

Parent School Support Committee
March 27, 2013

Dear Stakeholder/Community Member:

I am writing to request your participation in a Consultation Process that is crucial to the education community in Miramichi West. Due to the aging infrastructure and declining student enrollment, the 21st century learning needs of our children are not being met.

The Parent School Support Committees of the 5 Anglophone North Schools in Miramichi West propose that Harkins Elementary and Harkins Middle Schools should be closed and a new school built. An Infrastructure Review under Policy 409 is necessary to accomplish this. The schools impacted by this process would be Croft Elementary, Harkins Elementary, Harkins Middle School and Gretna Green Elementary. Policy 409 requires a detailed process which involves a review of the current school infrastructure and ideas for future developments within the area.

The process begins with a Public Consultation Process that brings ideas and concerns from you, the present and future users of the schools. This information is then discussed and refined until a clear plan for the future of your schools is developed. It is then approved by you, the public, presented to the District Education Council and onto the Minister of Education with a call to action.

Please do not underestimate the importance of your input in creating this document. This process was attempted last year but due to poor meeting attendance, we have been asked to resubmit our infrastructure proposal.

The plan can only be a success if it has the support of the people who ultimately will be the end users of schools we are attempting to create.

Outlined below are the proposed times and locations of the meetings that are to take place in creating this document. Please reserve time on your schedule to attend as many as possible.

PUBLIC/COMMUNITY MEETINGS

(To include all parents, students, all interested community and business members)

1. Tuesday, April 9, 2013, 7:00 p.m. - MVHS Theatre
2. Tuesday, May 7, 2013, 7:00 p.m. - MVHS Lecture Theatre
3. Tuesday, May 28, 2013, 7:00 p.m. - MVHS Theatre

SUBMISSION DATE to Department of Education: 31 May 2013

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

John Schenkels, Chair
Harkins Middle School