Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board

Port Hope Elementary Family of Schools Community Consultation
In-Person Feedback - January 16, 2023

Option 1: Change in French Immersion (FI) program grade cohorts between Ganaraska Trail PS (GTPS) and Beatrice Strong PS (BSPS) (i.e., Ganaraska Trail PS becomes FI SK-3 and Beatrice Strong becomes FI 4-6. Both schools maintain English stream K-6.

Pros	Cons	Wonderings
• Creates balance in terms of school utilization and population • Divisions remain together (resources, opportunities, leadership & facilities) • Improves perception of BSPS by offering dual track • Dr. Hawkins PS (DHPS) remains dual track 7/8 and all students move to 7/8 together. • Purpose built elementary schools • No cross over with older students • Grade 12 might be positively impacted at PHHS (enrollment) • Equalizes enrollment of FI programming across the schools (reduces stigma) • Keeps younger students out of PHSS • Utilizes space at GTPS & BSPS • Keeps same grade English the same • Keeps divisions together • Stay w/ friends • JK-6 stay in elementary schools	• Removes kids from their own neighborhoods unnecessarily. • Too many transitions for FI • Transportation is complicated, pick up would be challenging. • Creates a need for more bussing that is simply not necessary. • Makes it difficult for families to plan for after/before school daycare, across different grades. • Will the money really be there to invest in infrastructure? (especially in this political environment). • No existing play space so important for learning health/mental health/age-appropriate play. • More transitions for FI students • Potentially longer bus rides for FI students • No alignment between FI and English stream - lose contacts in one stream • Inability to have split classes FI Grade 3&4- enrollment requires attentive eye. • Breaking up similar grade kids (friends) based on language stream • Increasing busing & transitions for FI families • Gr. 6's at Hawkins for 3 years • Segregation of FI 4 in 2024-25 – why not move 4/5/6 all at the same time?	• What happens with the daycare with either option? • If no Grade 6's at DHPS what does this mean for utilization of space within DHPS & Port Hope HS? • What is the plan for greenspaces? • Play structure? • A FI student in Beatrice Strong catchment could transition JK at Beatrice, SK-3 at GTPS then back to Beatrice 4-5. • What happens to Dr Hawkins after 2027 transition timeline? Grade 7/8 only? • Will this option be the most sustainable? • Why does it take so long to get the Grade 6's back to GTPS? • Financial cost? • Will this eliminate overcrowding at GTPS? (perception of schools) • Will start times be adjusted? • Start/end times? • Many transitions, like the option that was already taken away.

	• Most transition for FI students • Transportation concerns • Least favourite option • Transitions FI students throughout their schooling • Junior numbers at GTPS will be smaller (ie 1 class of Gr. 5). • Number of transitions • Families would have students at multiple schools • Daycare challenges • Busing chaos? • Doesn't seem this would work • Splitting siblings	

Option 2: Ganaraska Trail PS becomes a dual track JK/ SK-3 and Dr. M.S. Hawkins Senior PS becomes a dual track grade 4-6. A dual track intermediate school (7-8) is established at Port Hope HS.

Pros	Cons	Wonderings
• Does not impact North Hope/BSPS • Sets up future transitions • Primary and junior cohorts remain together. • Could help establish a new culture through a new school • Keeps divisions together: JK-3, 4-6, 7-8 • Help with extra-curricular • Stay with friends • Would allow more equity in sports for Grade 4-5 to play each other/true junior sports program.	• How to divide resources – between three schools? • Too difficult to separate age groups at lunch - influence of older peers • Three schools logistically in one building means a lot of daily issues • Social sources of cigarettes/alcohol/other substances • Risk money for investment in building/playground won't be there • Potential overcrowding of the high school-limiting future enrollment • Won't have three principals • No existing play space so important for age-appropriate play/mental health/learning health • More kids at drop off-pick up with more busses-already too busy as it is • Grade 6's who came from GTPS have to transition again as Grade 8's to a new school	• How realistic is this? • Would daycare still be there? • Please consider school start/end times between all schools especially since siblings may be split between schools. • Does BSPS remain status quo? • What is the plan for green space/ play structure? • We suffered the same fate when they closed Dr. MS Hawkins school! • Addition to GTPS? • Less high school retention? • Will this eliminate the focus on revitalizing PHHS? • How do you manage shared spaces/routines/ bells/ etc.? • Does the addition of a third school at PHHS, without increased funding or enrollment, allow for more services or funding? • How is the intermediate school different from Dr. Hawkins? • What will break times look like? Three different times? • More bathroom facilities will be required

