

# Ministik School Public Meeting

Ministik School

Feb. 7, 2017

7 p.m. to 7:25 p.m.

**Session: 1**

**Topic: General**

**Recorder: Corrie**

## Key Points:

- Money allotted in budget for replacing modulares.
- Cost of school replacement is being over represented.
- We have a list of questions we want answered, it was forwarded to the Division and was supposed to be answered prior to meeting. So, not sure what we are doing here.
- A lot of thought went into those questions.
- No questions have been addressed, so this feels like a waste time.
- Update on website was about library modular. Not the questions submitted.
- An excerpt was read from an Ontario-based newspaper regarding a comment made by Marcus Ryan, a councillor in the Township of Zorra: "funding boards primarily based on enrolment, and then giving them capital funding when they close schools 'is explicitly forcing school boards to close small rural and build large urban schools...the funding formula is old and lazily written and doesn't distinguish between the geographic and demographic diversity of Ontario." She then commented that is what is happening here.
- Kids will be lost in the system in a larger school.
- The problem is that it's all about bottom line.
- Everything should have been done in the gym. So we could ask our questions and have open communication.
- It's not just a decision about "are we closing it?" It's "let go through all the steps to make the parents feel they have a voice and opinion but we're going to just go and close it any ways just to give you guys the feeling you're fighting for something."
- Feel like the questions we sent in have been forgotten or lost.

## Questions Asked:

- **Is the Division looking at replacing school or replacing modular?**  
**ANSWER**
  - Approval for modular has been received by Alberta Education.
  - EIPS has to pay for connecting link--\$75,000 approximately.
  - Library is a separate modular.
- **What are the savings for closing school, line by line?**
- **If the money has been allotted in budget for the modulares, what is the issue?**
- **Does a "yes" vote mean replacing school or maintaining school?**
- **How will the school staying open negatively impact other schools in Division?**

- Where are the answers to the questions to the document that was sent to trustees?
  - What is the proposed enrolment for Fultonvale for the next five years?
- When are the questions sent in being answered?
  - [Questions referenced are posted online.](#)
- Are the trustees here tonight?
- Is our input really going to make a difference?
- Is the Division closing Wye School?
  - When is the estimated time?
  - Will those students funnel into Fultonvale Elementary Junior High (FTV)?
  - Will that not put FTV at, or near, maximum capacity?
  - If so, does it make more sense to keep Ministik open?
- Is it not important for a sustainable agricultural economy to have favourable access to schools for its children?
  - In 2016 Strathcona County won a national award for agricultural sustainability and planning excellence. How does closing Ministik school meet with that plan?
- Do you think about families and how long students have to spend on a bus?
  - Are you thinking about the students with disabilities and putting them on buses and in larger schools?
- Has the Division done a study on how it affects young students to go on a bus for three hours?
- How does longer busride time affect young children?
- What does “equity of opportunity” mean? (from funding manual)