

Traffic, Transportation & Safety

The Facts – Bussing

Chippewa Intermediate and Secondary School

- 890 students enrolled 2016-2017, 299 are within walking distance (this doesn't mean they walk)
- 523 students bussed (not sure how the other 68 kids get to school)⁴

New Single School at Chippewa site

- Consider students from West Ferris SS, Widdifield SS and Fricker PS attending single school at Chippewa site; still only 299 within walking distance, the remaining **1357** would be bussed/eligible for bussing or would ride or drive to school.
- In a perfect world, 48 kids fit on a school bus – $1357/48 = 29$ more busses.
- Reality, (at the elementary level) **26% of parents/caregivers drive their bus eligible kids**⁵
- ~352 students riding or driving to school; assume 2 kids per car – **176 more cars** at peak traffic times to get kids to and from school
- Suspect **significantly longer bussing times for many more students**, especially for those students who aren't accustomed to long rides resulting in driving or being driven to school = **more traffic at peak times**

QUESTION #2: What is your plan to manage school-related transportation, traffic and safety for the proposed single English Public High School? Is it possible to do so at the Chippewa site?

Proposed Alternative

The following is a proposed alternative to the preferred option presented in the Initial Staff Report.

A single new JK- Grade 6 school and **two (2) Grade 7 – 12 schools**, (one new build, one existing), which would **share** the **2247** intermediate and secondary **students**.

Benefits of two secondary schools:

- Allows parents and students an **English public choice** within their community since **57%** of all secondary school **students are enrolled in the Near North District School Board** schools, while the **other 43%** of secondary students are **spread between the three other school boards** (NPSCDSB – St. Joseph Scollard Hall; CSCFN – Ecole secondaire catholique Algonquin; CSPNE – Odyssee)
- **West Ferris** Secondary School will **remain open**, a critical resource for families in the Ferris area of North Bay
 - The recent **significant investment** in an **elevator** which **meets accessibility needs** of students and staff

It is our hope that the committee and Trustees will consider the issues raised this evening. Further, we look forward to the members giving serious attention to the alternative suggested above.

Thank you.

⁴ School Information Profile: Chippewa Secondary School. 16pp.

⁵ Alliance Safe School Travel Planning Committee report to City of North Bay Planning Services, Feb 2015, despite the fact that 95% are 'bus eligible', 26% of parents/guardians drive kids to school.