

Elementary ACCOMMODATION Review Committee



ARC

→ STUDENTS, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

ELEMENTARY ACCOMMODATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

As you may have heard, Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board is initiating an Elementary Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) beginning in March 2011. An ARC is a community group that looks at the future of a school or group of schools and provides a recommendation to the school board in its decision-making. Schools will be looked at in groups in order to develop recommendations to trustees that make the best use of location, space and programming. Reviews are occurring in the Dalewood area and the King George area.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

The needs of our buildings and our neighbourhoods change over time. School boards are responsible for providing schools and facilities for their students and for operating and maintaining schools as effectively and efficiently as possible to support student achievement. Sometimes accommodation reviews do recommend a school closure.

HWDSB is committed to creating innovative learning environments that support student achievement. Accommodation reviews are necessary to address the facility and redevelopment requirements for those schools designated as prohibitive to repair. Reviews are important to make sure we are efficiently using available space to accommodate students as enrolment changes.

Community consultation is at the heart of the Accommodation Review process. Parents, teachers, principals and students all have a say in what the future of elementary education in Hamilton will look like. Students have a voice on the ARC committee and are included in the terms of reference for each ARC committee.

WHAT WOULD A STUDENT'S ROLE ON THE ARC INVOLVE?

Two student leaders are part of every ARC committee. The committees are broken down according to geographic area:

- Dalewood Review Area: G.R. Allan, Dalewood, Prince Phillip
- King George Review Area: King George, Memorial (City), Prince of Wales



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ALL STUDENTS ACHIEVING THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

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Students are voting members on each ARC and contribute to a report that makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees on the best use of space, location and programming for elementary schools in Hamilton. They are responsible for ensuring the voice of students is reflected in the overall report.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

HWDSB wants to find two student leaders for each ARC. It is important that our student voice is heard! If you are interested in participating, please submit an application by Friday, March 4, 2011. Find an application at <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/arcelementary>

WHO QUALIFIES?

Any student enrolled at an HWDSB school is eligible to sit on an ARC. Ideally, you should be in Grade 7 and able to attend eight (8) evening meetings between March and November 2011. You cannot sit on any ARC that includes your school. This is a great chance to get involved and help shape the future of elementary programming and accommodation in Hamilton.

