



KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

King George Public School to Ridpath Junior Public School site
2019-2020 School Year.

Q. Why is the board planning to move students to the Ridpath Junior PS site for the school year?

A. Above all other considerations, maintaining the safety of our students and staff is our number one concern.

The challenges associated with building on the King George site are significant. They include: steep grades, drainage and site preparation work, and heavy equipment traffic combined with bus and normal parent and city traffic. Together, these challenges will create an unacceptable safety risk for students, staff and the community during the construction period.

Our safety concerns include not just keeping students and staff safe on school grounds, but also travelling to and from school within a heavy construction area.

Q. Have other options for the students been considered?

A. Yes, we have extensively reviewed a number of options to accommodate the King George Public School community during the construction period. These options included:

- keeping some or all of the King George school community in the existing school building throughout the construction process
- housing the students in the former Monseigneur-Jamot school site on Romaine Street, in Peterborough
- combining the King George PS and Armour Heights PS communities within Armour Heights and Ridpath school sites

Ultimately, we believe the best course of action is to keep the King George PS community together for the year within the Ridpath Junior Public School building.

The Ridpath Junior Public school site is move-in ready, has a broad playground with plenty of green space for safe play and outdoor learning, and is located within a quiet neighbourhood. Until December 2017, it was occupied by students and it remains a fully functioning school building.

Q. The original plan was to accommodate the building of the new school while keeping students within the existing building. What has changed?

A. At the outset of this project we were hopeful and believed we would be able to construct the new school while King George PS students and staff remained in their existing home.

As we have continued to work with the City of Peterborough through the site plan approval process for this new school, it has become increasingly clear that to keep everyone on site during construction represents an unacceptable safety risk to our students and staff.

Our safety concerns are not just for everyone on-site during the school day, but also walking and driving to school each day within a construction zone.

Q. A large number of students currently walk to King George PS. How will they attend the Ridpath Junior PS school site?

A. We will transport all students to the Ridpath Junior PS site, and home again, on buses each day. We will be working throughout the spring with our transportation providers to finalize these arrangements.

Q. Parents depend on the before and after school care program at King George PS as part of their workday. What will happen to that program?

A. We are very much aware of the need for students and parents to have access to before and after school programming. We are reviewing how we can maintain provision of that service as close to King George PS as possible, specifically at Armour Heights PS.

Q. When will the new building be completed?

A. Housing the King George school community within the Ridpath Junior Public School building for the year is not just the safe and responsible choice – it will also support the building of the new East City school within our target date of September 2020.

Q. How can I learn more?

A. Again, we realize this is important news. We encourage parents to attend an Information Meeting on:

**December 3, 2018
King George PS
6:00 p.m.**

To help us respond to your initial questions at this meeting, parents may submit questions ahead of our meeting to: kpr_info@kprdsb.ca

Q. Who can I contact if I have further questions about this move?

A. Again, we welcome all members of the community to take part in this process. If you would like to learn more about these plans, please contact Jack Nigro, Superintendent of Education: Student Achievement, 705-742-9773 Toll free: 1-877-741-4577, Extension 2061 or Jane Nahrgang, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Education, Extension 2061