



## KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

#### Armour Heights Public School and King George Public School Accommodation Review

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**Q. The Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPR) has identified Armour Heights Public School and King George Public School, for a review for possible closure. What does that mean? Are the schools going to be closed?**

A. No decision has been made on the future of the schools. An Accommodation Review Committee, which will include representatives from the community and school councils, will meet a number of times beginning in October to discuss the student accommodation needs at these schools.

Throughout this process, the review committee will share information from the community that will inform the final administrative recommendations on the future of the schools.

Administration is recommending that the students be consolidated within a single facility at the King George site. This new school would be either a refurbished King George PS building with an environmentally friendly addition, or a newly constructed school. This consolidation of students would be tentatively scheduled to begin in the 2017/2018 school year.

At the conclusion of the Accommodation Review process, the Board of Trustees will consider administration's final recommendations before making any decision on the future of the schools. This is expected in February or March of 2016.

**Q. Why have these schools been chosen by KPR for a school review?**

A. School Board administration has the responsibility to annually bring to the attention of Board Trustees schools that, for a number of reasons, may be reviewed for a possible closure.

The reasons these schools were identified for this review include their current and projected enrolment, and the need to provide an optimal learning environment for students. Since 2000/2001, enrolment at Armour Heights PS has declined from 375 students to 229 for the current school year. Enrolment at King George Public School has declined from 434 students to 245 over the same time period.

Ideally, administration believes the optimal learning environment for the students attending Armour Heights Public School and King George Public School is to consolidate students from both schools at the King George site. With the schools being only 750 metres apart, one Kindergarten to Grade 8 facility would best support the students in the area.

All students would benefit from a new school building, and a consolidation would also allow for one less transition for King George Public School students.

**Q. On what will the Accommodation Review Committee base its discussions?**

A. The committee will assist in ensuring administration has as much information from the community as possible before the Board makes a final decision on the future of the schools.

Among other areas, the committee will discuss:

- how many students attend the schools now, and how many may be expected in future years
- the educational program available to students
- issues and considerations as part of a consolidated school

**Q. Are these committee meetings public? How can I share my thoughts with the committee in some way?**

A. Yes. All committee meetings are public, and the Board and committee invite parents and community members to attend, and to make presentations at committee meetings, beginning:

Thursday, November 12, 2015

(6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Armour Heights PS)

In addition to these public input meetings, the committee may also hold working group meetings. Although these meetings will be open to the public to attend, they will be for committee work and discussion only.

If you would like to make a formal, written submission to the committee, or simply send a letter or e-mail with your thoughts, please contact your school Principal or your local Superintendent of Education.

The most up-to-date information on the review will also be available on the Board's website at [www.kprschoools.ca](http://www.kprschoools.ca).

**Q. When will the school review be completed, and what happens after that?**

A. The Accommodation Review Committee will begin meeting in October, and administration will finalize its report to the Board for the February 25, 2016 Board meeting. Administration's report at that time will include recommendations on the future of the schools.

**Q. When would a school consolidation or closure happen if the Board decided to do so?**

A. This will depend upon administration's final recommendations to the Board.

**Q. Whom can I contact if I have further questions about this review?**

A. Again, we welcome all members of the community to take part in this process. If you would like to learn more about the school review, please contact your school Principal or Peter Mangold, Superintendent of Education: Student Achievement, 705-742-9773 Toll free: 1-877-741-4577, Extension 2012 or Pat Bjordahl, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Education, Extension 2012