

Burton School Sustainability Study

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Welcome to the Burton School Sustainability Comment Site

On February 22, 2011, the School District 17 Education Council voted in favour of engaging a sustainability study of Burton Elementary School, under the process of Provincial Policy 409 – Multi-year Infrastructure Planning. This policy serves as a foundation for determining the sustainability of a school.

Consequently, this comment area has been provided to allow parents and stakeholders adequate opportunity to contribute to this important discussion. Please do not hesitate to leave your constructive, respectful feedback below.

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This entry was posted on Thursday, May 12th, 2011 at 1:37 pm and is filed under [Uncategorized](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#) feed. You can [leave a response](#), or [trackback](#) from your own site.

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21 Responses to *Welcome to the Burton School Sustainability Comment Site*

1. *David Mc Timoney* says:

[May 17, 2011 at 2:47 pm](#)

Welcome to our Blog on the sustainability of Burton Elementary. Please feel free to post your comments here.

[Reply](#)

2. *T omD11* says:

[May 18, 2011 at 7:41 pm](#)

Good meeting last night. It's a challenge and I believe there are options but folks need to participate to make a difference (i.e. More suggestions, less rhetoric).

[Reply](#)

3. *Rob Strickland* says:

[May 19, 2011 at 7:47 pm](#)

I agree it was a good meeting. We (the Burton community) have a lot of work ahead of us. This school means so much to the community and all the kids that go there. I even hear stories from

older people about their time at Burton and all is good. It is a great start for the kids and the high provincial scores prove this. A great school with a great staff. Losing our school means bussing our kids into Oromocto into larger class sizes

Reply

4. *Elizabeth Miller* says:

June 2, 2011 at 12:41 pm

I was able to attend the first meeting and it is my understanding that the members of the DEC will receive the feedback from this site. I therefore feel it is important to provide some information on how important Burton School has been to our family. Prior to attending Burton School, our daughter attended a larger, more modern school in Alberta. While attending this Alberta school, our precious child had severe anxiety issues and would often vomit before entering the classroom. At the end of the last school year, our family was posted. I feared our daughter's anxiety would only be compounded by a move to a new province and a new school. Then, we found Burton Elementary.

With its small size and caring staff, my daughter wakes up each morning asking when she can leave for school (yes, even on the weekends!). On just the second day of school, I was able to watch in amazement as the principal, Mrs. Watson, cheerfully greeted each student by name as they got off the bus. It was clear to me at this moment that my child was being given a special opportunity – the opportunity to begin her education in a small, nurturing environment. And what a better gift to give a child than the gift of a love for education. This is the gift that Burton School has been to our family.

Reply

5. *John Clarke* says:

July 17, 2011 at 6:25 pm

I am a new resident of Burton and would like to participate in any community meetings regarding the Burton school. I am a former DEC member and familiar with the policy and procedures. Looking forward to supporting my new community and its school.

Reply

o *Rob Strickland* says:

July 25, 2011 at 11:49 am

John can you get ahold of me at rvs709@live.ca . We have a upcoming meeting.

Reply

o *Rob Strickland* says:

October 27, 2011 at 3:40 pm

John I lost your email. email me at rvs709@live.ca or call 208-0765. Have a question for you. Thanks rob..

Reply

6. *Rob Strickland* says:

July 21, 2011 at 2:31 pm

Follow

John go the gas bar in burton..

Reply

7. *David McTimoney* says:
September 1, 2011 at 8:29 pm

I will send a letter to the parents of Burton Elementary children in the first week of school with a reminder of Public Meeting #2 to be held in mid-October. This will be a meeting where individuals or groups may present publicly regarding their thoughts on the sustainability of Burton Elementary. Details will be provided in the letter, which will be posted to our website.

Reply

8. *Rob Strickland* says:
September 13, 2011 at 8:07 am

The letter went out in the school but will it be going to all the homes in Burton. You want us to register in advance to present at this meeting but are only letting the parents in the school know.

Reply

- o *Wendy* says:
September 13, 2011 at 9:13 am

Posters advertising this meeting will be placed in public places in the Oromocto area. We have a notice on the bulletin board at District Office. Posters will be put (or may already be) at the store in Burton and at the school. There will be ads going into the Gleaner and the Oromocto Post. The letter is currently posted on the District 17 website. We are doing our best to make this meeting well advertised in the area. We would also hope that anyone hearing of this meeting would let others know.

Reply

- *Rob Strickland* says:
September 13, 2011 at 11:15 am

Thank you.

9. *David Mc Timoney, Superintendent* says:
September 13, 2011 at 11:35 am

Thanks, Wendy (Tech Staff at SD17), for sharing that information. You have described it accurately. There may also be some media coverage leading up to the night.

