

# WANUP PUBLIC SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!

## HELP SAVE OUR SCHOOL!

- I have three slides of background information that needs to be presented before the options can make sense.
- I have four options that I would like to present.

- **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- Rainbow District School board 2005 Capital Plans.
- What are the other Sudbury school Boards doing?
- Wanup PS Enrolment projection numbers as given to ARC may not be accurate.

- **OPTIONS PRESENTED TO THE ARC**

- Option A) STATUS QUO
- Option B) CLOSE LONG LAKE AND MERGE STUDENTS TO WANUP PS
- Option C) INCREASE WANUP PS CATCHMENT BOUNDARIES
- Option D) MOVE THE FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM FROM RL BEATTIE TO WANUP PS

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# **RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD HAS HAD PLANS FOR THESE SCHOOLS FROM 2005! THESE WERE NOT DISCLOSED TO ARC OR THE PUBLIC!**

- **Report chronicles possible future school closures**

Posted By RACHEL PUNCH, THE SUDBURY STAR Posted 1 year ago

- A small group of parents spent about two and a half years trying to get Rainbow District School Board to release parts of its 2005 capital plan.
- An Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario adjudicator ordered the board to release the documents on Oct. 10.
- Board officials did not want to release the data because they felt it would cause “anxiety” in the community since it deals with the sensitive subject of closing and merging schools.
- The parents felt the public had a right to access the information.
- Wanup Public School — The current ministry rated capacity is 256 students. The five-year utilization rate is 60 per cent. We propose demolishing approximately 251 square metres of the building to achieve a utilization rate of 74 per cent.
- Long Lake Public School — The strategy will involve consolidating the Long Lake site with a new addition at the Algonquin site.
- Algonquin Road Public School — The strategy is to consolidate Long Lake Public School into a new school on the Algonquin site, creating a new 388-pupil place, state-of-the-art school and daycare facility in the south end of Sudbury.

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# OF THE OTHER SCHOOL BOARDS IN SUDBURY, WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

- **Board opts for status quo**

Posted By RACHEL PUNCH THE SUDBURY

STAR Posted MAY 26, 2010

- **Sudbury Catholic District School Board will not close or make any changes to its nine schools in the east area of the city because of an anticipated lack of provincial funding for a new building.**
- The board had placed the schools under review in February to address issues such as declining enrolment and aging facilities. A 43-member committee of parents, school and board staff and community members produced a thick report offering three options for the future of the schools.
- "When the process started for the (review) in the east, the economic climate in Canada and the world was totally different," said Trustee Jody Cameron, chair of the board, following the meeting. "We were under the assumption that there would be capital funding available for new facilities in the east area should we have a strong business case to do so," he said.
- "That had quickly turned around by the time the (review) ended and we feel that the opportunity for funding at this time isn't as strong," he said. **"We felt that the status quo sends the community a better message for the next five years than having these schools on the books as being closed while we continue to look at funding for the next five years."**
- "Discussion is never a waste of time," A parent from St. Bernadette, Mike McKeever said.

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## ENROLEMENT PROJECTION NUMBERS GIVEN TO ARC FOR WANUP PS MAY NOT BE ACCURATE!

- Currently **50** students from the WANUP PS catchment area go to other South end schools due to special needs.
- 4 students go to Macleod for special learning needs.
- 12 students go to RL Beattie for French Immersion.
- 34 students go to Algonquin for the Afterschool Daycare program.
  - (These numbers came from the exact same source as the enrolment numbers given to ARC, so they are considered to be as reliable as the numbers that ARC are currently working with.)
- Come September 2010, Wanup PS will have an Afterschool Daycare program in partnership with the YMCA! Any student whose special needs can be met by their home catchment boundary must attend their home school.
- **That means that come September, WANUP PS could have a 53% Utilization rate when those 34 students come back to Wanup PS and the final registrations become available for JK-SK!**
- 18 Babies have been born this year so far where the Parents reside in the Wanup PS Catchment zone. This represents 18 potential new students at Wanup within five years that has not been accounted for in the current Enrolment Projection numbers.
- [www.SAVEWANUP.com](http://www.SAVEWANUP.com) is currently engaged in a KIDS COUNT 2010! program to obtain an accurate count of potential new enrolments within our catchment boundary. We had an issue with the Rainbow District School Board breaching our supporters privacy and some parents are now reluctant to sign up. We are working hard to restore their trust in the Rainbow District School Board.

