



Consolidated Recommendation Analysis
Prince Edward County Area ARC – March 29, 2017

Preliminary Recommendation:

- Consolidate students from Pinecrest Memorial Elementary School and Queen Elizabeth School at PECI for September 2017
- Consolidate students from Sophiasburgh Central School to PECI for September 2018
- Consolidate C.M.L. Snider School and Kente Public School and seek Ministry of Education funding for new school build in Wellington for September 2020
- Explore opportunities for community partnerships aligned with 2015-2020 Strategic Plan

Submitted by:

Senior Administration

Scenario Description:

- programming opportunities
- closure of Pinecrest Memorial Elementary and Queen Elizabeth School and consolidate with PECI (Sept 2017)
- internal renovations as necessary to PECI, external upgrades to playground and parking as may be required
- closure of Sophiasburgh Central School and consolidate with PECI (Sept 2018)
- consolidate C.M.L. Snider School and Kente Public School with the submission of a business case for Ministry of Education Funding for a new school build in Wellington

Rationale:

- maximizes program opportunities for students
- improves the learning environment for all students
- current enrolment at the six schools combined is approximately 1,633
- total capacity at the six schools is 3,398 resulting in a utilization rate of 48%
- enrolment is generally not expected to increase over time
- space is available at PECI to accommodate students from Pinecrest, Queen Elizabeth and Sophiasburgh
- maximizes space and reduces facility renewal costs
- Ministry has indicated that funding for schools with unused student spaces will be reduced

			Pre-scenario Enrolment			Post Scenario Enrolment			
School	Gr.	Capacity	2016/17*	2020/21	2024/25	Gr.	2020/21	2024/25	2028/29
C.M.L Snider School	JK-8	403	233	247	240				
Kente Public School	JK-8	334	216	204	196				
New build to consolidate C.M.L & Kente						JK-8	451	436	493
PECI	9-12	1,239	529	523	489	JK-12	1,118	1,069	1,058
Pinecrest Memorial Elementary School	JK-8	613	279	262	241				
Queen Elizabeth School	JK-8	498	238	227	237				
Sophiasburgh Central School	JK-6	311	138	106	102				
Total		3,398	1,633	1,569	1,505		1,569	1,505	1,551

- * Enrolment data as of October 31, 2016, remainder of projected data is drawn from Watson & Associates Economists Ltd November 2015 Long Term Capital Study Report and Recommendations

Information for consideration could include: academic programs, learning environment, instructional aspects, extracurricular activities, financial, operations, transportation, social aspects, community, etc.

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- Academic programming would be strengthened
- Financial savings - being fiscally responsible & dollars focussed on learning
- K-12 models in Ontario as models
- Mentorship opportunities for high school students with elementary students
- Older students on the bus would be a benefit (role models/bus monitors/volunteer hours?)
- Transition period to high school is smoother
- The more staff you have (the bigger school), the more extra-curricular/clubs etc. offered
- Pre-Venture program in K-12 school
- More funding for athletics/academics
- Ownership “my school”
- Leadership opportunity for staff and students
- More sharing of responsibilities (teachers, coaching, support staff, etc.)
- Opportunities for increased programming for students
- Opportunity for teachers to have teaching partner to co-plan and teach with; more networking
- Better utilization of public tax dollars

- Sophiasburgh Central School joining a year after may leave staff and students feeling left out
- Start times inconsistent; standardize all elementary start times and stagger time with high school
- Pinecrest E.S. boundary needs to be adjusted; west of school go to C.M.L. Snider School
- Potential loss of jobs for staff
- If new C.M.L. Snider School is built, potential loss of heritage site
- Kente Public School has existing property. 7.8 acres vs 1.2 acres at C.M.L. Snider School
- Large green space would be lost to lose Kente PS
- Bus times. (8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.)
- Kente Public School and Massassaga-Rednersville Public School students losing ability to choose high school in Belleville or Trenton, where more programs are available, plus the length of travel time
- Extra-curricular activities (football, rugby, hockey) will be affected because parents cannot get to school for pick-up
- School council meeting, extra events, parent- teacher nights, will all be difficult for parents who work in Belleville or Trenton
- No collaboration with the municipality and the possible impact it will have on local economy
- Budget seems unrealistic
- Capacity at 95.5% operation, too high? What is cap?
- Concern of bussing drop off pick-up locations
- Shared space? Music/Science labs
- Some high school students don’t want to have small kids
- Segregation (not a hard line)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average bus times are not significantly changed • Combined resources would allow for better instructional opportunities (ie: musical instruments, science resources etc.) • Busing – not a huge increase in ride time. Many declines in ride time. Bus routes already exist • Some programs may have a benefit e.g. peer tutoring, peer coaching, French immersion. • Increase community coherence by bringing more of the community together • Early start – less need for before school care • Less split classes • Opportunity for community partnerships • Less combined grades with school amalgamation in both K-12 and Wellington build • Wellington has a lot of community involvement; gas, water, sewer, bank, post office, service clubs • Wellington is a growing community • Larger building, larger staff, more supervision, increase in support staff • More options in specialized support i.e. CYC's • Brand new facility proposed in Wellington 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only 5 access points on/off PEC • No plans for accessibilities • Size of proposed play yard is very small for approx. 600 students. • Construction could be on-going while students are in the building; potentially disruptive to the learning environment • Current proposal has 2 large elementary schools and 2 very small elementary schools. Does this provide equitable programming for all of our County children? • A full school will not be a good option for students. Programs will be affected; no capacity to adapt • Hub Daycare partnership will no longer be accommodated • Not enough time for a proper transition. (Culture/social perspectives/renovations) • No sidewalks around PECEI; dangerous for young ones • Kente Public School parents will send their kids to Belleville or Trenton before sending them to C.M.L. Snider School; potential loss of over 200 students • Bus times for Sophiasburgh Central School students are increasing to 63 mins, starting at 6:52 a.m. in the dark for morning and 69 mins in the evening, each day for 4 year old children • Slow death of the defining & unique characteristics that make up Prince Edward County • Remember the driving economic force of Prince Edward County is tourism; eople come here for the rural aspects; creative economy • Job loss for support staff • Sporting events – complete imbalance in competitions within Prince Edward County, due to major varying school sizes; fewer students will even get the opportunity to play on these teams • If proposed start and end times are 20 minutes later, students will be home later, which impacts family time and evening activities • Under changes in bus routes for Kente/CML, if CML-Wellington build is 20 minutes later starting, families with kids at both Mass-Red and Wellington will have very different pick up and drop off times; tough on families
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Possible Implications or Additional Considerations:

