

The Community Schools Alliance encourages your council to adopt the following resolution.

Please forward a copy of your resolution to The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Education, Mowat Block, 900 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario M7A 1L2, Canada and the Community Schools Alliance, 399 Ridout Street N, London, Ontario, N6A 2P1, reycraft@mdlsx.ca

DRAFT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS communities across Ontario are concerned with the Accommodation Review Committee process and the impact this flawed process has on the socio-economic fabric of our municipalities;

AND WHEREAS many schools are the hubs of their communities, a better accommodation review system is needed to address the educational facility needs of our residents;

AND WHEREAS a system to address the educational facility needs in Ontario must ensure that school boards and municipal councils partner on decisions regarding education infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS greater accountability for school board decisions is needed;

AND WHEREAS a thorough review of the governance model for school accommodation decisions must include an opportunity to appeal these decisions;

AND WHEREAS the accommodation review process should respect and value the input of students, parents, the community and municipality;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of Ontario be petitioned to implement a “smart moratorium” on disputed school closings to provide the opportunity for the Ministry of Education, school boards and municipalities to work together to develop policies addressing such issues as planning for declining enrolments, a mutually agreed upon Accommodation Review Committee process, a review of funding to rural and small community schools, and transparency and accountability between municipalities and school boards.