

TO: Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board

TOPIC: **Pupil Accommodation Review: Armour Heights Public School and King George Public School**

INITIATORS: Peter Mangold, Superintendent, Student Achievement  
Joe Tompkins, Superintendent, Student Achievement

## **BACKGROUND**

1. The Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board aims to provide educational programs and services of the highest quality, in facilities conducive to a stimulating learning environment and designed to meet the needs of all pupils, within fiscal parameters. In addition to facilitating the delivery of our Board mission, the Board will endeavour to optimize the use of its facilities. Various factors beyond the control of the Board impact on this commitment. These factors include declining, increasing, and shifting populations, current funding and operation realities, new provincial legislation and policy, changing educational objectives and physical limitations of buildings.
2. On September 24, 2015, the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board reviewed and revised Board Policy BA-1.2, Pupil Accommodation Review: School Closure/Consolidation, which relates to pupil accommodation and accommodation reviews, as a result of new provincial directives released in March 2015.

This policy governs the process by which schools are to be identified and recommended for study and review. Any school, or group of schools, impacted by the following criteria, may be identified in an individual or group accommodation review.

### Program Viability

Any school, or group of schools, which is deemed not able to offer a viable program in terms of enrolment, class sizes and/or grade configurations. This includes schools that under the normal staffing allocation would require the assignment of more than two grades to one class in elementary schools and multigrade/level/subjects to one class in secondary schools. Schools that are unable to provide an equitable range of learning opportunities for students will also be identified.

### Overcrowded

Any school, or group of schools whose Average Daily Enrolment (ADE) exceeds, or is projected to exceed its pupil places as designated by the On The Ground Capacity allocation by 15% or more shall be identified.

Operating/Maintenance Costs

Any school, or group of schools, which is/are deemed to have extraordinary operating and maintenance costs which affect efficiency within the grants provided by the Ministry to the Board, any school that is experiencing higher building maintenance expense than the average for the system and/or is in need of major capital improvements shall be identified.

Underutilized

Any school or group of schools whose Average Daily Enrolment (ADE) falls, or is projected to fall below 85% of the pupil places as designated by the On The Ground Capacity allocation.

Other

Any school, group of schools or area which, in the opinion of administration should be considered due to exceptional circumstances. Such exceptional circumstances can include but are not limited to:

- the school is destroyed by fire or other catastrophe
- the school is unusable due to environmental hazard
- the school is unusable due to a health hazard

All reviews of consolidations and/or closures must be conducted within the guidelines and expectations of the Ministry of Education.

3. Armour Heights Public School is located on 245 McFarlane Street in Peterborough, Ontario. The distance between Armour Heights Public School and King George Public School is 750 metres. The Average Daily Enrolment has declined from 375 students in 2000/2001 to the current projected enrolment of 229 students for the 2015/2016 school year. The school has an On The Ground Capacity of 311 pupil places. Enrolment for Armour Heights Public School is expected to increase slightly in the next 10 years.
4. King George Public School is located on 220 Hunter Street in Peterborough, Ontario. The Average Daily Enrolment has declined from 434 students in 2000/2001 to the current projected enrolment of 245 students for the 2015/2016 school year. The school has an On The Ground Capacity of 291 pupil places. Enrolment for King George Public School is expected to increase slightly in the next 10 years.
5. As per Board Policy BA-1.2, Pupil Accommodation Review: School Closure/Consolidation, any school or group of schools whose Average Daily Enrolment (ADE) falls, or is projected to fall below 85% of the pupil places as designated by the On The Ground Capacity is considered underutilized and is to be considered for possible accommodation review. Armour Heights Public

School and King George Public School are underutilized based on the following information:

- The On The Ground (OTG) capacity for Armour Heights Public School is 311 ADE;
- Current enrolment of Armour Heights Public School is 229 students which is 74% of capacity;
- From 2000/2001, enrolment at Armour Heights Public School has declined by 146 students.
  
- The On The Ground (OTG) capacity for King George Public School is 291 ADE;
- Current enrolment of King George Public School is 245 students which is 84% of capacity;
- From 2000/2001, enrolment at King George Public School has declined by 189 students.

6. The Long Term Accommodation Plan 2015-2020 was received for information by the Board of Trustees in May 2015. The Long Term Accommodation Plan is intended to provide the Board with information and/or direction on:

- School buildings which are over or under utilized
- Issues regarding program viability
- Ten year enrolment projections
- Status of physical plant including accessibility, physical condition and buildings where operations/maintenance costs exceed the norm
- Indicators for future directions regarding new schools and/or additions, school consolidations/closures, boundary reviews/changes

In the plan, it was recommended that the Board consider the consolidation of Armour Heights Public School and King George Public School at the King George site.

7. Appendix A provides a proposed critical path for the accommodation review process.

8. The composition of the committee, which is determined by the Board, shall include the following:

- The local trustees for the City of Peterborough – Trustees Rose Kitney and Wayne Bonner
- One trustee from another jurisdiction as determined by the Board
- Two senior staff – Superintendents Peter Mangold and Joe Tompkins

- Two school council representatives from Armour Heights Public School and King George Public School
- The principal and a staff member from Armour Heights Public School and King George Public School
- A municipal representative from the City of Peterborough
- A business representative and a community representative from the City of Peterborough

School Administration will begin the process of seeking individuals who are interested in being on the Accommodation Review Committee.

9. The recommended option to provide 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 K-8 facility would best support the students in the area. This would allow for one less transition for King George Public School students. Refurbishing and building an environmentally friendly addition at the King George site, while maintaining the historical integrity of the building, would provide an improved facility for students within the area. Alternatively, building a new school at the King George site and disposing of both Armour Heights Public School and King George Public School could be considered for this consolidation.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That, in accordance with Board Policy BA-1.2, Pupil Accommodation Review: School Closure/Consolidation, which relates to pupil accommodation reviews, a School Accommodation Review Committee be struck to consider the consolidation of Armour Heights Public School and King George Public School.
2. That Trustee \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed as the trustee representative from another jurisdiction to join local Trustees Rose Kitney and Wayne Bonner as a member of the School Accommodation Review Committee.
3. That the composition of the Armour Heights Public School and King George Public School Accommodation Review Committee be approved as outlined in Section 8, dated September 24, 2015.

Peter Mangold  
Superintendent, Student Achievement

Joe Tompkins  
Superintendent, Student Achievement

**Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board**

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

**Draft Timelines**

**Thursday, September 24, 2015**

Board Report

Thursday, September 24, 2015  
(Board Meeting)

Orientation Meeting for Committee Members

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

~~Orientation Meeting for Committee Members~~  
and 1<sup>st</sup> Accommodation Review Committee Meeting  
(for public input)

\* Thursday, November 12, 2015

***Futher Dates To Be Determined***