	• Money saved by not having to invest in age-appropriate improvements to Hawkins. • Not comfortable to have Grade 4-6 at physical site at Dr. Hawkins • Not comfortable to have Grade 4-6 on high school bus • If status quo at BSPS – under utilization of that school. • Elementary kids in purpose built elementary school building • Grade 4-6 cross over with older students – mental health-safety? • Three schools in one building? Plus daycare? • Gr. 6's @ Hawkins for three years • Larger capital expense for temporary solution • Doesn't address mismatch between GTPS & BSPS • There are now three schools in 1 building. • Harder to staff • Needing more supervision at break times • BSPS students would not have an opportunity to develop friendships with GTPS students prior to Grade 7 • Older students not able to assist with the younger students • Lots of renovations equals lots of time • Still don't like the Grade 4-6's at Hawkins • Does not remove the decision to put your student in FI, so you avoid attending at a certain school. • FI students are losing their environment to the younger students • Costs to renovate could be used towards programming in school. • Integrated kids into Hawkins/PHSS building at too young an age • BSPS students at disadvantage ("new" to building – not their home turf) • BSPS underutilized • Variety of ages in one building – impact on younger students – safety concerns • Least favourite of the three options	• Financial cost? • Impact on PHSS? • Space concerns • Integrity of programs • How much money will go into this (three distinct schools in one building)…physical space, equipment. • Equity of access: library, gym, green space. • Can we add a play structure/are for Hawkins outside?

	• Most expensive option • Daycare challenges • More transitions again • Three schools in 1 – how can we grow? • Shared spaces (eg, library) • Large financial concern	

Option 3: Establish a second Port Hope area French Immersion program at Beatrice Strong PS.

Pros	Cons	Wonderings
• Less bussing (saves money) • This seems like a win win – the least disruptive path forward • Brings the Grade 6's back! Continuity is beneficial • Allows all kids to have green space/elementary school environment. • Creates more opportunities for BSPS kids • More kids can walk to school. Lower carbon footprint / more exercise/ social opportunities • Security of continuity for cohort that lived through chaos of pandemic – they are catching up • This would inspire hope for the high school • No investment needed at Hawkins • Allows English stream North Hope kids to remain at rural school • Increases enrollment at BSPS / Decreases enrollment at GTPS • Strengthens FI program in Port Hope, which puts pressure on PHHS to reinstate FI • Peer groups live near each other – social opportunities, unity for kids • More time for transitions – slower process, more seamless • Utilization of space at BSPS • Potentially shorter bus rides • Potentially improves "perception" of BSPS within the	• The worry with option 3 is the viability of staffing with French teachers, vulnerability of FI enrollment with two FI schools. • Potential issues of hiring French teachers • Funding for resources – required at both schools • Vulnerable to FI enrollment. • Grade 6's at Hawkins for three years • Does not consider a blend of previous options that can be used in combination. • Will there be enough FI teachers? • Families will have students/children at multiple schools because of the transitions • For families at NHC this would be a longer time on the bus • Smaller junior FI classes • Staffing • Some families will be split • Impact only on North Hope/Beatrice • For the next few years children from the same family may be at different schools. • FI staffing • Kids aren't finished school at Hawkins dismissal. (2:35pm) Much idle time for young kids with working parents. • Siblings may end up separated • Not all would need to attend Hawkins (pro or con depending	• Would North Hope students going to BSPS FI have to travel longer on the bus? • Can we really staff two FI schools? (enrollment projections for FI?) • What is the plan for greenspace/play structure? • Continued enrollment pressure at GTPS? • Redraw boundaries so numbers make sense at BSPS? • How do we increase FI enrollment/interest in BSPS catchment? • For all three - how will the decrease in secondary school space impact high school students in 5-6 yrs? • If there's minimal FI interest at BSPS, does this address the overcapacity at GTPS? • Grandparenting in the students that will have difficulties with the transitions? • Could this option start immediately? • Financial cost? • What is the commitment? • (First year may have small intake)—how many years will you try it out? • Will preference be given to families who have younger children and want all students to stay at GTPS. • Why can't we start this September? • Would students at Hawkins in boundary for BSPS have to switch? • How do we bring FI to the high school so we don't lose students to