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# OPTION A STATUS QUO

- If another Sudbury School Board came out of its 2010 review with the Trustees voting to keep things STATUS QUO, certainly we could too.
- Given today's economic uncertainty, can we really commit to closing any school, before we are assured that funding will be provided by the Ministry for a new school?
- Given the School Boards 2005 capital plans, WANUP PS was to stay open.
- 175+ Distinct Online Petition signatures.  
283+ Offline Petition signatures.

These 458 People who have signed the petitions or sent open letters to the trustees have indicated their recognition of the Value that WANUP PS brings to the WANUP Community. Wanup, Ontario is a unique community and these people recognize that the closure of the School would rip the heart out of our Community. That's why it's called WANUP PS!

- The Wanup PS School Council is currently seeking Partnerships to share the surplus space at WANUP PS. This could be a daycare facilitator or a health clinic.
- A newly projected Wanup PS utilization rate of 53% for September 2010.

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## OPTION B

### CLOSE LONG LAKE AND UPDATE ALGONQUIN PS

- *With Apologies to the LONG LAKE PS and their supporters.*
- Given the School Boards 2005 capital plans LONG LAKE PS was to close and merge students with Algonquin with a new addition at the Algonquin site.
- Why not (again with apologies) close LONG LAKE PS and merge students with Algonquin with a new addition at the Algonquin site.
- Resolves Algonquin PS Overutilization once new facility is built.
- Financially, Wanup PS requires very little in the way of Capital repairs or additions or upgrades to accommodate an influx of students either from a larger catchment zone or during construction at Algonquin.
- With the new full day JK-SK Program – Long Lake PS could be utilized as a daycare centre for Sudbury South.
- LONG LAKE students opting to enroll at Wanup PS versus Algonquin PS would continue to benefit from a rural School Environment.

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## OPTION C

### INCREASE WANUP PS CATCHMENT BOUNDARIES

- Can we take a close look at the Boundary between WANUP PS and ALGONQUIN PS & LONG LAKE PS?
- By moving the catchment zone to include MacFarlane Lake, bussing costs and student travel time are still less than most students currently attending WANUP PS.
- During the previous review in 2004 , Monetville PS numbers were not looking good. Wanup PS agreed to readjust it's boundaries by sliding Alban and Noelville to Monetville to help.
- Perhaps we could revisit that adjustment and reclaim Alban? Noelville?
- In any event we could certainly take a look at the boundaries between Wanup PS and Monetville PS.