- We need to ensure that there are learning pathways for all students, K-12 (enrichment programming, pathways in secondary, special education, etc.)
- How will we ensure effective secondary programming, as enrollment continues to decline?
- With a school at 97% capacity, how will we ensure adequate space for students with specific sensory needs? (ie: calm down spaces, area for physio/OT programs, life skills programming and specialized equipment, elementary sensory rooms, library, staff room, literacy rooms...)
- Please consider a later start time
- Another French immersion each year for the next 3 years
- Some population predictions show an increase
- Busing drop off and pick up will need adjusting
- Developing alternative uses of the school space
- Having a grade K-8 and then moving to a high school, gets them ready to leave their communities and easier when they go away to university
- Kids are stressed out already about possible amalgamation
- Encouraging/soliciting under-utilized space in remaining schools to provide community hubs; dvertising, creating partnerships, e.g. daycare, arts groups, micro businesses, adult education, business/continuing education workshops.
- Possibility to create specialized programming specific to Prince Edward County:
 - To reduce the brain drain of our young adults to urban centres. (e.g. entrepreneurialism, partnerships with local businesses)
- Stop kids leaving to go to enrichment programming elsewhere
- 6:52 a.m. bus pick up too early; alternatives: transfer buses pick up from smaller areas, meet another bus and go directly to the school (PECI)
- possible elementary entrance at PEGI needs to be double doors
- parent and bus drop off locations; transportation flow concerning
- K-12 school culture at PEGI: name of school? Mascot? To build new collaborative culture
- Breakfast club for students at PEGI?
- Accessibility to second floor at PEGI?
- If Massassaga-Rednersville could be a K-8 school those families are not impacted by the proposed changes because it's just keeping their own students (according to policy) which is an acceptable "change"
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<p>Revise square footage of playground for 500 students or seek out drainage system for lower fields in order that students can access at recess earlier than May</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern about students having access to adequate playing spaces to support the well-being aspect of childhood and learning;
<p>Busing - location/pickup /drop off Location front/back/sunnyside</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern with losing curb appeal - we want quality and welcoming entrances • Leave trees or replant/landscaping - create green space

Start times and considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns about available transportation for sporting events and other after school times ie. Staggered start times; Bussing is currently not available for many events as buses need to be back to their home schools for afternoon runs;
Re-introduction of 'late bus' for after school activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create equity for students in PEC;
Parking-staff/students/parents/visitors?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Given early concept designs, this is a concern;
Sidewalks-safety/access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there a plan to work with the municipality to address such needs?
How will a new K-12 school be staffed to ensure adequate care and service: Office Staff, Custodial Staff, Educational Assistants,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People are the magic that makes a school special. How will the staffing in these areas at PECE be impacted by the consolidation?
PA system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure a distinct yet environmentally appropriate system of bell communication is in place;
Gym space - shared	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide flexibility for students in all grades to access as the facilities are available;
Gym renovated - lighting/paint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The other gyms outside of the main gym are getting dated and need some refreshing if they too will be prime learning spaces;
Grand Opening Event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When finished and all students are transitioned, a grand opening event should be planned to honour the creation of the new Prince Edward Collegiate Institute and honour the students and staff who are joining together and creating the future together.
Program needs must be a priority to ensure student retention (ie. French Immersion)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PEC needs to retain the population of students to ensure quality programming for all students in ALL pathways..
Re-identify and re-evaluate catchment boundaries to ensure they are logical and best serve the students and parents in the area;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many of the current boundaries are legacy in nature and do not reflect some logical trends. The current transfer processes are perceived to be quite relaxed which is concerning in an effort to retain students in the County.
Has onsite before and after school child care been considered in the amalgamation plans for PEC?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This currently exists at QEP and Pinecrest and would leave a considerable and concerning hole for many of our students and parents in PEC.