community • Keeps divisions together. • Shifts teachers (FI) • Keeping families together • Reduce busing transitions between schools • Consistent start times for families • Purpose built elementary schools • No cross over with older students – safety • Less transportation needs • Will have the leadership with the older students • Most sustainable • Equalizes enrollment of FI programming across the schools (reduces stigma) • Possible savings – busing. • Equalizer between GT and BSPS perceptions will adjust • Phased in approach • Bringing Grade 6 back • Only two transitions • Kids opting out of FI track can stay in school - siblings stay together. • In 4-5 years families/students will be in community school • Least transitions for families/students • Daycare; once established • In elementary schools vs elementary students in secondary school • This is the best option • Would build up BSPS • Would balance out the feeder schools	on the individual) • Inequity if another specialty program is added here.	CCI and St. Mary's? • Will this do enough to help numbers at GTPS?

Clarke Elementary Family of Schools
ONLINE FEEDBACK FORM RESPONSES – JAN 24, 2022
32 responses received from parents/guardians

When moving the Grade 5s from Newcastle PS to The Pines, we want you to consider...	• Please don't do this. • Safety in proximity to the highway and gas station. Young students will be exposed to mature things that wouldn't happen in an elementary school. • Extra curriculars, social events. Age appropriate things to do on the yard. There is no playground, pavement games, etc. They are only 10. • That these are still little kids. The school is only accessible via the highway and it's on the highway. What about after-school care? • Not doing it. • Need for increased busing. Not enough spaces right now • There will be an increase in vehicle traffic when parents A) don't want their kids taking the bus. or B) on days when the buses are cancelled. Is there enough space to accommodate all these extra cars? What happens when they are lined up and down the highway? And an accident happens, and shuts down the 115 and now access to the school is impacted. Has it been looked at to approach the farmer who owns the land behind Clarke and The Pines to purchase it from him to create an alternate road? What happens when the school must be evacuated, and these kids must walk down the highway? What kind of safety plans are in place or being looked at now that there are plans to bring more younger students out to The Pines? • Daycare needed • Highway 115 - Young children around high school students • How is this legal and safe? This school is located off a highway with a posted speed of 90km/hr. What is the DETAILED plan to ensure no child can access the highway regardless of grade? • How will clubs, sports teams etc. operate when they are cohorted by primary, junior etc.? This splits Grades 4, 5 and 6 further. The current switch with Grade 6 at The Pines this year revealed issues with unbalanced teams. This is not fair to the children. • With even more children requiring bussing what is the plan to resolve the current staffing issue with buses prior to adding further demand? • How is adequate childcare going to be available and at prices comparable to home daycares that are affordable and currently accessible from NPS? The bus only drops off and picks up at one location. • What will be done to address the issue this causes with families of multiple JR aged children at potentially two schools with different start times? • Grade 5's & 6's should NOT share buses with high school students. • Their safety. Having worked at an Anti-Human Trafficking organization, right here in EAST Durham - I would strongly urge and support gathering feedback from the Durham Regional Police Human Trafficking Unit on ways to keep children safe. Specific plans on separating ages,

