

June 12th ARC meeting presentation

Heather Garbutt

I am presenting tonight as the mother of two students in the French Immersion program at Sunset Park Public School.

I am supportive of a 2-school secondary option for North Bay as the best option from the perspective of our youth and our city. I am vehemently opposed to a one-school and cannot even use the "super" moniker since it will be anything but.

While I feel the issue of programming is secondary to the issue of the number of schools, it has been erroneously brought forth as being central to the issue. I am supportive of 2 schools regardless of where French Immersion secondary programming is housed. French Immersion is a self-sustaining program and students will attend regardless of what building you put it in.

I implore us to think about the actual issue of this ARC - 1 secondary school vs 2 - and allow the distribution of programming to be addressed by education experts who are trained and experienced at curriculum and education planning.