

To Whom it may concern.

My family and I moved from Saint John to Coles Island 3 years ago. Therefore fulfilling our dream of giving our children the simple wholesome childhood that comes from being raised in the Country.

Coles Island School has played a major part in the realization of that dream. Being able to get there in just a few minutes. And the small class sizes is not just a convenience but a necessity to our family.

Because my husband works out west in Calgary, along with the fact that I don't drive makes it difficult for me to get around. I rely on my wonderful neighbors if the kids need to be picked up, concerts, student teacher ect... If my children are transferred it will be next to impossible for me to be able to pick up my children if they're sick or to make any school functions.

Another reason I mentioned was the small class sizes. Two of my children have ADD. Because of the one on one attention they receive at Coles Island I have been able to keep them from having to go on medication. A luxury I will no longer have in the larger schools.

I also have a major concern regarding safety. My youngest child (4 1/2 years old) who will be starting school in the fall has ADHD. He has a hard enough time sitting still in a car with seat belts for short drives. And if he is made to change schools, he could be made to sit an hour and a half each way. That scares me.

Finally, having to be a single parent most of the year it's hard enough finding enough hours in the day for homework, baths, reading ect for 4 children. If they transfer I will have less than 3 hours with them before bed.

I know the school is small but to our family it is a huge necessity.

Sr.

Melissa Robertson