	enhanced yard duty, transportation of students, timing of the schools - having community police officers potentially available for this particular area. • How will bussing work? Grade 5 students are on the bus with Grade 12s? OR are they separate buses, this too could pose a HUGE risk and concern. • How do students benefit from starting at the Pines in Grade 5? I do not see any benefits for them. • Students need stability, structure and consistency in their childhood to support healthy development. They need this from their school community. Transitioning kids to new schools, multiple times throughout their school years is hugely problematic. Transitions are stressful for children. Also, separating siblings in their younger school age years to go to a new school is not a benefit for kids, parents or for building a positive school community. • The impact of families' daily routines is also very significant. Having 2 different school time drop off and pick-ups are unfair to parents and families with multiple children. This creates unnecessary added stress to children and parents. • The location of The Pines geographically directly on a busy highway is an unsuitable environment to have children as young as 9 playing with minimal supervision. My child is born in December and will be 9 when potentially starting at the Pines (Grade 5). How will he be supervised in the yard? Will there be a playground? How will bullying be addressed? Will there be before or after childcare available at the school? • Sufficient bussing due to ongoing driver shortages. • If moving the Grade 5's to The Pines, The Pines should then become a Grade 5 and 6 school along with the French Immersion School. The Grade 7's and 8's should then be moved to Clarke in a segregated format with separate entrances along with different times for shared areas. • The bus schedule for Clarke should still stay the same as it currently is, but The Pines should move to the later bus schedule like Newcastle PS. This will prevent a mix of younger children with the high school kids. This is for safety but to also prevent the younger children from being exposed to inappropriate language and conditions. • There will have to be more buses and bus routes added, for both capacity issues and the separation for younger to older students. • A before and after school program will have to be started • A playground will have to be added and the current outdoor play area updated with new equipment and safety fence to prevent the younger children from roaming around into the field or the 115. • Everything, this is simply inappropriate. Please consider moving the Gracefields community to Bowmanville as originally planned when built. Newtonville students should be moved to Port Hope • I think it’s a good idea. • The mental health aspect of it. Not being prepared for Jr. high sports (will there be teams and extracurricular activities). Bus and school times (will they be more aligned). If we do not like this plan will we be allowed to transfer our kids to a school in Bowmanville to keep them together? • The first problem is getting the students to school. If they are not at school they cannot learn. The school board should look at the bussing problem first. Access for vehicles, with more buses and more children, there will be more cars. How do you make one entry exit point work off a one-way highway? Will there be an additional road added behind the property? We know when accidents happen children are stuck at school. The greater the population and younger the students. This is a big concern. And a genuine problem.

	• I'm glad to hear there will be no changes next year. I would like the Board to consider how the FI teachers and resources will be split between two schools. Today, FI students are relocated to other FI classes when there are teacher shortages, and the already smaller group of FI teachers and classes share resources as well. Will there be sufficient budget to run 2 small FI programs, one at The Pines and one at NPS? It seems inefficient and the concern is that neither program will receive adequate funding or support for things like field trips, student exchange programs, French library books, etc.
	• Improvements to The Pines would need to include a play area and play structure outside, and maybe consider some nice looking aluminum fencing around the property.
	  ○ child care options - bussing - safety of younger children near the highway
	  ○ activities / yard for students to still "play" at recess.
	• The fact that this school is along a busy highway with cars travelling 90 + km/hr. This is not a safe location for a junior student.
	• How will my 9 year old be kept safe in the school yard?
	• Also, a lack of older students at NPS will leave few student helpers to monitor lunch periods, reading buddies, etc. How will NPS ensure lunch time supervision?
	• This also doesn't allow the grade 5's and 6's to take on leadership and mentorship activities.
	• To ensure there are proper outdoor areas and activities. There should be many opportunities for intramural activities. Before and after care for students. Extreme safety and caution near the 115.
	• Should not be on a bus with high school students.
	• Splitting intermediate grades, impact on extra-curricular activities, sports teams, field trips etc.
	• Bussing and before/after school care requirements.
	• Student safety - highway access, lack of adequate fencing.
	• Student recreation and fitness - access to developmentally appropriate play equipment.
	• Family logistics - coordinated bell times, drop off/pick up needs for Newcastle families with students in primary and intermediate grades.
	• These kids are moving onto a bus with 17 year olds who talk about anything and everything while on the bus. The driver cannot control them or keep them from interacting with the younger kids.
	• This exposes the kids to topics they are not ready for or prepared to hear and deal with.
	• This also puts them in a position to be bullied by older students, harassed and peer pressured into things by much older students they want to please.
	• This is not an ideal situation for young students to grow up in. This can cause lots of problems down the road for them, hinder their learning ability, and cause many mental health problems.
	• Keeping them safe from older students at Clarke
	• This is not a good idea.

