

October 27, 2014

Mr. David McTimoney
Superintendent, Anglophone West
1135 Prospect St
Fredericton, NB
E3B 3B9

Dear Mr. McTimoney:

I am writing with regard to the future of the Stanley School, with a particular focus on two key issues.

The first aspect I would like to address is the number of Stanley-area students that are permitted to transfer to Leo Hayes. The majority of these students live well-inside the Stanley School area, some inside the actual village limits. Students may wish to transfer for any number of reasons, such as course selection, access to AAA high school sports, and real or perceived issues with teachers or administration at Stanley School. From what I have witnessed over the past several years, the majority of students would fall in the latter two categories.

The second aspect is the school boundary between Fredericton and Stanley, particularly on the Nashwaak Valley border between the zones. Students in the Taymouth-Durham area begin school at Nashwaak Valley Elementary and then continue on to Devon Middle School and eventually Leo Hayes High School. All of the children in the Stanley-Fredericton zone overlap areas (see attached maps) of Highland Heights/Taymouth/English Settlement live far closer to the Stanley School than they do to Devon Middle School and Leo Hayes High School; however, currently these students automatically continue on to Fredericton following elementary school. I should also note that, in fact, some of these students would have the same or perhaps shorter travel time to Stanley School as they do to Nashwaak Valley, particularly following recent upgrades to the English Settlement Road.

The provincial government provided a significant investment in the Stanley School approximately twenty years ago to expand and improve this vital educational facility. Currently, due to a combination of out-migration common to rural areas, coupled with the increase in out-transfers since the opening of Leo Hayes High School, the Stanley School is not operating near its full capacity. This was confirmed in the media last week in reference to a potential consolidation of the Stanley School. Smaller class sizes have led to an increase in combined classes, and in some cases restricted the ability to offer certain courses at the high school level. Reduced enrolment has also resulted in a drop in staff levels. Given that both Devon Middle School and Leo Hayes High School are operating above capacity, a minor shift in students resulting from the options outlined below would appear to be beneficial to both Stanley School and Devon Middle/Leo Hayes.





