



JIM McDONELL, MPP
Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry



PETITION

To the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

- WHEREAS** a staff report has recommended Upper Canada District School Board close numerous schools across Eastern Ontario, and
- WHEREAS** access to quality local education is essential for rural communities to thrive, and
- WHEREAS** the Ministry of Education removed community impact considerations from Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines in 2015 and has cut essential rural school funding, and
- WHEREAS** local communities treasure their public schools and have been active participants in their continued operation, maintenance and success, and
- WHEREAS** the Ontario government should focus on delivering quality, local education services to all communities, including rural Ontario, and
- WHEREAS** the current PAR process forces bad behavior by school boards to justify the replacement of high maintenance out-dated schools,

**WE, THE UNDERSIGNED,
PETITION THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO
AS FOLLOWS:**

- 1) To support MPP Jim McDonnell’s motion to suspend all current PAR reviews until strategic rural education plan is completed, engaging all rural school boards, school communities and municipalities,
- 2) To reinstate considerations of value to the local community and value to the local economy in Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines,
- 3) To engage all rural school boards, including the Upper Canada District School Board, school communities and municipalities in the development of the strategic rural education plan, and
- 4) Consider rural education opportunities, student busing times, accessible extra-curricular and inter-school activities, the schools’ role as a community hub, and its value to the local economy.

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE

DO NOT PHOTOCOPY, SCAN OR FAX.

Send completed originals to: Jim McDonnell MPP, 120 Second St W, Time Square, Cornwall, ON K6J 1G5