

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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### KAAWAATE EAST CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION PLANNING – SEPTEMBER 2024

**Q. What are the accommodation pressures facing the school?**

A. Kaawaate East City PS continues to experience significant accommodation pressures for students. The school is forecasted to be at 125% of existing capacity for September 2024, with 847 expected students, and capacity for only 675 students. These space challenges are expected to continue over the next 10 years.

**Q. What changes are planned for Kaawaate East City PS?**

A. School board administration is recommending that, beginning in September 2024, Kaawaate East City PS will change from being a Junior Kindergarten (JK) – Grade 8 dual track school, to a JK – Grade 6 dual-track school, and Grades 7-8 English stream.

Grade 7-8 French Immersion students from Kaawaate East City PS will attend Adam Scott Intermediate School effective September 2024.

**Q. How can I learn more about the plans?**

A. We are inviting parents/caregivers to learn more about the recommended changes and provide feedback on the plan and how we can support students through these transitions.

A meeting at Kaawaate East City PS is planned for:

**Thursday, November 23, 2023, 6:30 p.m.**

**Q. What happens after the meetings?**

A. School board administration will gather community feedback and provide a summary report, along with a recommendation for the Board of Trustees to consider at the January 23, 2024, Board meeting.

**Q. Kaawaate is a new school. Why is there not enough room for the students?**

A. The new school was built with Ministry of Education Capital Priorities funding, which identifies the number of pupil places allowed for the school build. Based on the provincial funding model, the Ministry of Education approved a 674-pupil space school, with a three-room child-care facility.

**Q. Can we add more portables to the school site?**

A. For the 2023-2024 school year, a fourth portable classroom was placed at the site to accommodate increased enrolment.

Facilities Services staff have confirmed that the site cannot accommodate any additional portable classrooms. In addition, all special purpose rooms within the school facility have been converted to regular classroom spaces.

Unfortunately, there are no more spaces within the school available to accommodate students, with the exception of the learning commons (library).

**Q. Can we use the King George or Armour Heights Public School buildings?**

A. The King George and Armour Heights Public School buildings have been empty for several years and would require significant investment to bring them to necessary standards for students.

**Q. Are other changes being planned?**

A. The school board is beginning a broader review of Peterborough secondary school boundaries and family of school groupings in the new year to identify long-term accommodation strategies to manage growth in all areas. More information on this process will be shared in the new year but this may result in further adjustments to schools within the community.

**Q. Who can I contact if I have further questions about these changes?**

A. We encourage all interested families to attend the meeting we have planned, and if you would like to learn more about these related issues, please contact your school Principal or local Superintendent of Education at the number below:

James Brake, Superintendent of Education, 705-742-9773 Toll free: 1-877-741-4577, Extension 2602

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS POSED BY SCHOOL COMMUNITY: IN-PERSON MEETING AND THOUGHT EXCHANGE**

**Q. How will you accommodate French Immersion students who switch to English to stay at Kaawaate ECPS?**

A. Class sizes will be adjusted/increased to accommodate any additional Kaawaate ECPS students who are part of the English stream cohort.

**Q. Will these changes create the need for portables at Adam Scott CVI?**

A. We believe we can accommodate all current students at Adam Scott CVI, but there is space available for portable classrooms if required.

**Q. Will students be bused to Adam Scott CVI who are currently within walking distance of Kaawaate?**

A. Busing eligibility is based on established walking distances through Board policy and administered by Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario. More information is available at [www.stsco.ca](http://www.stsco.ca) .

**Q. Can an addition be built at Kaawaate East City PS to create more classrooms?**

A. Unfortunately, funding is not currently available for any further additions or renovations to the Kaawaate East City PS school building.

**Q. Can the topography be changed to accommodate additional portables?**

A. We do not have funding available to explore further adjustments to the Kaawaate East City PS school footprint or layout.

**Q. Can an outdoor amphitheater or stage be built to replace the gym stage if it gets utilized for classroom space?**

A. Unfortunately, this would not be possible for September 2024.

**Q. Can space at the Peterborough Museum be utilized?**

A. Leasing offsite space is not something we believe we can accommodate because of funding, school operation and supervision challenges.

**Q. Can the transition be delayed until September 2025 so that two cohorts of students could go together?**

A. The significant accommodation pressures expected at the school for September 2024, and beyond, means further delay is not possible. Should it be approved by the Board, we will commit to a robust transition plan for students impacted by this decision.