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# OPTION D

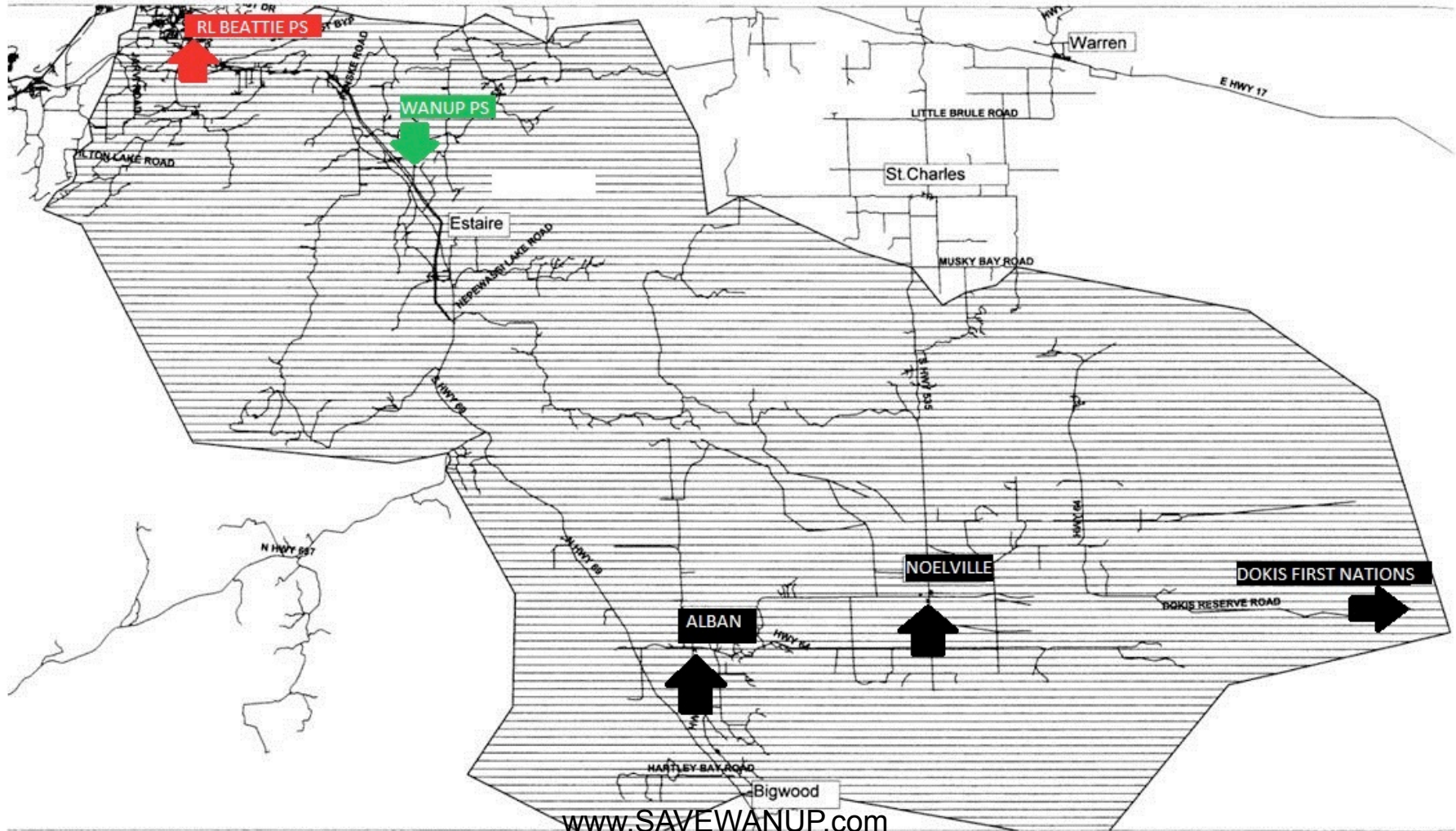
## MOVE THE FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM FROM RL BEATTIE TO WANUP PS

- This choice may be seen as unpopular, as one ARC member mentioned to the rest of ARC “It would be political suicide.”, however it makes sense!
- Given the School Boards 2005 capital plans;
  - R.L. Beattie Public School — The strategy is to create an addition that will accommodate the predicted growth in this area by creating a JK to 8, state-of-the-art, French Immersion school in the south end of Sudbury.
- Why not move this program to Wanup PS?
  - If not Immersion, we could implement DUAL TRACK –*English and French immersion*, and it has been successfully implemented in other schools.
  - Still well within the South end of Sudbury.
  - Wanup PS requires very little in the way of Capital repairs or additions or upgrades to accommodate an influx of students, and is main floor fully handicap accessible.
  - By moving this program to a more central geographical location that it serves, it would ease transportation times of Students coming in from remote areas, including Dokis First Nation(2.5hr bus ride each way currently), Monetville, Noelville, Alban, French River, Killarny, Estaire, and Wanup.
  - Reduces transportation costs as less transfers are required, therefore less buses on the roads, less carbon emissions, etc.
  - A Rural Environment would be better suited for students vs. an industrial complex with heavy machinery and diesel fumes as trucks idle all day.
  - It would ease the congestion at the corner of Hwy 69S and Loach’s road. Currently traffic congestion is bad twice a day as heavy machinery, school buses, residential, and commercial vehicles all vie for access in this area.

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## MOVE THE FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM FROM RL BEATTIE TO WANUP PS

As we can see via this RL Beattie Boundary map, it sits at the very top left corner furthest possible from it's catchment zone. Why couldn't we move this program to a more central location I.e. WANUP PS?



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## **HELP SAVE OUR SCHOOL!**

All of these options presented here are realistic and viable. They just require discussion and forethought about the ramifications of closing the Largest and Youngest Public School under review that has no major capital requirements and represents the heart of a Rural Community and can provide Quality Education as much as any Urban school, which is what this review is about.

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