When moving the Grade 7s to Clarke HS, we want you to consider...	• This changes the dynamic of both high school and elementary. • Safety in proximity to the highway and gas station. • Young students will be exposed to mature things that wouldn't happen in an elementary school. • Extra curriculars, social events. Keeping them separate from the high school. The importance of age-appropriate activities, while preparing them. • Making sure they have optimal programming for French. • The age gap between the oldest and youngest is quite significant at this age. How will we keep our young children safe in a school full of bigger kids? • Make Clarke Grade 7-12. • Need for increased programming for these youth at Clarke to offload transfers to Bowmanville to access sports like hockey, and trades like woodworking and automotive. • The optimal use of space. • Preteens will be influenced by older kids and not in a good way. • Putting 12 year olds at the same school as 18 year olds is completely unacceptable. Move the high school students to Bowmanville schools and make Clarke a junior or intermediate school. Same issues as question one with regards to safety off the highway. Can a road not be built behind the schools? • Their safety. Having worked at an Anti-Human Trafficking organization, right here in EAST Durham - I would strongly urge and support gathering feedback from the Durham Regional Police Human Trafficking Unit on ways to keep children safe. Specific plans on separating ages, enhanced yard duty, transportation of students, timing of the schools - having community police officers potentially available for this particular area. How will bussing work? • Grade 5 students are on the bus with Grade 12s? OR are they separate buses, this too could pose a HUGE risk and concern. • How do students benefit from starting at Clarke HS in Grade 7? I do not see any benefits. • Students need stability, structure and consistency in their childhood to support healthy development. They need this from their school community. Transitioning kids to new schools, multiple times throughout their school years is hugely problematic. Transitions are stressful for children. Also, separating siblings in their younger school age years to go to a new school is not a benefit for kids, parents or for building a positive school community. • The impact on families' daily routines is also very significant. Having 2 different school time drop off and pick-ups is unfair to parents and families with multiple children. This creates unnecessary added stress to children and parents. • Children need access to age-appropriate learning materials in the library and classrooms. Also, in all the proposed plans Clarke HS remains underutilized. There is a clear need for space for elementary-aged students - not high school - why not build an elementary school? • Moving the Grade 7's and 8's to Clarke is fine as long as they are kept separate from the high school kids except in the off chance of cross education or even allowing the high schools kids to earn volunteer time while helping work with the younger grades (I.e. Grade 7 and 8) whether it be tutoring, helping coach a sports team or even being a temporary assistant.

