

Kaawaate ECPS Accommodation Planning – Engagement Results

Overview of ThoughtExchange Results

Between November 23 and December 12, the Board gathered input from families through an online ThoughtExchange. The following prompt was asked:

Please share your questions and feedback about the proposal to move Grade 7-8 Kaawaate ECPS French Immersion students to Adam Scott CVI, as a result of significant and immediate accommodation pressures.

241	141	3,469
Participants	Thoughts	Ratings

Summary of Top Thoughts:

The responses reveal a mix of opinions. Many respondents express concern about the overcrowding at Kaawaate East City Public School and suggest further consideration of reopening nearby schools such as King George PS and Armour Heights to accommodate the growing student population. Some respondents are open to the idea of moving intermediate students to Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute, provided there is adequate transportation and separation from high school students. However, others express dissatisfaction with the proposal, citing concerns about the impact on students' mental health, the number of transitions already experienced by this cohort, community cohesion, and the quality of education due to larger class sizes. Several respondents criticize poor planning and short-sightedness in not anticipating the population growth.

Specific Actions Identified and Questions Asked

- Re-open Armour Heights as a middle/intermediate school.
- Communicate a plan for the future of King George PS.
- Why move these students this when it isn't enough to fix the issue?
- How will you accommodate French Immersion students switching to English to stay at Kaawaate ECPS?
- Will these changes create the need for portables at Adam Scott?
- Requests to bus students to Adam Scott who are currently within walking distance of Kaawaate.

Overall, participants urged minimizing disruptions to students.

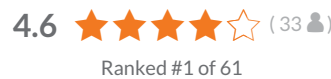
The top thoughts (rated 4.0 and higher) are included below.

KAAWAATE TOP THOUGHTS DEC12, 2023

Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board

Q1 Please share your questions and feedback about the proposal to move Grade 7-8 Kaawaate ECPS French Immersion students to Adam Scott CVI, as a result of significant and immediate accommodation pressures.

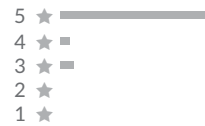
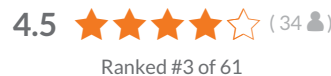
The Board is shortsighted when planning buildings Get it together and figure out how to plan properly for estimated numbers. This isn't a new idea. So sad that this is an afterthought.



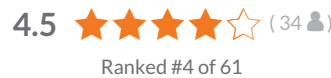
Open Armour or King George back up to accommodate the growth. The city of Peterborough is continuing to grow, the school needs to plan for it. It is important that our children are provided a learning environment where they can learn. Post pandemic. over crowded schools. brunt out teachers.




I would really like to see a concrete plan for how to make use of Armour Heights and/or King George going forward. Moving the kids to Adam Scott is short sighted. East City isn't getting any smaller.

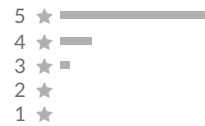


Stop making schools for current numbers and consider coming years. As a teacher I understand there is red tape- but this happens to every new school we build. I worked at LDPS in its 1st year- not OK





Why did we close 2 schools, who sit empty, and now we don't have enough room for current, let alone future enrollment? How is this just becoming an issue now? It is not a surprise that the city is growing. Again, poor planning which will only hurt the kids.

4.5  (34 
Ranked #5 of 61





It seems like these issues were clear to all parties ahead of time. It appears everyone has a reason why it's not their fault this is occurring. This doesn't seem like it will solve issues, and re-opening one of the local schools (recently closed) seems like a logical solution.

4.5  (29 
Ranked #6 of 61





I think KPR should re-acquire King George or Armour Heights and make it an intermediate school with both streams. This way our children will be able to continue school with the kids they've grown up with

4.4  (33 
Ranked #7 of 61





Why is shuffling kids around like data points to fit the Provinces targets the only solution? KPR needs to put students first not change boundaries

4.4  (33 
Ranked #8 of 61





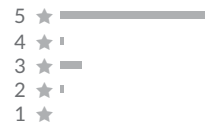
It is a short term solution to a long term problem. Planning for the future consists of investment and thoughtful choices. The current situation is an failure of both those things to save money.

4.4  (32 
Ranked #9 of 61





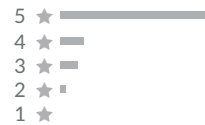
It was clear from the very beginning that Kaawaate will be too small for the needs of East City It's unfair to let students suffer because of bad planning

4.4  (32 
Ranked #10 of 61





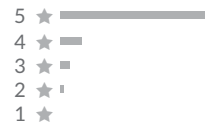
I'm concerned that the immediate implementation of this change will lead to students exiting the French stream in order to avoid yet another move. Kids in the 1st cohort of FI have already moved from Edmison Heights to King George to KG North (Lakefield) to Kaawaate and now Adam Scott since JK.

