

EPR FEEDBACK & Alternate Proposals

WOODROFFE AVE. P.S. PARENTS

Who we are

We are parents of children who attend Woodroffe Avenue P.S. who started as a small group connecting parents in Carlingwood and Woodpark. In recent weeks, we have consulted with hundreds of parents from the region, all concerned about the effects that the EPR Proposal would have on our children and communities. We agree on the EPR's overarching goals, but we find it failing its stated objectives. We recognize the complexity of the task, but believe that our collective knowledge of the communities involved can provide valuable solutions to the proposal's problematic elements.

Our Major Concerns

- **Safety concerns** for students' commutes to school
- Break up of established, **thriving communities**
- Dissolution of **optimal** learning environments
- Separation of **established** cohorts, bonds, and families
- **Inequitable** access to **quality** education
- Perpetuation and intensification of **gender inequity**
- Inclusion without adequate support is **exclusion**

How the Changes Affect Us

Our youngest children will go from walking hundreds of **metres** to being bussed **multiple kilometres** away to an over capacity school, while there are at least **three closer** under capacity schools. **Siblings** will be separated into **completely different** communities and neighbourhoods, creating a logistical nightmare for parents. Young families will face **economic strain** as they face increased needs for childcare and travel.

Safety

Boundaries as drawn would force young children to cross **major arteries**, including a transit corridor and the **417**. Ongoing LRT construction, planned infrastructure updates and approved densification projects present **significant hazards** along routes. Distances traveled would increase **disproportionally**.

Community

Established communities which have been **thriving** for decades would be **fractured**. **Bonded cohorts** who have learned and grown together would be split up. Siblings would be **separated**. **Involvement** in school communities would **decrease** due to distance and separation. Families will enrol at other school boards in order to remain in their community schools.

Equity

Women are disproportionately affected by multiple schools and childcare disruptions. **Optimal** learning facilities created for children of specific ages will be **unutilized**. **Unproven** viability of programs would create further inequitable access to **quality** education.

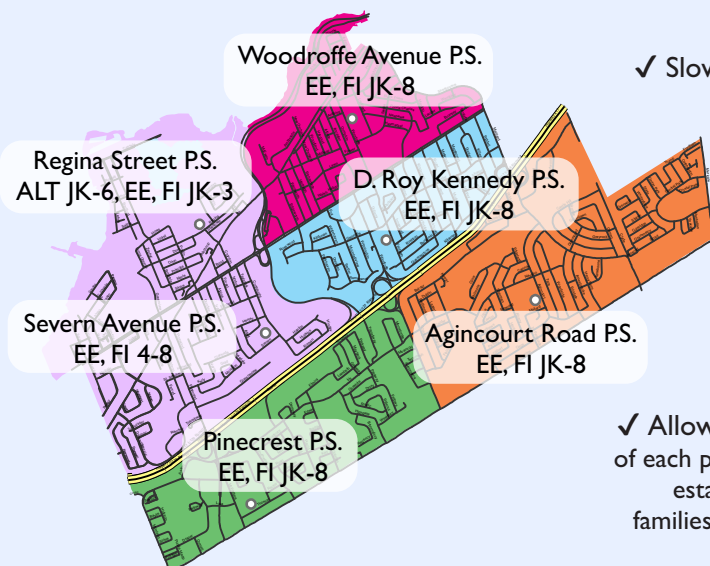
Solutions

Our proposal for amelioration of the EPR in our region:

✓ Explore boundary adjustments (as illustrated in the proposed figure) which:

- keep students from Woodpark and Carlingwood together for JK-8 without having to commute through construction or high density traffic areas.
- eliminate the safety concern of Severn and Pinecrest Students crossing Highway 417.

✓ Maintain inclusive programming for all students who require alternative support. Keep the Alternative program.



✓ Slower implementation of program changes to prevent separation of cohorts and siblings.

- all students enrolled through Sept. 2025 remain in place
- addition of one grade per year
- allow cross boundary transfers for all siblings

✓ Allow adequate time to assess viability of each program at each school, maintain all established bonded cohorts, and allow families to remain together at one school.

Walkable community schools

Continuum of inclusion

Minimal disruption to cohorts

Keep families whole

Request for Information

In order to improve upon the options presented here, should they be deemed non-viable, we request the following information:

Enrollment numbers by school, program and grade for all of the years of the relocation. No personal information is requested, we are purely asking for the same data which is published in the annual enrollment report, relating to the proposed relocations.