	• I think it's a good idea. • They are very young to be exposed to high school life • Ensuring a separate environment for the grade 7/8 to prevent an intimidating environment. How will you ensure a safe environment? • Separation from older students - separate washroom facilities • The issue of low enrolment at Clarke high school is largely because of lack of courses and programming. Moving and shuffling students from different age groups inappropriately to make up for the school's shortcomings shouldn't be the right solution to this problem. • Ensure there is no mixing of high school and elementary students during school hours. Have a separate wing, entrance, bathrooms, etc. for elementary students. Age-appropriate intramural activities. Safe and separate recess and lunch times away from high school students. • Access to facilities, separation from older high school students (gym, lunchroom, outdoor spaces) -exposure of middle school students to risky behaviors in high school students (smoking, drug use, language, interpersonal relationships, sexuality etc.) • Access to developmentally appropriate curriculum materials (library, classroom equipment, gym equipment). • These kids are moving into a place with much more peer pressure than they are used to at a younger age. They will have a higher level of pressure on learning in an environment with many new challenges. Trying to keep up with the older kids, please them and avoid harassment and bullying. There is also the added pressure of drugs, sex and alcohol in the high school environment. • The negative effects of moving younger kids into a high school environment are alot. The increase in drugs, alcohol, crime, hate crime and suicide if this happens will be detrimental to the town. • Keeping them safe from older students at Clarke. • This is not a good idea.
When moving the Grade 8s to Clarke HS, we want you to consider...	• This changes the dynamic of both high school and elementary. • Safety in proximity to the highway and gas station. Young students will be exposed to mature things that wouldn't happen in an elementary school. • Extra curriculars, social events. Keeping them separate from the high school. The importance of age-appropriate activities, while preparing them. Making sure they have optimal programming for French. • Make Clarke Grade 7-12. • The optimal use of space. The Clarke building has the space to accommodate many more students, alleviating the overcrowding at both NPS and The Pines. • Preteens will be influenced by older kids and not in a good way. • There is a clear need for space in schools for elementary-aged students - not high school - why not build an elementary school? • Their safety. Having worked at an Anti-Human Trafficking organization, right here in EAST Durham - I would strongly urge and support gathering feedback from the Durham Regional Police Human Trafficking Unit on ways to keep children safe. Specific plans on separating ages, enhanced yard duty, transportation of students, timing of the schools - having community police officers potentially available for this particular area.

	• This is their last chance to be "kids." Integrating Grade 7 and 8 with high school kids robs them of the opportunity to be role models for younger grades and has them looking to "older kid" trends socially and physically far too soon. This was done to the Grade 6 kids this year and is so unfair. Let kids be kids! They don't need to worry about high school pressures in Grade 7 and 8. • Moving the Grade 7's and 8's to Clarke is fine as long as they are kept separate from the high school kids except in the off chance of cross education or even allowing the high schools kids to earn volunteer time while helping work with the younger grades (i.e. grade 7 and 8) whether it be tutoring, helping coach a sports team, etc. • Will they lose extra curriculars? Leadership programs? Will they be on the bus with high school students? • Getting a new high school built. Clarke is a sad option for secondary students in Newcastle with less than 200 students. • The issue of low enrolment at Clarke high school is largely because of lack of courses and programming. Moving and shuffling students from different age groups inappropriately to make up for the school's shortcomings shouldn't be the right solution to this problem. • Ensure there is no mixing of high school and elementary students during school hours. Have a separate wing, entrance, bathrooms, etc. for elementary students. • Age-appropriate intramural activities. Safe and separate recess and lunch times away from high school students. • Access to facilities, separation from older high school students (gym, lunchroom, outdoor spaces) exposure of middle school students to risky behaviors in high school students (smoking, drug use, language, interpersonal relationships, sexuality etc.). • Access to developmentally appropriate curriculum materials (library, classroom equipment, gym equipment). • This again is a younger age group being put into a high school crowd with many pressures they have not been prepared for. No last minute teaching will prepare them to move into a pressure-filled environment. They will end up with many mental health problems, stresses and challenges they are not prepared for. • Keeping them safe from older students at Clarke. • This is not a good idea. • Taking a "phased" approach is going to result in many parents requesting changes to their child's classroom if they are told that their child will be in one of the classes moving into the Clarke building. This seems like a massive headache from a planning perspective, with parents requesting/insisting on their child being switched to a class that will remain in The Pines building. • If all Grade 8 classes were moved at once, there would be no other option and less management of which students get to stay and which must move. Moving all the Grade 8s at once also means that kids will not have to worry that their friend groups will be split amongst 2 schools, and therefore can continue to see their friends at break times, even if they are not in the same class.
Other feedback we want you to consider...	• Please remain status quo. • I really think the lack of programming and extracurriculars and the exposure of the youngest grades is particularly alarming. • The fact that these schools are on a highway is frightening. There is only one way to access the school and as we witnessed last year when there was an accident our kids were stuck at the school for hours. • The board should consider making The Pines solely French Immersion. This would relieve pressure from NPS. • I don't think Grade 4's should be considered to move. That is far too young to subject them to a change in school and routine.

