



LIMESTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston, ON, K7M 0G2

T: 613-544-6920 | Toll Free: 1-800-267-0935 | TTY: 613-548-0279 | F: 613-544-6804
www.limestone.on.ca | Twitter @LimestoneDSB

June 6, 2017

Dear Yarker & Odessa Communities:

I am writing to share the outcome of the recent Pupil Accommodation Review regarding Yarker Family School and Odessa Public School.

At a Special Meeting of the Limestone District School Board of Trustees last evening, Trustees voted to close Yarker Family School in September 2018 and relocate its students to Odessa Public School. Furthermore, the Board voted to declare Yarker school surplus to the Board in the fall of 2018.

The vote follows a Pupil Accommodation Review process that began in October 2016 and included consultation with the Pupil Accommodation Review Committee, the public and the broader school community over the past eight months. The intent of the review is to ensure appropriate program opportunities for students while balancing the ongoing challenges of declining enrolment and changes to funding that no longer support under-enrolled rural schools.

It is important that the movement of students and staff into their new school is achieved in a way that is both positive and supportive of both school communities. An integration committee will work over the next school year to support the transition of students and staff.

I know that this news may be upsetting to some families. It is never easy to explore a consolidation or closure of a school. The Board recognizes that our schools play meaningful and important roles in our communities and the conversation around any changes to our schools is difficult.

If you have any questions, please direct them to your Principal.

Sincerely,

Debra Rantz
Director of Education