4.4  (32 
Ranked #11 of 61





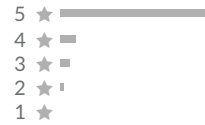
This is the symptom and consequence of a system that doesn't allow school boards to plan for *projected* student populations This problem is only going to repeat itself as we push for more and more housing

4.4  (32 
Ranked #12 of 61





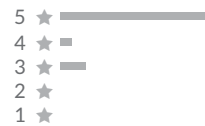
It's a bandaid solution for a much bigger problem. Kaawaate is a new school and the fact that it is overcapacity already shows poor planning.

4.4  (31 
Ranked #13 of 61





The kids who were displaced in order to build the new school should not be disrupted yet again, especially when there are two schools sitting empty. This proposed solution is going to discourage kids from continuing French Immersion and it's not even going to solve the overcrowding problem.

4.4  (28 
Ranked #14 of 61



I believe efforts should be made to reopen King George PS and Armour Heights PS These two buildings are still useable and East City is likely to continue to grow in the near future.

4.3  (34 
Ranked #15 of 61





Why wasn't this foreseen by the board when building the new school/closing surrounding school buildings? This seems like it was poor planning with expensive repercussions.

4.3  (34 
Ranked #16 of 61





A middle school at Armour Heights It would preserve the neighbourhood school community, support student wellbeing, and minimize transportation needs, improve walkability and connection

4.3  (33 
Ranked #17 of 61

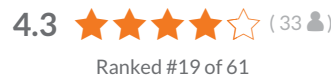


Invest in upgrades to both King George & Armour Heights elementary schools. Investing in both of those schools would keep the students local to their district. Also would keep students close to their friends.

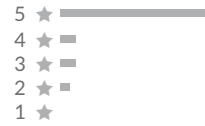
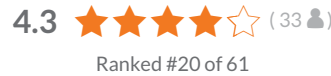
4.3  (33 
Ranked #18 of 61



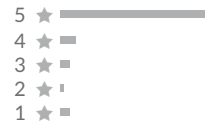
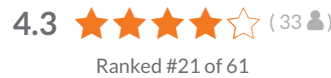
Larger class sizes is a terrible idea and not a solution. The kids will suffer and so will the teachers.



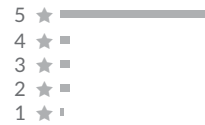
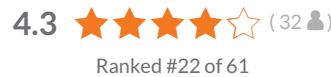
Shortsightedness. Why are our kids being moved around again? Its less than 20 kids. Figure out where to put them at Kawaate. It's poor planning by the Board to build a school that isn't big enough. It's also depressing that the Board never listens to the parent's ideas.



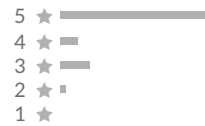
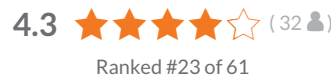
This cohort of students has already experienced additional transitions due to construction Transitions create a potential for disconnection from school and community



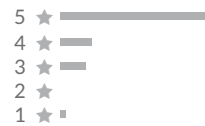
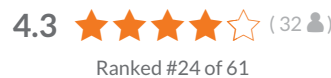
Focusing on reopening Armour Heights seems to be the solution to both the short term and long term issues. Reopening Armour Heights provides foresight to the population growth concerns in the East City community, and helps to keep this community intact.



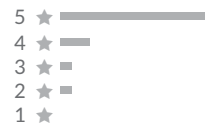
How will you respond if there is an influx of Students transferring from FI to the English stream in order to stay at KECPS?





Leave all students at KECPS Removing 17 students from the equation solves nothing, and creates barriers and obstacles for families.



This will not relieve the pressure of overcrowding enough. It is a drop in the bucket at the student's expense We need to focus more on new creative solutions instead of the easiest solution which does not have the students in mind





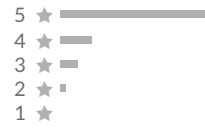
King G & Armour H are within walking distance to KEC. Put funding into revamping those schools to accommodate intermediate students Our first year French students with KG have already made so many transitions. We dont need to move them, again. Especially to a high-school in grade 7

4.3  (31 
Ranked #26 of 61





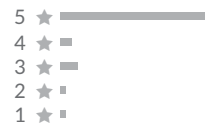
this will not move enough students to solve the problem many students will just switch to English to stay at KEC

4.3  (31 
Ranked #27 of 61





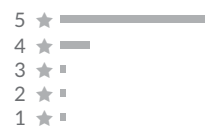
Having to be bussed to a school when there were very recently three school buildings within a 5 minute walk from us is frustrating.