Possible Options:	Rationale:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sophiasburgh, Queen Elizabeth and remaining Pinecrest students attend Queen Elizabeth for the 2017-2018 school year, while renovations at PECE are completed, if the timeline for construction cannot be met 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moving some Pinecrest students to CML (any area West of Pinecrest) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To alleviate #'s at Prince Edward Collegiate Institute and allow Sophiasburgh Central School to transfer over September 2017 A lot of these students already do sports in the Wellington community

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation to a K-12 school (visit a K-12 school in Ontario, parents to be included) or • Have staff come here to present from a K-12 school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread message to other parents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>New C.M.L. Snider School kept on current site with portion of old building kept</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets heritage piece
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close Massassaga-Rednersville Public School and fill Kente Public School; close hub and move to Kente Public School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 7/8's already feed into Kente Public School • Kente Public School is on municipal water • Sale of Massassaga-Rednersville Public School building will go quickly • Bus routes already in place
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New build for Massassaga-Rednersville Public School, Kente Public School and C.M.L. Snider School on Kente Public School property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More central • Kente Public School has 7.8 hectares vs C.M.L. Snider School with 1.2 hectares • Kente Public School has existing property • C.M.L. Snider School land will sell • Kente Public School has highest occupancy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change boundaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would fill up schools • Current boundaries don't make sense
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close Sophiasburgh Central School, Pinecrest Memorial Elementary School, Queen Elizabeth School and Massassaga-Rednersville Public School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sophiasburgh Central School students to Kente Public School/C.M.L. Snider School/Prince Edward Collegiate Institute ○ Pinecrest Memorial Elementary School students to C.M.L. Snider School/Prince Edward Collegiate Institute ○ Massassaga-Rednersville Public School students to Kente Public School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographically makes more sense • Reduced bus times
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing Pinecrest Memorial Elementary School and Sophiasburgh Central School for Fall of 2017, and consolidating students to Queen Elizabeth School for the 2017/2018 school year • If necessary, due to space, send Grades 7/8 to Prince Edward Collegiate Institute for this year • Move to Prince Edward Collegiate Institute in fall of 2018, once construction is complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More realistic timelines. • All 3 schools would come together at once, to build a community, rather than 2 one year, and the third last • This would allow a year for renovations to be completed in an empty wing without students present • Financial savings of closing 2 schools would still be realized • Transportation savings would actually be greater in the 1st year • Would allow for immediate increased programming opportunities for all students
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 3 elementary schools transition September 2018 • JK-6 at Queen Elizabeth School / 7/8 at Prince Edward Collegiate Institute • Developing possible alternative uses of the school space (Hub concept) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovations would be complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junior high at Prince Edward Collegiate Institute and high school grades 7-12 from all schools, not just ones closing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 7 & 8's can take advantage of increased academic opportunities in the high school setting • Increases the capacity at Prince Edward Collegiate Institute
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most parents want a K-6 in the northern end of the County and 2 or 3 other rural schools to spread out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural kids can stay in a rural school and we keep our kids in Prince Edward County; many parents considering moving kids to schools outside of the County
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-6 at Pinecrest Memorial Elementary School including 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep rural schools

<p>Sophiasburgh Central School students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take down a wing if school is still too big or possible community hub options to help under-utilized space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents move to these areas to have their children attend a rural school
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay for a year and ensure a smooth transition for all schools at the same time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensures time for renovations, staffing, transition planning • Improved programming • Enrichment programming options (need the time to create)
<p>Grade 7 & 8 enter Fall September 2017;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Renovations to upper Elementary wing Summer 2017. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows for students to settle in and begin the transition to the new K-12 model;
<p>As proposed, close Sophiasburgh, Pinecrest and Queen Elizabeth. Use QE as an extended campus commencing September 2017 for JK-6 until renovations completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Note: Presuming Sophiasburgh is also welcomed at/enters PECEI beginning Fall 2017.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows the required financial savings to occur through the closures while offering an appropriate space to accommodate students while their new learning environment is prepared for them avoiding them trying to work through a construction zone and allows time to complete 'quality' renovations; • Will ensure Sophiasburgh feels equally included in all of the transition processes and are involved in establishing the new school culture from day one. • Recommend minimal disruption to students and school. This will maintain the learning environment and ensure the first K-12 school in HPEDSB goes as smoothly as possible and becomes the model to be upheld;
<p>Renovate proposed lower elementary wing beginning Summer 2017 until completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure Quality and calibre of renovation work is in alignment to other work throughout the district (ie. Trent River PS and Harmony PS and not time driven.) • Ensure all work is warranted; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We acknowledge that this is not a new build, however request all renovations be quality assured in order to ensure equity between different school groups;

Questions or Requests for Information:

Included on PEC ARC Working Group Meeting Q & A's