



**Sustainability Study Report and Recommendation
Policy 409
Janeville Elementary School
November 16, 2015**

**Sustainability Study Final Report and Recommendation
Janeville Elementary School**

The sustainability study done by the DEC looked at 2 options as recommended by District Office staff:

maintain status quo

or

close the school and relocate students to Terry Fox Elementary School in Bathurst

Criteria	Points to Consider
1. Low Declining Enrolments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrolment at the school, although below the 100 student trigger, has remained stable for the last few years and projections show that stability will continue. • Parents, originally from the Janeville area, continue to move back to Janeville because of the positive school experience for their children. • There are no kindergarten registrations for Janeville this year thus far. One parent has asked for an out-of-zone transfer as she did not want her child to be the only kindergarten student in the class.
2. Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school is in excellent condition requiring minimum repairs, is completely accessible and is located on a quiet secondary road. • The fire department is close by and there is an RCMP liaison officer assigned to the school. • Moving students to a city school would mean that emergency contacts would be between 20 and 45 minutes away.
3. Education Programs and Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student teacher ratio for Janeville is 11.7:1 which is in line with other smaller schools.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessment results show the ups and downs demonstrated by other small schools. However, Janeville results are usually at or above district and provincial averages for the most part.• Students transitioning to middle school from Janeville School are considered to be excellent students who are well prepared by the teachers who receive them.• Parental support is high at Janeville School and TTFM surveys show very high level of parental satisfaction.• Students lack nothing in terms of technological equipment and the school has purchased 13 I-Pads through fundraising activities by Home and School and through community donations.• Collaboration of teachers is very high and the pedagogical culture of Janeville would be what you would want for all schools. Multi-aged classes are seen as a benefit to students by teachers and parents.• Bucking the trend of rural schools which have many young teachers who stay until they can get jobs at larger schools, Janeville's teaching staff all have 14+ years of seniority. A maximum of 1.5 positions would be saved by having the school close and relocating the students to Terry Fox.• Janeville receives the services of an occupational therapist, math leads, literacy leads, Autism specialist, behavior interventionist and social worker.• The school has a high number of extracurricular activities and programs as compared to the city school where they would relocate (18 to 6). |
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Janeville has a reputation of “grooming” future leaders including the current Superintendent, Deputy Minister, President of the Canadian Teachers Federation to name a few.
<p>4. Transportation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The longest bus ride for students would be 1.5 hours one way in good conditions and most students would see their ride increase to at least one hour one way per day, meaning that students would spend a lot more time being sedentary. This would be a difficult adjustment for students who are used to being outdoors trapping, riding, farming etc. on a daily basis. • Road conditions deteriorate very quickly in the area. The Cape Road closes 4-6 times annually due to blowing and drifting snow and there is a decreased ability to keep roads open and clear on many days. This trend has increased over the last few years. There were 11 storm days in the Bathurst area and 3 more in the Janeville area totaling 14 days of school missed by Janeville students because of inclement weather. As well, some buses do not travel on days when the adjacent French district is closed due to treacherous road conditions, meaning that some students would miss even more time.
<p>5. Operating Costs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is one less full-time teaching position at the school this year which is a savings. The cost per students decreased from \$12,297.00 to \$10,076.00 this year with the associated savings in one teacher’s salary. This puts it closer to the cost per students of other smaller schools. • The school has few minor repairs needed and is accessible.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school gymnasium provides revenue to the district through rentals as it is the only infrastructure in the community that can accommodate community events. It is also the designated meeting place for the community in the event of a disaster.
<p>6. Impact on the Community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Policy 409, 6.4.2 #6, consideration of whether the school is the sole school in the community, especially at the elementary level, should be a major factor. Janeville is the only English schools located on the predominantly French Acadian Peninsula. It is the only school for English speaking students in the area. Access to education in their language of choice is a fundamental right of the citizens of New Brunswick. • Janeville Manor, a senior citizens complex is located directly across the street from the school and a partnership between the students and the seniors who live there is very important. • Community members attend events at the school, even those who have no direct connection to the school. The school is considered the hub of the community. • The Home and School is very active and provide financial support to the school in many ways including purchasing books, technological equipment, math manipulatives and contribute to cross curricular and extra-curricular activities that all children participate in.
<p>7. Impact on Other Schools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The biggest impact on other schools is the need to spend extra resources to support a smaller school. Results from Janeville Elementary School,

	<p>however, show that this expenditure has some excellent results.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terry Fox Elementary currently has room for the students from Janeville Elementary. • Moving the students to Terry Fox will result in the need to move at least 2 of the 3.5 teachers to the school to cover the students who would be relocated. • Anecdotal evidence from teachers at Superior Middle School and Bathurst High School show that Janeville students are : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More academically successful than those from larger schools. 2. More likely to graduate from high school. 3. More likely to take advanced level courses 4. More likely to participate in extra-curricular activities 5. Less likely to behave aggressively.
<p>8. Economic Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are currently 28 independent businesses located in the Janeville area and many community members are fishermen and farmers. About \$2.67 million dollars is generated in the area from the lobster industry alone. • Three prospective companies are building in the area including Oxford Blueberries, a Peat Moss Plant in Grande Anse and a fish processing plant. As well, Trevali Mines is increasing production. Lobster fishing licenses are held in large part by fishermen aged 65 and older, and as these are required to stay in the area, there is the prospect of young families taking over these licenses. All of these initiatives could mean more children to attend Janeville area.

District Education Council Recommendation: Janeville Elementary School be exempted from further studies for the next four years.