

Student Accommodation Review: Elementary Family of Schools/Clarke High School

Q. What does this review mean? Why is it necessary?

- A. The Board is reviewing the current and projected enrolment within the elementary family of schools that connect to Clarke High School.

Specifically, the Board is looking to address ongoing enrolment pressures at Newcastle Public School and The Pines Senior Public School.

This review is necessary because the projected number of students at both schools will significantly exceed the capacity of the school buildings to house them.

Despite the use of portables - Newcastle PS has 11 portables on the property for example, the number of students cannot be effectively managed on site.

Q. What options is administration considering to address this problem?

- A. Administration is considering a number of options to address these enrolment pressures. These options, along with related data and information, are captured within the Background Study and Options report which is available at the Student Accommodation Review: Elementary Family of Schools - Clarke High School web page, accessible from the home page of www.kprschoools.ca.

The options under consideration include:

- Newcastle PS becoming a JK - Grade 4 dual track (English and French Immersion) school. The Pines Senior PS becomes a dual track Grade 5 – Grade 6 school. A dual track Grade 7-8 Intermediate School would be established at Clarke High School.
- Newcastle PS becoming a JK - Grade 3 dual track (English and French Immersion) school. The Pines Senior PS becomes a dual track Grade 4 – Grade 6 school. A dual track Grade 7-8 Intermediate School would be established at Clarke High School.
- Newcastle PS becoming a JK - Grade 4 dual track (English and French Immersion) school. The Pines Senior PS becomes a dual track Grade 5 – Grade 8 school.

Questions and Answers Cont'd

Q. How can I be a part of the consultation on these possible changes?

A. We are inviting parents from these school communities to join us at the parent meetings scheduled below to learn more about the accommodation challenges we are addressing, and to provide feedback and input on the issues and possible solutions.

- December 6, 2022, 6:30 p.m., Clarke High School
- January 17, 2023, 6:30 p.m., Clarke High School

Q. What if I can't attend these meetings, but still want to share my input?

A. All meeting information packages will be available on the dedicated section of the KPR website, and there will be an online option for parents to share their thoughts and comments.

Q. What happens after the consultation process? When will a decision be made on any possible changes to the schools involved?

A. After consultation with parents and community, it is expected that administration will make recommendations to the Board for a final decision scheduled for the February, 2023 Regular Board meeting.

Q. What factors will administration consider when identifying future recommendations?

A. Administration will begin by reviewing the feedback and information provided by parents and community through the consultation process.

Two significant factors that will also guide decision making in this area will be:

- how many students attend the schools now, and how many may be expected in future years
- the educational program available to students

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

A. We welcome all members of the community to take part in this process. If you would like to learn more about the consultation process and the related issues, please contact your school principal, Sonal Gohil, Superintendent of Education, 705-742-9773 Toll free: 1-877-741-4577, Extension 2421, or Diane Findlater, Executive Assistant, Extension 2421.