



KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Ganaraska Trail Public School Accommodation Planning

Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board uses projections and planning to manage growth and accommodation pressures and has identified that Ganaraska Trail PS will no longer be able to accommodate the expected enrolment in its current JK-6 configuration.

As a result of these enrollment pressures and insufficient space to accommodate portables, senior administration is proposing that effective September 2022, Ganaraska Trail PS will become a JK-5 dual track (English and French Immersion) school while Dr. M.S. Hawkins Senior PS will expand to become a dual track Grade 6-8 Intermediate School.

This proposal will be brought to Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board Trustees at the February 22, 2022 Regular Board meeting.

If approved, a transition committee involving students, families and staff will be established at Ganaraska Trail PS to support transition planning and a variety of transition activities as part of this change, including tours of the new school and meeting with teachers and staff.

Please find below some common questions that have been shared by school community parents, and our answers in response. We will continue to update this document as needed.

Question	Answer
Even though the students in Grade 7 and 8 are in a different area, I have heard that they do share spaces, library/gym/cafeteria/ etc.	There is limited interaction between intermediate and high school students as intermediate students follow a different class schedule.
Why only GTPS, all kids within the boundary should be going to Grade 6 together, for example, Beatrice Strong, and North Hope?	We looked at this as a possible scenario. Both Beatrice Strong and North Hope have stable enrolment levels and it is anticipated that these enrolment levels will continue to be stable over the next 5 to 10 years.
Why not have Beatrice Strong as an English stream, and GTPS as a French school? Or send all our Grade 6 students to Beatrice if they are under numbers?	We did review this scenario (Beatrice Strong JK-6 English, Ganaraska Single Track FI) and it was projected that Beatrice Strong would be over-capacity and Ganaraska would be underutilized.

	<table border="1" data-bbox="643 174 1398 436"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="643 174 1036 260">School</th> <th data-bbox="1036 174 1127 260">OTG</th> <th data-bbox="1127 174 1260 260">2022-23</th> <th data-bbox="1260 174 1398 260">2026-27</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="643 260 1036 346">Beatrice Strong (English)</td> <td data-bbox="1036 260 1127 346">349</td> <td data-bbox="1127 260 1260 346">488</td> <td data-bbox="1260 260 1398 346">548</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="643 346 1036 436">Ganaraska (Single Track FI)</td> <td data-bbox="1036 346 1127 436">504</td> <td data-bbox="1127 346 1260 436">279</td> <td data-bbox="1260 346 1398 436">296</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="643 495 1422 638">Beatrice Strong could accommodate the Grade 6 students from Ganaraska - however, the students would be bussed out of their community and would be required to transition to middle school (Hawkins) the following year anyway.</p>	School	OTG	2022-23	2026-27	Beatrice Strong (English)	349	488	548	Ganaraska (Single Track FI)	504	279	296
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<p data-bbox="203 688 610 863">Will the students at GTPS be offered the same opportunities for sports that they would have had to play or compete against other schools?</p>	<p data-bbox="643 688 1398 863">KPRDSB elementary schools offer junior and intermediate level sports. As with all K-8 schools, sports/teams will be dependent on student interest, gym space and the availability of staff to volunteer their time to organize/coach.</p>												
<p data-bbox="203 919 610 1024">I'm worried about my child riding the bus with high school students.</p>	<p data-bbox="643 919 1422 1171">Our transportation consortium transports over 20,000 students and 600 routes daily through highways and rural routes and has an exceptional safety record. As well, many of our routes include students from both the elementary and secondary stream. Transition plans would include an opportunity for students to experience the bus ride and participate in orientation as a new rider.</p>												
<p data-bbox="203 1281 610 1570">I am worried about my child being exposed to kids up to age 17/18. With a maturity gap between 6-9 this could have a negative influence on younger children (e.g., smoking on the sidewalk out front of the school).</p>	<p data-bbox="643 1281 1422 1381">We appreciate this concern and would just stress again that there is limited interaction between intermediate and high school students.</p>												
<p data-bbox="203 1617 610 1722">I am concerned about start and end times and schedule changes. What will they be?</p>	<p data-bbox="643 1617 1373 1722">Start and end times are still to be determined, taking into consideration transportation routes. STSCO will work to minimize gaps for the benefit of families.</p>												
<p data-bbox="203 1780 610 1955">Where will the Grade 6 outside space be located? I am concerned about where kids will play at recess at Hawkins?</p>	<p data-bbox="643 1780 1325 1885">Facility staff will meet with school administrators, the Ganaraska Trail PS transition committee, and parent council to discuss available options.</p>												

<p>Will teachers from GTPS be moving over with the students?</p>	<p>Our staffing process for all schools takes place in the spring, with final staffing decisions to be determined at that time.</p>															
<p>Will Grade 6/7 be split classes?</p>	<p>Yes, this is a possibility as it is with all grades. Student enrollment will determine class organizations.</p>															
<p>Will there be an opportunity for students and families to give input into a transition plan?</p>	<p>Yes. A transition committee involving students, families and staff will support transition planning and a variety of transition activities as part of this change, including tours of the new school and meetings with teachers and staff.</p>															
<p>I am concerned about my Grade 6 child attending school with Grade 7 and 8's.</p>	<p>The majority of the elementary schools in our board have Kindergarten to Grade 8 school structures, with students in Grade 6, 7, and 8 sharing hall space, common rooms (e.g., library) and yard space in a positive and collaborative manner.</p>															
<p>Was there consideration for making Beatrice Strong French Immersion? This might take the strain off Ganaraska Trails, and buy us time to get Port Hope High School up in numbers?</p>	<p>We did review this scenario (Beatrice Strong JK-6 Single Track FI, Ganaraska English Only) and it was projected that Beatrice Strong would remain under-utilized. Ganaraska may continue to see accommodation pressure even as an English only school.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="643 1083 1377 1459"> <thead> <tr> <th>School</th> <th>OTG</th> <th>2022-23</th> <th>2026-27</th> <th>2031-32</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Beatrice Strong (Single Track FI)</td> <td>349</td> <td>279</td> <td>296</td> <td>302</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ganaraska (English)</td> <td>504</td> <td>488</td> <td>548</td> <td>525</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	School	OTG	2022-23	2026-27	2031-32	Beatrice Strong (Single Track FI)	349	279	296	302	Ganaraska (English)	504	488	548	525
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