

parc

From: Kathy Squire
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2017 7:46 PM
To: parc
Subject: PARC

I would recommend combining Mill Street Public School and Mt. Carmel-Blytheswood Public School populations in a construction addition at the Mill Street Public School site. Further, I would recommend combining M.D. Bennie Public School and Gore Hill Public School student populations in a new construction building on the M.D. Bennie Public School site. These two (2) recommendations would support future planning and accommodations as the community's demographics change.

The students will continue their grade school education with their peers and teachers whom have supported and cared for them.

Kathy Squire

Dear Trustees,

Sixteen years ago when my husband and I purchased a lot for the future home we would build on to start a family, it was purposely chosen to be in the country. We knew then that we wanted our kids to go to a school that was small enough that there would be a strong sense of community, but large enough to have many enriched activities. Gore Hill provides this for our family. We chose to be away from town because we wanted our kids' first set of peers to be kids that were also largely from the country.

It is obvious that there are too many vacancies in all of our Leamington schools, but the value of a country school should not be underestimated. Families want a school that reflects their beliefs and their life styles. Town families want schools located in town; country families want a school located in the country.

The large property at Gore Hill provides vast opportunity for enjoying and benefiting from the great outdoors. The direction of country growth for Leamington is in the Gore Hill neighbourhood. GECDsB will be losing a substantial asset if it chooses to close the Gore Hill doors and sell the property. The building's fate would undoubtedly land into private schooling and there will be an even greater loss of enrollment, therefore dollars to the board.

I know this is a very difficult decision – no one wants to shut down any school and when it hits home, no one wants their own school closed. I urge each of you to think of the numerous positive points Gore Hill offers its students and their families and vote to keep Gore Hill open. Gore Hill has a strong presence throughout the area and is regarded for the great things that occur there on a daily basis. Please vote for this rich tradition to continue for Gore Hill.

Thank you for taking the time to read my thoughts and proving that you value all opinions.

Kind Regards,

Jodi Fischer