	• Make Newcastle PS an English only school for K-6. Make The Pines a French Immersion only school for K-6. • Confused as I thought they were moving Grade 4 and 5 to The Pines, and Newcastle PS would be K - 3? • Another option. NPS JK-3. The Pines/Clarke 4-8. Build an adequate high school in Newcastle to stop students from having to go to Bowmanville to receive a level of education that allows for progression and exploration into a wider variety of subjects/material/support. Could gradually phase out high school at Clarke if required. This should cause space to open up at NPS, then any extra rooms can transition into the YMCA daycare as they have wait lists that is years long. Newcastle is a young community at the moment and overcrowding at the schools also means there is probably a lack of daycare space in the town. Have the YMCA offer before and after care at The Pines. • Is there any plan to build a road to The Pines/Clarke site that is not off of the 115? That would allow fencing off the highway and should alleviate a lot of concerns parents have. • Has either minister been invited out to a meeting with the community? Please advise publicly on details and responses. • Knowing the population growth that is set for this area, the denial of a new school, band-aid solutions (which are required to come up with, given that the Ministry is forcing the school boards hand to "figure it out"), how realistic is it to think that people will not just continue to opt to send their children out of boundary to other areas? I personally don't want my children attending a high school off the 115, but especially if the school lacks the same level and diversity of programs, etc., we would look to send them elsewhere. So, this plan to "fill The Pines and Clarke", is it really realistic and feasible? • What are the avenues parents can take to advocate along with the school board for an approval of a new elementary school in Newcastle? It blows our mind they have denied that request as recent as last year, given the numbers, the projection for growth. That is just extremely poor planning and a significant oversight on the Ministry's part. • When making a decision about my children's education and future, please remember they are not just numbers. They are Human Beings with not just academic needs - but emotional, social and mental health needs. They have been through enough transitions and learning disruptions because of the pandemic. Their mental health and social development has suffered. Please do not contribute further to social and mental health issues by having them change schools and be separated from their siblings. • What is happening with school boundaries? Are students going to continue to be allowed to transfer to Bowmanville schools to get the needed course options? If students are not allowed to cross boundaries, does this plan consider the greater number of high school students that may therefore be remaining at Clarke after Grade 8. ALSO, if not allowed to cross boundaries, what additional course options will be offered at Clarke High School? If students are not allowed to go outside of bounds for better course options, they should not be negatively impacted by having less options at Clarke. What is the education plan to ensure students at Clarke are getting the course options they need instead of having to go out of school bounds? • I am concerned about the JK - Grade 12 combined new school that has been proposed. I know many parents including myself are very upset with the possible mixture of the high school kids with the younger children on the bus. I really don't see how putting them under the same roof will ease the minds of the parents and children. As far as I am aware there aren't any schools like this in Ontario and to me it comes down to safety of the younger children as well as to what inappropriate behavior they could be exposed to. They may be off the 115 but at what cost to the kids' mental health. If there are two proposed sites, why not make one site a high school and the other a JK-Grade 8 school. This is the most common practice in the GTA and surrounding areas.

