS, by repatriating Zones 4, 5, and 6 from Elsie MacGill SS, to Craig Kielburger, to reflect



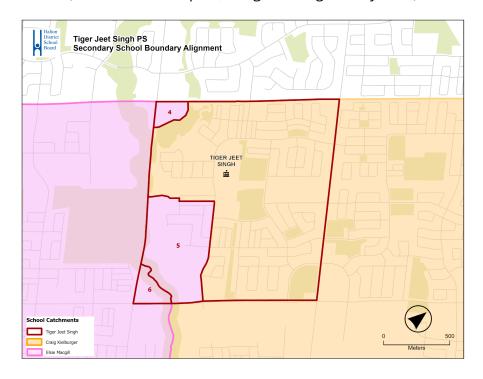
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the same changes that were made between Anne J. MacArthur and Tiger Jeet Singh as part of the elementary boundary review approved on January 7, 2025 (<u>link here</u>).

Figure 1 identifies the study area for the proposed boundaries. The purpose of this report is to present the Boundary Review Committee's recommendation to the Director for consideration, prior to submitting a recommended option to the Board of Trustees for consideration and approval. Implementation is to begin as of September 2026.

Figure 1: Tiger Jeet Singh PS Secondary School Boundary Alignment

(Elsie MacGill SS - pink, Craig Kielbueger SS - yellow)



# 3. Financial Impact

Overall, this boundary review will have a minimal impact on students and a minimal impact on transportation requirements. It is anticipated there will be no changes in transportation costs as students residing in the new development at Derry Road and Bronte Street will continue to be bussed, and all of the students should be able to walk to Craig Kielburger SS.

As for portable needs, additional portables are not required to accommodate the small number of grade 8 students being directed to Craig Kielburger SS. Conversely, there will be no portable savings at Elsie MacGill SS



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## 4. Multi-Year Plan Alignment

Priority Alignment: Mental Health and Well-Being

Option 1 is strongly recommended as it establishes a stable, predictable secondary school pathway for students from Tiger Jeet Singh PS. Under this option, the English Grade 8 cohort would transition together, preserving existing peer relationships and learning communities as they move into high school. Maintaining these connections is critical for supporting students' mental health and emotional well-being, easing the transition process, and promoting a positive high school experience. Conversely, without this option, a small number of students would be separated from the majority of their classmates and directed to a different secondary school, requiring them to rebuild social networks and adjust to a new environment at a pivotal stage of their academic and personal development. Option 1 offers a more cohesive, supportive approach that prioritizes students' overall success and well-being.

## 5. Attachment(s):

- 5.1 APPENDIX A: Boundary Review Steering Committee (BRSC) Members
- 5.2 APPENDIX B: Recommendation #1
- 5.2 APPENDIX C: Implementation

### Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Fowler
Superintendent of Education

Dean Barnes
Superintendent of Education

Frederick Thibeault General Manager of Planning

Curtis Ennis
Director of Education



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## APPENDIX A: BOUNDARY REVIEW STEERING COMMITTEE (BRSC) MEMBERS

- 1. Donna Danielli Trustee for Milton Wards 1 & 2
- 2. Naveed Ahmed Trustee for Milton Wards 3 & 4
- 3. Jennifer Fowler (BRSC Co-chair) Superintendent of Education
- 4. Dean Barnes (BRC Co-chair) Superintendent of Education
- 5. Frederick Thibeault (BRSC/BRC Co-chair) General Manager of Planning
- 6. Michelle D'Aguiar Senior Analyst
- 7. Mitch Gundy Analyst
- 8. Sonia Zhou GIS Analyst
- 9. Romar Abalos Senior Transportation Analyst, Halton Student Transportation Services



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**APPENDIX B: RECOMMENDED OPTION 1** 

**SEE ATTACHMENT** 

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