

Hamptons School Council
Feedback
September 29, 2009

Question: What is it that you value for your children's K-6 educational experience?

- Caring environment ** (2 responses)
- Sense of belonging to a community
- Sense of community **** (4 responses)
- Develop and have the opportunity to continue relationships with teachers and children
- Connection to Hamptons community
- Close knit community feel contributes to a good learning environment
- Ability to remain in the community (forget grade 4 lets go to grade 6)
- Community and lasting friendships
- Close relationship with other classmates in the same community
- Continuity and stability
- Continuity at their age
- Continuity of relationships
- Continuity, proximity, familiarity
- Stability
- Developing friendships
- Friendly and nurturing environment through teachers and students
- Keeping siblings together
- Gaining confidence
- Positive self-esteem and confidence
- Safety ** (2 responses)
- Not being bussed for smaller grades
- No bullying
- Parents involvement
- Fine Arts program
- Enrichment opportunities
- Honouring different learning styles
- Meeting child/learner's needs
- Quality
- Quality education
- Education that prepares the child for future and life long learning
- Dedicated teachers ** (2 responses)
- Small class size *** (3 responses)
- Small class sizes and increased attention

Question: What do you perceive to be the benefits of a K-4, 5-6, 7-9 grade configuration? What are the challenges?

Challenges:

- Only at CJP for 2 years
- 5-6 quick turn around – but maybe they can cope better
- What happens to CJP if it loses grade 4 kids?
- Too many schools. How about 5-8/9-12
- Challenge – 3 drop-offs/pick-up to coordinate
- Challenge – siblings would not stay together
- Hampton School losing kids to other K-6 schools
- Harder to transition at grade 5 level, due to relationships built already
- Grade 3's getting less chance to be "leaders"
- Grade 5-6 - this is questionable
- Grade 7-9 – not so worried about this. Feel that at this age group, developmentally at an age that can accommodate/understand changes a little easier
- Less exposure to extracurricular activities (i.e. gym size)

Opportunities:

- 5-6 shortened time span – integration challenges
- A grade longer to adjust to grade 5 or bigger school
- Small school size
- Benefit opportunity for leadership at all levels
- K-4 stability is very important at this age group. This is what we are requesting based on current capacity at this school.
- Stability during the early years
- Benefits – keeping things stable
- Step closer to grade 6
- Smaller class sizes until grade 5
- One more year to maintain friendships and build a better sense of community
- Keeping them in the community
- Benefit – staying in community
- Siblings in same school for longer
- Attract more kids
- More kids would attend if more than K-3!
- Siblings together longer in same school
- May keep more kids at Hamptons
- Staying in a school we believe in
- Safety
- Move to grade 5 when more independent
- Grade 4's get to stay "younger" for longer. Same for 5-6 not being exposed to 7-9
- Stay one more year at the Hamptons School

- Maturity increases prior to moving
- Kids can come home for lunch break
- We have the space
- More enrichment K-4
- Logistically easier for driving (for out of community and younger students)
- Do not need to travel far distance
- Less likely for issues to fall through cracks during K-4
- Continuity of relationships for K-4
- Moving 5-6 to a closer school i.e. Hawkwood

Question: What do you perceive to be the benefits of a K-3, 4-6, 7-9 grade configuration? What are the challenges?

Challenges:

- Kids get bussed at an earlier age
- Deal with bigger change at earlier age
- Keeping school viable. Losing younger siblings when older moves on
- Families choose to pull out of public system 1 year earlier
- Grade 4 – young to go on bus for ½ hour
- Grade 4's may feel intimidated by the grade 5 & 6's
- Losing or not coming due to K-3 only
- Students are in constant transition
- The ideal is K-6
- Parents not as likely to volunteer
- Parents are choosing different education options (i.e. charter or private). Leads to loss of continuity with peers.
- Maturity level not there for grade 4's – bussing, big school, far away
- CJP too far! Less concern if we could move 4-6 closer to Hamptons (Hawkwood, Edgemont, Citadel etc.)
- Older children can handle change better at a higher grade
- Hamptons is a great, community oriented school, so the longer kids can stay at the Hamptons the better
- One more year to ride on school bus
- Lost friendships earlier
- There is a big maturity difference between grade 4 & 5
- Loss of sense of community for parents and children

Opportunities:

- Not as quick school turn around 4-6
- Same amount of time at school
- Smaller school size
- Small school and small class sizes
- Turn around is not so quick
- Schools are better equipped to handle specific grades needs

- Avoid change
- K-3 – keeps kids “younger”, 4-6 – 3 years in 1 school, 7-9 – 3 years in 1 school. Disadvantages – grade 4 kids are 8-9 years old. Hard to ‘move out’ of your school to a new one at this age.

Question: To help you understand any future student accommodation and programming decisions for the Hamptons School, what information do you need?

The following questions were submitted by those in attendance and will be addressed by administration at the February School Council meeting.

- Understand that Hamptons can accommodate K-4 in future years?
- What is happening with TLC? Grade 5-8 in Bowness
- Confirm that K-4 educational year is standard
- Is the K-4 consideration a serious priority for the CBE?
- What are designated schools for our community?
- What are the numbers of people that are choosing alternative schools over the Hamptons (because Hamptons is K-3? And not K-6)
- Would the Hamptons K-4 system be unique or become standard in other schools?
- Is CJP still split classes?
- Can you designate a closer 4-6?
- What is the cost/logistics associated with expanding the Hamptons to grade 4?
- Will we have a second language available?
- Numbers for close communities for which their designated school is ridiculously far vs. coming to the Hamptons (i.e. Kincora, Evanston . . . find a balance)
- Student/teacher ratio at designated schools?
- Will this change affect my taxes? (i.e. busing costs, salaries, etc)
- Reassurance that K-4 exposure will not negatively impact K-3 (thru resources, etc)
- What is the CBE’s vision of the future of the Hamptons School?
- Are you considering the Hamptons moving to grade 4? Do you think it is possible?
- Whether busing is available for designated schools?
- Will designated school be different in the future?
- Will Edgemont School be able to accommodate grade 4-6? To provide closer proximity and continuity to junior high school.
- Can the Hamptons accommodate grade 4 program?
- We do not need a K-4 school at the Hamptons if we are designated a new 4-6 school.
- How many children from the Hamptons actually go to CJP?
- Is there other school options other than the designated schools?