	• Mental health of these kids who will be going through multiple transitions. • When there is an emergency at the location (The Pines or Clarke) there is only one entrance and exit (how is that safe?) • Childcare with the split up of families. • I definitely don't think moving the Grade 4s over would be broadly approved. They are still so young. Grade 5 is much more realistic. • Reliable bussing is always a concern, as is the very different bell times between NPS and The Pines. All students sharing a bus is not a concern, my entire school life the bus was shared from Grade 1 to OAC, it wasn't a problem. Grade 7/8 in high school is also not new or a concern, that's already in place in BHS. • I work for Durham DSB. I feel like they are closing older schools and building new schools all the time. It is obvious the location of The Pines and Clarke HS are a safety concern. Why can't these be closed due to safety and build a new location? It will only take one kid trying to walk home and get hit. It will take one kid who may be unregulated that will run towards the highway. What will it take to show it's a safety concern, a student being harmed? • Please build a new elementary school in Newcastle. • Strongly feel that we need a new school for kids to stay close to their community where they can walk home safe. School on 115 HWY is a danger for kids (Grade 4-5) • Kids cannot walk to school and cannot rely on buses as well. School buses often cancel. Children and parents from many families will have a difficult time especially if they have kids in different schools. • French Immersion program should stay in Newcastle Public School until Grade 6 to build strong French study communities in the school. • Strongly disagree with the plan to separate Grade 4 and 5 from NPS to The Pine Senior PS. As this age group, they are growing and learning to be big kids, but they will never experience being senior kids at NPS. No sport team under NPS name for them. • Senior students can help out with many school activities for younger students. This way they can learn to be volunteers, be good role models and be leaders and proud to be senior kids. • The most important thing is to be aware of children’s feelings when they have to move to an environment that is inappropriate for their age. It can bring stressful, nervous, unsafe feelings etc. This negative feeling will bring unhealthy education. We should do surveys and hear feedback from our children as well. Children voice is very important. • I am so disappointed that another solution cannot be found. Our rapidly growing population demands a proper school. Other towns with similar populations have 2 or more public elementary schools. I hope that this changes in the very near future. • Newcastle is a growing community and has many newcomers. They need another school to accommodate the growing community. Having young kids go to a school on a highway with lots of traffic is not a good choice. Kids get away from the school and try to walk on the road. It is very dangerous, and many parents will not send their kids there if this goes through. Catholic schools are already overwhelmed and will be increasing when parents move their kids to the Catholic Board rather than sending them to school on the highway. • We need to keep students at Clarke. We need to keep this smaller high school open. We need to have programs available, staff available to keep students there. I do not want these schools to close. The fact they are on a highway does not concern me at all. We need these schools and they need to provide for our children. And we need to keep our kids safe, and smaller communities can do that. We also need to ensure there is

	adequate bussing. There is barely enough bussing as it is, we don't need routes dropped and parents unable to get their kids to school, because there is no walking there for anyone but maybe one family. • Build a new school in Newcastle. • Moving Grades 7-8 has been successful at Courtice HS and CCSS. Children are resilient and usually adjust quickly. Instead of dragging it out with a phased in approach, just move all Grade 7-8 into the Clarke building at one time. This keeps all friend groups and same grades together for breaks. Getting more kids invested in the Clarke community at an earlier age may also help keep kids from leaving when they hit Grade 9, improving Clarke enrollment numbers and then, potentially, course options. • STOP allowing out of area kids from enrolling at Bowmanville HS. This previous decision by the KPR school board was a mistake. I understand why it was done at the time (to stop so many kids from switching to the Catholic board to attend St. Stephen's) but that one decision has compounded over the years on any current Clarke HS kids. The result has been lower enrollment at Clarke every year and fewer course options. Clarke students shouldn't have to continue to pay the price for a poor decision made at the board level years ago. At the very least STOP providing bussing from Newcastle to BHS. If a parent decides to enroll their child in an out of area school, it should not be on the taxpayers' dime to ensure that child has a way to get to and from said school.