



Sacred Heart All Grade (Conche) Feedback

Feedback School As of Mar 4, 2016	For Potential Closure	Against Potential Closure	Undetermined
Sacred Heart All Grade		21	
Cloud River Academy			

Themes:

- Bad gravel roads and its potential impact on safety.
- “The school is the life out here – take it away, you take the community.”
- Small schools in general (Sacred Heart, specifically) provides superior education and student-focus.
- Unelected trustees making decisions

Alternate Suggestions:

- Government should take a look at paving the roads before sending these students over gravel roads.
- Not close Sacred Heart All Grade
- SHS should be phased out, as St. Joseph’s in Croque was (once high school students graduate, the smaller students will be old enough to understand the need to move)



Representative Sample Comments (1/4)

- We are not in agreement with bussing our children over a road that is no better than a goats path in the spring and summer things should stay the same until such improvements are reminded.
- Conche is a small community, the school is the life here. If they close the school, it takes all the community with it. There are many upset children in Conche at the moment with the thought of the school closing. Not only are the students upset, but the parents of this community are also upset about this.
- I really think the school board should think this over before they decide to close the school. They should really take a close look at the Gravel Roads that these students will have to travel over. I feel they will be putting the students and bus drivers lives at risk by travelling these roads everyday to get to school. Also for the parents who will have to travel for parent teacher meetings, concerts, etc.



Representative Sample Comments (2/4)

- Sacred Heart School is the heart of our community. Although small in numbers, our school has graduated many fine young men & women that have achieved great successes in .I would go so far as to say " a lot more than any other community on this Northern Peninsula". Please don't tear the heart from our Community.
- Sacred Heart School provides excellent education to our children. What concerns me the most, is the transportation of our children by bus to a neighboring community. Our roads leave a lot to be desired any time of the year, however, in the winter, they can become treacherous. Please reconsider this decision to close this wonderful school.
- Also, Sacred Heart is one if the best schools in the province. They get good education, all the students are in a positive environment when they are around the teachers and other students. No bullying or anything negative goes on in this school. Closing the conche school would be a big mistake. People always fundraise for occasions that the school takes part in. Everyone is included when the school has an event. They don't just include the school staff or students but anyone who wants to join. Sacred Heart All Grade is a very important thing in our community. Once the school goes the post office will and then the shop.



Representative Sample Comments (3/4)

- Transporting those children over that disgraceful route that the Dept. of Transportation calls a road. How will a child perform what is expected of him after beating over it not only for one year but up until they reach Gr.12. Those children will have many hours of suffering to endure. Some of them now have motion sickness. . Should we pump them up with gravol ? What about all those wood trucks and tractor trailers using the road & the moose? I deem it unfit and unsafe to bus children over. I purpose that you contact the Dept of Transportation & see what plans they have for paving? Otherwise those children will be victimized. I appeal to you to not take this review lightly. Lives are at stake here before education. Please stand in the gap for these precious children.



Representative Sample Comments (4/4)

- In a small community collaboration with other organizations that you can depend upon is the most normal partnership there is and schooling for children has to have the most important consideration. There are countless advantages to rural school life that are beyond monetary value and government must commit to supporting rural community schools! Every school in Newfoundland has a history worth knowing. Telling that history and making that history your own gives you ownership of that place and deepens your appreciation of your own role in its history. The opportunities the children have at Sacred Heart School are the same as they would have at another school. In some cases they have more. Smaller schools means that children get more attention from their teachers and their community. There are no other potential opportunities but there is a very serious potential danger in busing our students over a gravel road. The only time our road is safe to travel on is when it is frozen during the winter months.



Video Links Provided by SHAG School Council

- CBC Road Footage: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/conche-residents-frustrated-by-crater-filled-highway-1.3061390>
- Northern Pen Road Footage: <http://video.northernpen.ca/4150424275001/Route-434-Conche>