Reply

10. *David McTimoney, Superintendent* says:
September 28, 2011 at 9:20 am

There has been an adjustment in the estimate for the replacement of the sewage treatment system at Burton Elementary. The new estimate is \$100 000 and is based on a consultant's report. The previous estimate was \$159 000 and was based on data from the Department of Supply and Services. The decision to make this change was based on a recent meeting between our facilities staff, facilities staff from Education and staff from Supply and Services.

Follow

This morning, the facilities manager and I reviewed the other capital priority projects on the list that are associated with Burton Elementary. I have also asked our manager to request a meeting with facilities staff from Education and staff from Supply and Services to review the estimates associated with Burton to ensure they are as accurate as possible, with the process provided.

Reply

11. *David McTimoney, Superintendent* says:
October 12, 2011 at 8:08 am

As a follow-up to the note mentioned above, the staff from the Department of Supply and Services (DSS) visited Burton Elementary School last week to review the facility priorities that have been placed on the Capital Improvements List. Yesterday, DSS provided the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and School District 17 with its findings. A revision has been made to the estimate regarding the electrical system upgrade...this estimate now stands at \$50 000 as opposed to \$70 000 (smaller service entrance was taken into account). A comment has also been made about the interior accessibility lift, which remains as a \$220 000 estimate. It has been suggested that if a new exterior enclosure and site work is needed, the estimate could be impacted dramatically.

To review the Burton Elementary estimates that are currently on our Capital Improvements List, here is the district priority number, risk priority and estimate for each project:

New Sewage Treatment System – 1, 1, \$100 000
Electrical System Upgrade – 44, 2, \$50 000
Replacement of Siding – 49, 2, \$40 000
New Ventilation System – 63, 2, \$167 000
Elevator and Access to Building – 64, 2, \$220 000
Upgrade Old Ceilings and Lighting – 71, 3, \$36 000
Curbing and Driveway Refinishing – 85, 3, \$55 000

Estimates are made by School District 17 facilities staff based on information provided by DSS. DSS provides their numbers based on historical data and recent projects from around the province. They review their figures annually and revise them to reflect the most current information available. There are many variables that can influence project costs and account for an estimate being an inaccurate projection. Construction unknowns, market conditions, material pricing, and time of year can all factor into the final cost of a job.

Other factors that are being considered as the DEC conducts this sustainability study include enrollment, health and safety, quality of education, transportation, finances, impact on the local community, impact on other schools and economic development.

David

Reply

12. *TomSD11* says:
October 13, 2011 at 8:13 am

Good morning Burton;

I just want to say that I was impressed with your presentation and it's giving me lots to think

Follow

about.

Tom

Reply

- o *Rob Strickland* says:
October 13, 2011 at 11:00 am

Thanks Tom. That's why we came together and did what we did. More information was required and hopefully we brought all those points forward. Rob Strickland

Reply

13. *Cathy* says:
October 20, 2011 at 3:29 pm

Just letting everyone know the document "Burton at-a-glance" has been revised. The 2011-2012 enrolment is based on actual September 30th figures rather than projected. As well, the School Physical Plant Status page has been updated.

Reply

14. *David McTimoney, Superintendent* says:
October 21, 2011 at 9:50 am

I have been thinking about a question asked at the Burton Public Meeting with respect to Meeting #3 scheduled for November 22. Someone asked about the meeting serving as another "consultation meeting".

Section 6.5.4 from Policy 409 describes the three public meetings, and the third meeting is "a final meeting to provide the public with the results of the consultation, including an account of the factors considered, as per section 6.4, and resulting recommendation being submitted to the Minister". My worry is that people may have interpreted Meeting #3 as an additional forum for any stakeholder to publicly share views on the sustainability of the school in a formal or informal presentation manner. This isn't the case. With Public Meeting #2 behind us, the format for further input into the study at this time continues to be electronically on the website, by email, and in writing. All of these submissions are considered when the DEC deliberates.

The question stuck with me that night and I wanted to make sure that there was no confusion.

David

Reply

15. *Rob Strickland* says:
October 26, 2011 at 10:06 am

I just wanted to make people aware of the surveys that were presented at last night's meeting. There were 224 out of 986 homes with more coming in daily. A petition started earlier in the week of 525 names was also put forward. These numbers are both climbing as more names are added daily.

Reply

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16. *Mary Mesheau* says:
[November 1, 2011 at 1:42 pm](#)

As chair of the Burton and Area Citizens Association I am requesting on behalf of the association that the DEC suspend the sustainability study on the school until the provincial government has finished with its plan for restructuring districts and finding system wide solutions to cost cutting. It is possible that dollars will be saved from their process that could be used to better sustain Burton School once these are in place. Without knowing the full impact on the district of these changes we believe going ahead with a recommendation to the Minister of Education at this time would be premature.

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