

### STUDY OF ONTARIO SCHOOLS THREATENED WITH CLOSURE

Public District School Board	Board Office	Region	# of Schools	LTA P Y/N	Comments
Algoma	Sault Ste. Marie	Algoma	2	N	
Avon Maitland	Seaforth	Huron, Perth		N	
Bluewater	Chesley	Bruce, Grey	17	Y	Watson Report
DSB Niagara	St. Catharines	Niagara	35	y	
DSB Ontario North East	Timmins	Cochrane, Timiskaming	1	y	Scrapped LTAP due to frustrations with MOE
Durham	Whitby	Durham	6	Y	
Grand Erie	Brantford	Brant, Haldimand, Norfolk		N	BOARD SUGGESTED A FOI REQUEST FOR LTAP (5 Schools underutilized)
Greater Essex County	Windsor	Essex	31	y	LTAP 2016-2020: (22) ES; (9) SS
Halton	Burlington	Halton	13	Y	LTAP 2015-2020 (10) ES; (3) SS
Hamilton-Wentworth	Hamilton	Hamilton	12	Y	4 new builds approved
Hastings & Prince Edward	Belleville	Hastings, Prince Edward	18	Y	(8) new school builds/\$90 million
Kawartha Pine Ridge	Peterborough	Northumberland, Peterborough, Durham ( <i>Municipality of Clarington</i> )	12	Y	(4) existing vacant schools
Keewatin-Patricia	Kenora	Kenora		N	
Lakehead	Thunder Bay	Thunder Bay	4	N	
Lambton Kent	Sarnia	Chatham-Kent, Lambton	25	Y	17 ES; 8 SS Capital Plan 2015-18
Limestone	Kingston	Frontenac, Lennox/Addington	16	Y	
Near North	North Bay	Nipissing, Parry Sound, Muskoka (Northern section)	26	y	4 will close 2020/21
Ottawa-Carleton	Ottawa	Ottawa	9	N	

Peel	Mississauga	Peel	12	Y	60% Benchmark; 2015-2025 (33) new school builds, (10) additions
Rainbow	Sudbury	Manitoulin, Sudbury	33	Y	LT Capital Data 2016-2020
Rainy River	Fort Frances	Rainy River	1	N	1 replaced with K-12 model
Renfrew County	Pembroke	Renfrew, Nipissing (Southern section)		N	
Simcoe County	Midhurst	Simcoe	4	Y	Capital Plan 2015-2025
Superior-Greenstone	Marathon	Thunder Bay (Eastern)	1	N	
Thames Valley	London	Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford	21	N	Sparta PS 79% utilization - moving students out to move FI in
Toronto	Toronto	Toronto	96	Y	
Trillium Lakelands	Lindsay	Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Muskoka	28	Y	23 ES; 5 SS
Upper Canada	Brockville	Lanark, Leeds/Grenville, Prescott/Russell, Stormont/Dundas/Glengarry	29	Y	
Upper Grand	Guelph	Dufferin, Wellington		N	
Waterloo Region	Kitchener	Waterloo		N	
York Region	Aurora	York	11	Y	Capital Strategy 2015-2019
<b>12 (38%) Boards with no public online access to LTAPS</b>		<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS</b>	<b>463</b>		

Catholic District School Boards	Board Office	Region	# of schools	LTAP Y/N	Comments
Algonquin and Lakeshore	Napanee	Frontenac, Hastings, Lennox/Addington		N	No finalized PARG
Brant Haldimand Norfolk	Brantford	Brant, Haldimand, Norfolk	1	N	Watson Report LTAP not publicly posted
Bruce-Grey	Hanover	Bruce, Grey		N	
Catholic DSB Eastern Ontario	Kemptville	Lanark, Leeds/Grenville, Prescott/Russell, Stormont/Dundas/Glengarry		N	
Dufferin-Peel	Mississauga	Peel, Dufferin	7	Y	12 new builds
Durham	Oshawa	Durham	2	N	2 PARS in progress
Halton	Burlington	Halton	6	Y	6 current PARS; LT Capital Plan 2013-2028
Hamilton-Wentworth	Hamilton	Hamilton	3	Y	
Huron Perth	Dublin	Huron, Perth		N	
Huron-Superior	Sault Ste. Marie	Algoma		N	No PARG
Kenora	Kenora	Kenora		N	
London	London	Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford	13	Y	Only 3 identified for PAR Enrollment & Accommodation Report 2015-2020
Niagara	Welland	Niagara	16	Y	New School Opening 2017
Nipissing-Parry Sound	North Bay	Nipissing, Parry Sound		N	
Northeastern	Timmins	Cochrane, Timiskaming		N	
Northwest	Fort Frances	Rainy River, Kenora (Western)		N	
Ottawa	Ottawa	Ottawa		N	
Peterborough Victoria Northumberland & Clarington	Peterborough	Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland, Peterborough, Durham (Clarington)		N	

