

DEMANDING TRANSPARENCY OCDSB ELEMENTARY PROGRAM REVIEW

The Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) is proposing the largest restructuring of elementary education in generations, yet key financial and logistical details remain unknown. This flawed plan will have long-term consequences for thousands of students, families, and educators.



WHAT'S WRONG?

- ✘ **Cuts to Specialized Program Classes** – No details provided on how students with special needs will be supported in regular classrooms.
- ✘ **Eliminating Alternative Education** – Cherry picked data used to justify cuts. Cancelling an inclusive and essential program option that outperforms Core French in EQAO test scores.
- ✘ **Grade Level Divisions that Hurt Students and Communities** – Division of schools into K-3 and 4-8 causes increased transitions at pivotal developmental periods, splits siblings, and creates logistical problems for families.
- ✘ **Minimal Impact on Overcrowding** – Over-capacity schools only reduced from 33 to 25; under-capacity schools from 24 to 19.
- ✘ **Rushed Consultation Process** – Only two months from boundary release to vote, with just two days of in-person community meetings.
- ✘ **No Cost Analysis** – No clear transportation savings, or plan to reinvest in classrooms. Changes to grade-level divisions leave purpose-built facilities in some schools unused while creating the need for costly retrofitting in others.
- ✘ **Unrealistic Timelines for Implementation** – 18 months is simply not enough time to properly consult, develop, and implement a proposal of this scale and will lead to missed details and unintended consequences.

HOW TO FIX IT:

- ✔ **Delay the Vote & Conduct a Proper Analysis** – Allow time for real consultation and full analysis, including impact and risk assessments on student mental health and educational outcomes.
- ✔ **A Balanced Approach for Boundary Changes** – When developing grade-level boundary configurations, take into account community demand, align area school boards & accepted best practices, and keep siblings together.
- ✔ **Show the Math** – Provide a fully costed plan for implementation, including any savings and reinvestment.
- ✔ **Preserve Alternative Programs** – Investigate ways to preserve alternative programs and maintain options for families, and develop modifications in consultations with families.

OCDSB **must** prioritize transparency, proper planning, and real inclusion.

Our children's education is too important to "figure out the details later."

Expecting trustees to approve such a massive board wide transformation affecting thousands of children, families, and educators –without a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis is completely irresponsible. We must demand answers before it's too late. The community deserves transparency, accountability, and a clear plan, not rushed policies with unknown consequences directly impacting our youngest and most vulnerable. Contact your trustee today and let them know something this important cannot be rushed.



SPEAK UP NOW. CONTACT YOUR TRUSTEE

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