4.3  (30 
Ranked #28 of 61





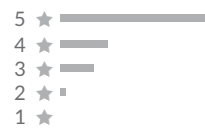
Reopening Armour Heights as either a 7/8 school or a full kindergarten school would be a great idea. Use current buildings, close by, in East City. Kindergarten would be a hard political move but the yard would be awesome for them.

4.3  (26 
Ranked #29 of 61





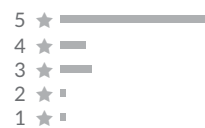
Could the board get the historic building designation revoked so that King George could be made accessible? I think creating accessible spaces should be a priority over legacy preservation.

4.2  (34 
Ranked #30 of 61




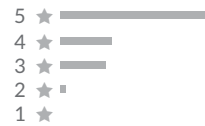
I am really disappointed. I would rather take my kids out of French in grade 7 than take them out of the community when the time comes. Adam Scott is really far away from where we live, away from the important relationships they'll build at school between now and grade 7.

4.2  (33 
Ranked #31 of 61




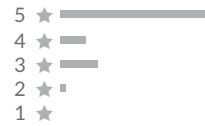
I don't want anyone misplaced from the school. But I also don't support class sizes getting bigger as was suggested last night. No student will benefit Students learning is already behind after covid interruptions. Larger class sizes should not even be an option. No one will benefit from that.

4.2  (33)
 Ranked #32 of 61




I understand how funding etc works for schools provincially so I get that planning and foresight are ignored... Investing in updating King George and making it useable fills the gap now and in the future

4.2  (33)
 Ranked #33 of 61




There is an empty school on the grounds... I understand accessibility challenges, however the culture and connection could be maintained between to buildings instead of shipping them off

4.2  (33)
 Ranked #34 of 61




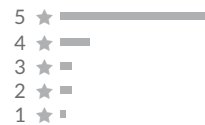
This proposal doesn't support community building and is an inconvenience for parents and is not a long term solution. To create a long term solution of a local school (armour hts) that accommodates the capacity needed in our community and promotes community building.

4.2  (33)
 Ranked #35 of 61




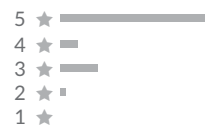
Why should kids who live in the immediate neighbourhood be sent further away because there is an increase in student registration from beyond Students should be able to go to the school they live adjacent to.

4.2  (33)
 Ranked #36 of 61





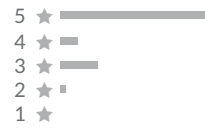
Armour Heights school is empty. King George school is being abused by renters. Please use existing assets in management of accommodations. It's unconscionable to send my kids elsewhere when we have room immediately available, and geographically appropriate.

4.2  (32)
 Ranked #37 of 61





I think there are better ways to address this change. Students have been uprooted for years with the introduction to the new building, while an empty building sits right next door in the old school.

4.2  (32 
Ranked #38 of 61





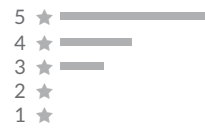
Keep students in East City - use Armour Heights! Could be a gr. 6-8 school, parking lot over kinder yard This is there community

4.2  (32 
Ranked #39 of 61





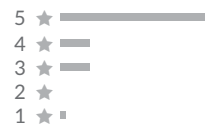
Fine but likely a band-aid on a fire hose. Repair and re-open Armour Heights PS since KECPS was not sized appropriately for the population. Because students will perform poorly without sufficient attention and resources. I want more for the next generation, overcrowding will give less.

4.2  (29 
Ranked #40 of 61





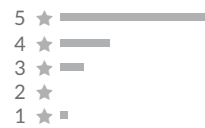
I am curious about how the old Armour Heights building was considered This location is close and would allow the student community to stay together

4.2  (28 
Ranked #41 of 61





If student population continues to increase, why not move all intermediates to the old Armour Heights location. These students will maintain relationships with their peers between FI and English classes, they will remain in the neighbourhood.

4.2  (27 
Ranked #42 of 61




Open King George up as an extension or very large portable. You don't need more admin staff as it's literally on the same property. Our kids can remain at the same school and be close to home . They can walk their younger siblings to and from school

4.1  (34 
Ranked #43 of 61





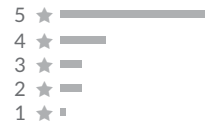
School community & mental heath are huge parts of KEC - displacing ONLY 7&8 French students will certainly make them feel out of place, again. Our 7&8's are our foundation to french. They've been with the school since day one. Why are we moving those students elsewhere?