Renfrew County	Pembroke	Renfrew		N	
Simcoe Muskoka	Barrie	Muskoka, Simcoe	11	Y	
St. Clair	Wallaceburg	Chatham-Kent, Lambton	11	Y	
Sudbury	Sudbury	Sudbury	7	Y	
Superior North	Terrace Bay	Thunder Bay (Northern & Eastern)		N	No PARG Update
Thunder Bay	Thunder Bay	Thunder Bay		N	No PARG Update
Toronto	Toronto	Toronto	25	Y	25-ES; Secondary schools requesting additions 2014-2029
Waterloo	Kitchener	Waterloo	3	Y	
Wellington	Guelph	Wellington		N	
Windsor-Essex	Windsor	Essex		N	
York	Aurora	York	43	Y	Our Lady Peace 97% utilization voted to close
18 boards (62%) with no public online access to LTAPS		<b>TOTAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS</b>	<b>148</b>		

French School Boards	LTAP Y/N
CSD du Nord-Est de l'Ontario	N
CSD du Grand Nord de l'Ontario	N
CS Viamonde	N
CÉP de l'Est de l'Ontario	N
CSD catholique des Grandes Rivières	N
CSD catholique Franco-Nord	N
CSD catholique du Nouvel-Ontario	N
CSD catholique des Aurores boréales	N
CS catholique Providence	N
CSD catholique Centre-Sud	N
CSD catholique de l'Est ontarien	N
CSD catholique du Centre-Est de l'Ontario	N

**THE NUMBER OF ONTARIO SCHOOLS THREATENED WITH CLOSURE IS AT LEAST 611 \***

*\* Information was gathered from the enrollment projections of 72 Ontario school boards using the Ministry of Education's 65% utilization benchmark; the accuracy of these findings is dependent on the reliability and availability of the information in these government documents.*

Prepared for the Ontario Alliance Against School Closures by: Susan MacKenzie, Judy Keeling, Nicole Scime & Norma Duquette

March 20, 2017

## SUMMARY

### LTAP - LONG TERM ACCOMMODATION PLAN

- 611 schools were identified as meeting the Ministry's threshold of 65% or less utilization based on available information
- 42 school boards (58%) did not provide public online access to their LTAP

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## WHAT WE FOUND

### INCONSISTENCIES

The OAASC found that:

- 58% of Ontario's school boards did not have their Long-Term Accommodation Plans available on-line to the public.
- Many school boards are not developing facility partnerships based on current PARS
- Many school boards were not respecting the distance criteria that would identify the need for a school to remain open based on current PARS as it relates to the Ministry's [Community Planning & Partnership Guideline](#)
- Many board websites are difficult to navigate
- Over-lapping and confusing terminology – low enrollment; declining enrollment; low utilization; under-utilized

### TRANSPARENCY & PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

- When calls were made to school boards requesting information on how to find their Long-Term Accommodation Plan, we were told to submit a Freedom of Information request. We stopped calling and instead noted the boards that did not provide online access to this information.

### TRENDS IDENTIFIED

- Boards are moving to single track French Immersion program schools and closing schools with over 75% utilization. Examples:
  - The Thames Valley DSB is recommending the displacement of Sparta PS (**at 79% capacity**) students to relocate them to an elementary school in another community so the school facility can become a single-track French Immersion program

- Kensington (Toronto) was recently involved in a review and that an influx of students is expected as a nearby school switches to [French Immersion only](#).
- A parent from Vaughn; “Our school, Our Lady of Peace Catholic School, had their fate decided on February 28th. The vote was 5-3, with 1 trustee abstaining from the vote and another recusing herself because of a conflict of interest. **They decided to close our school - which is a dual track school at 97% utilization.** They are splitting us up - English track to one school / French track to another. What they did to our community and what a couple of trustees said that night was absolutely disgusting. This needs to stop - for ALL schools. They are hurting our children and tearing apart communities.”
- Too many school closure recommendations are dependent on boards receiving capital to build new schools and additions, instead of consolidating and maintaining existing facilities
- Single school communities are being targeted for closure in rural and Northern Ontario
- Movement of our most vulnerable students:
  - Fragile neighbourhood schools and downtown schools are being targeted for closure in urban centers
  - [Majority of elementary schools targeted for closure due to falling enrolment are in city’s poorer neighbourhoods](#)
  - What’s happening in Toronto;
    - “The renovations at Danforth and Monarch Park are considered one project, says Bird. They’re happening because of the board’s decision to close Greenwood Secondary School, **an English-as-a-second-language** school that’s specifically designed for new immigrants, with a [small alternative school](#) also housed in the building.”
    - “Greenwood students weren’t pleased about this decision, as the *Toronto Star* reported earlier this year.”
    - “Danforth & Monarch - is not even half full, at 41 per cent capacity.”
    - “Greenwood Secondary - **ideal 80 per cent capacity – CLOSED**”
  - What’s happening in the Ottawa Carleton DSB;
    - Century Public School Language Learning Disabilities (LLD) class will be relocated
    - D. Aubrey Moodie Intermediate School Developmental Disabilities (DD) and General Learning Program (GLP) classes will be relocated
    - Leslie Park Public School Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) classes will be relocated
    - J.H. Putman Public School Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) class and Behaviour Intervention Program (BIP) class be relocated