

October 2015-10-05
361 Highway 102
Burton NB
E2V 3C9

To Anglophone West District Education Council

The Burton Greater Geary Local Service District Advisory Council is in full support of the Burton School. It has consistently served the primary children of the community of Burton resulting in some of the highest provincial test results in the school district for many years.

The children are happy and well served, as their families are, by having their youngest school age children close to home from grades K-2. As a council we see the value of having a school in the community that serves K-5 and know that the population is there to have a larger school.

The schools in the town of Oromocto where the grades 3-5 children are bussed are aging infrastructure as well and will need upgrading in the near future. Few students in these town schools live near the school as most are bussed in from the civilian and rural areas in and around the town of Oromocto. As such the council sees the importance of maintaining and growing a school in the community of Burton where young families are choosing to live in large part because there is a school for their young children to go to.

The community of Burton supports many businesses and services in Oromocto but should the school close we will see more families choosing to live elsewhere when they are posted to Base Gagetown to avoid long bus rides for their children. The distance in time from Burton to Oromocto may be ten to fifteen minutes if driving a car but the bus takes 45 minutes to complete a run to pick up and deliver children from Burton to Oromocto schools.

The economic spin off for the region in having a school in this community far outweighs the dollar savings by closing the school.

Sincerely,

Mary Mesheau (secretary on behalf)

Burton Greater Geary Local Service District Advisory Council