4.1  (33 
Ranked #44 of 61





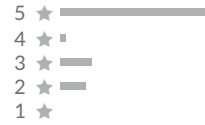
Frustration: this was so predictable even without the additional people moving to town because of covid. The school board didn't listen when parents wanted to stay in the King George building so I doubt they will listen now.

4.1  (32 
Ranked #45 of 61





It makes me want to take my kids out of French immersion This change is going to result in parents considering this as well which isn't a win for anyone.

4.1  (32 
Ranked #46 of 61





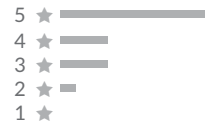
Keep both streams together. My kid is in English stream but has many friends/neighbors in french. I don't love anyone having to go to a different school, but I'd rather the whole grade stay together.

4.1  (32 
Ranked #47 of 61





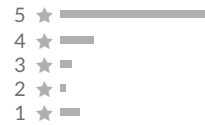
Plan properly to create a dual stream intermediate school Students will know they are equally valued, and will continue to navigate, learn and grow together.

4.1  (32 
Ranked #48 of 61





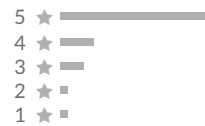
Transition to Armour Heights for all gr 6-8 (french and English) Keep students together and in community.

4.1  (32 
Ranked #49 of 61





Many of our FI kids have transitioned twice already, from King George to KG North for two years, back to Kaawaate, and now to Adam Scott for Grade 7. Our hope to keep our kids in our neighbourhood school with the experience of FI programming has actually meant a disjointed school experience overall

4.1  (26 
Ranked #50 of 61




Open up Armour Heights again as capacity is going to continue to grow in the area. This is not avoiding the problem of over capacity within 2 years French Immersion was one of the requirements to open Kaawatee

4.1  (20 
Ranked #51 of 61




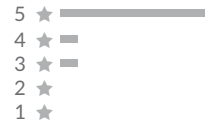
Adam Scott doesn't have space either. They will be adding portables to accommodate the increase in students. The kids affected have already started at King George, been bused to Ridpath for 2 yrs, learned through Covid, and are in portables this year.

4.1 ★★★★★ (19) 
Ranked #52 of 61




Adam Scott already has a very large population. Increasing student population at Adam Scott is not viable solution. Eventually that school will be full too.

4.1 ★★★★★ (10) 
Ranked #53 of 61




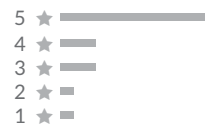
Does Adam Scott have the space to make sure kids are not in portables, don't push other kids into portables and are kept separate from upper year kids Cause if it results in portables anyways then keep them close to home. If they mix with highschool kids they'll grow up to fast, not for the better.

4.1 ★★★★★ (10) 
Ranked #54 of 61




There is an empty building near by - King George PS It should be reactivated and host students

4.0 ★★★★★ (34) 
Ranked #55 of 61



I am not happy about my daughter having to switch schools. We love Kaawaate, would like her to stay there. This is very poor planning by the board. We will seriously consider switching her to English so she can stay at Kaawaate

4.0 ★★★★★ (33) 
Ranked #56 of 61




KECPS is one of few dual track schools where students maintain peer connections across tracks Moving half of the community away in their intermediate years could trickle down to junior separations between tracks.

4.0 ★★★★★ (32) 
Ranked #57 of 61





My support staff colleagues are burnt out! Too many kids We can NoT adequately and safely support students in our care and we need CUPE staff in order to function. They are only human. Lower numbers.

4.0 ★★★★★ (31) 
Ranked #58 of 61





How many “out of bounds” students are currently enrolled at KECPS? Boundaries are in place for a reason. Let’s not accept any out of bounds new students going forward or we will continue to displace local children.

4.0  (29 
Ranked #59 of 61





Moving the intermediate French immersion students may very well be a PART of the necessary solution. However, it does not solve the problem at all. At most 18 kids transfer next year. And 30 the next. Almost 40 more students need a space at KECPS based on projected #s. More the next.

4.0  (19 
Ranked #60 of 61



Moving these kids to another school, is very negative. They have lived through isolation from a pandemic and also bused to another city. Kids need to feel secure and mentally sound to learn. Be comfortable to learn. Being with their peers is important.

4.0  (18 
Ranked #61 of 61

