

Dear Parents:

As some of you may know, Parkside and Highland highschool are currently on review for closure.

The Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) was formed and given the task of assessing the best option for Parkside/Highland/Ancaster/Westdale. With funding issues, they need to get the schools as close to 100% utilization as possible. They are currently at the final stages and have only two (2) options on the table.

Option #1 - Close Parkside & Highland and build a 1250 student place school.
No boundary changes

2nd option is labelled Option #4 so you can go through the files of ARC and follow this option from its' inception.

Option #4 - Close Parkside & Highland and build a 1000 student school.
Right size Ancaster to 915 student school.
No boundary changes.

In mid January one of these options will be their recommendation to the Trustees, who are the final decision makers. As you can see the ARC will recommend no boundary changes, but ARC is not the only recommendation being put forth to the Trustees. A group of board staff will also put together their recommendation for the Trustees to review, which could have boundary changes. Once the trustees make their decision (within 60 days) on what they would like to recommend, it is then given to the Ministry for approval.

Some of the bigger concerns are boundary changes, the population within the new school and what will happen to the overflow of students during transition.

There are two main concerns with regards to boundary changes. First, the Board Staff has recommended boundary changes that could send our children to Ancaster, and that could be part of their final proposal to the Trustees. Secondly, if approval of either ARC recommendation is attained, our children would receive the benefits of a brand new high school, UNLESS overcapacity becomes an issue in the future and a boundary change remedy sends our children to Ancaster.

This is our opportunity to voice our concerns and opinions, that will or may effect our children. This is your opportunity to potentially have the school you want for your child(ren). Even if you child will not be heading to high school in the next few years (between 2014 – 2016), this is your opportunity to ensure your child gets to attend a highschool you helped become established.

November 30, 2011 @ 6pm, Spencer Valley - This is an open information night followed by the Rural School Meeting

December 13, 2011 @ 6-9pm, Highland Secondary School. This is an ARC meeting to tell of their progress as well as show the public their final option being submitted to the Trustees

We need to show the ARC and the trustees that our school community cares about our children's future education, please fill out the information below and return to the school by **Wednesday, November 23rd**.
Regardless if your child will be attending highschool in 2014-2016, more voices, better stand we have.

Name: _____
School: _____

Please check, What I would like to see:

- Option #1 - Close Parkside & Highland and build a 1250 student place school. *No boundary changes*
- Option #4 - Close Parkside & Highland and build a 1000 student school.
Right size Ancaster to 915 student school. *No boundary changes.*
- No boundary changes, especially once the transitions have happened (due to over capacity)
- Highschool with no more than 1250 students capacity

SIGNATURE _____ DATE: _____

Sincerely,
Beverly Central Parents