



Evansburg – Wildwood Facilities Review

Online Survey Results

(53 surveys were completed)

1. Do you have any concerns about the Evansburg – Wildwood Facilities Review Project?

(52 answered and 1 skipped)

No	21
Yes (please explain)	31

- I want my child to be able to complete high school in Evansburg
- Low enrolment, closing schools
- I am very concerned that at the meetings I attended that all the talk was focused on Evansburg. I do not think that Wildwood school should be downsized or closed at all. I think if you take away the school you take away Wildwood. It would have a great impact on our Hamlet. We would lose people coming into Wildwood, our value of land would decrease, our park would suffer and all our businesses would suffer. At the meetings, the main focus of talk was about Evansburg and how the two school there should be modernized or rebuilt. No talk of Wildwood school until parents of Wildwood school started to ask about it. I am very confused on why Evansburg? It's on the very edge of our county and would only service Evansburg, Entwistle (who is not in County) and Wildwood. I think you should look at the bigger picture and more than likely in the near future, that Niton would also be shutting down. I think a new school should be built in Wildwood from K-12 to serve Enwistle, Evansburg, Wildwood and Niton. If we focus on better courses being offered, I even think that some homeschooled children in our area would come to the school as well. I do believe that there is a high number of homeschooled children we need to focus on getting back into our school rather than the 10 children that come to our school right now from Entwistle which is not even any of our County's children. Having the school in Wildwood would cover the whole East side of the County. I also think by combing buildings together is also a great idea. The Wildwood complex has a lot of land and building in that area would benefit the complex and new school. Both can be used together. Just like in Drayton Valley how they added a school onto the Omniplex.
- Information presented is not complete
- Very concerned about the possible closure of Wildwood School.
- I'm concerned that this project will not be taken seriously by the board of education and put on the waiting list for another year. Each facility is in dire need and cannot be neglected.
- My concern is that the betterment of all kids will be overlooked because people are too hung up on "their" school being shut down.
- Fear of losing school in Wildwood
- Yes, I do not think all Wildwood kids should have to be bussed. That is still a lot of kids. We live in Wildwood and I love the school and how close it is. If the school is removed here no one will want to move here and it will be a ghost town!

- Will there be sufficient teachers? Or will there be more students and less attention
- My concern is that if you close our school in Wildwood, it will become a ghost town we need our school it keeps our town open to younger families to move here.
- The outcome impacts more than the schools
- I would like to see Evansview remain open for K-6
- I feel Grande Yellowhead Public School Division has put all effort in providing the best for all students and families. I hope that the division will also take into consideration when planning that several agencies such as Lobstick Literacy and Learning Society, Successful Kids and Families, playschools, and Evansburg Public Libraries that need and use the schools. I think this is an exciting time for Grande Yellowhead rural schools.
- In the event of a super school how will the transition for the students be handled?
- Closures affect all residents
- Concerned about merging all schools together. I want a small learning environment for my child
- My concern is bus rides
- Losing our Wildwood school
- I sense that the majority is leaning toward closing Wildwood School. I don't think any schools should close, just downsize if necessary.
- Location of schools/school
- If the school in Wildwood shuts down this beautiful small community will completely become a ghost town. Businesses will close and why would people move here if there is no school.
- Worried our school is going to close
- I don't feel like I know enough about it
- I just want to ensure that the best choice is made so then the students get the best education and programs.
- My kids are in that school.
- The threat of closing Wildwood without even considering what that will do to the community is appalling. Evansburg will survive not having a school Wildwood will not.
- I do not want the Wildwood school closed for any reason
- Wildwood should not close
- I want the best plan that will provide more options and better education for high school.
- I don't want the Wildwood School to close. My children have a right to an education in their own community.

2. Do you see any opportunities or benefits arising from the Facilities Review?

(52 answered and 1 skipped)

No	3
Not sure	20
Yes (please explain)	29

- Grand Trunk buildings are falling apart so opportunities to get new facilities
- Could amalgamate schools to benefit all students

- I think by modernizing our option classes and giving a more variety in courses would be a benefit. By doing so, it will help keep our children from going to Edson or Spruce Grove to schools who offer better courses and focus them on staying right here.
- Hopefully they will listen to the people
- Newer/better school buildings. Possibility of combining two small communities.
- Very concerned that Grand Trunk and Wildwood have been on the GYPSDs 3 year capital plan for more than a decade and still sufficient upgrades have not been done. The schools in the east end of the county are neglected and not given any priority
- An opportunity for an amalgamated school that can provide exceptional options and higher learning opportunities for all communities. An upgraded K-12 would best suit each sector by ensuring higher enrollment numbers and therefore better funding.
- The facility review is an opportunity to look closely at what each school needs and to look at a way to give our students the most out of their education.
- Modernization needs to happen especially windows in classrooms
- Hopefully more options made available to students
- Upgraded facilities, better technology available to students, possibly more programs if schools are combined to make bigger classes
- It's always good to review. We can't get better without it
- The possibility of a single school that amalgamates the 3 current schools is by far in the best educational interest of our children
- We need larger class sizes to maximize the learning potential for our students. 1 teacher in a split class with any special needs children is a lot for even our best staff. Our children lose and we burn out our staff. Then we in effect have a weaker community... Strength in numbers!
- Renovating Evansview
- A better understanding of why certain discussions need to be made.
- Better school for our children
- Addition options for children. More programs offered
- Expanded programs
- New school(s)
- More course options and more extra curricular activities. No split classes
- Combining the schools to Grand Trunk will hopefully allow more trades classes and other options opportunities.
- Newer school better for everyone
- Updates on the schools would be great.
- Only that they are still considering what to be done, closures seem imminent
- Improvements in our facilities/facility, programming, bringing our communities together, modernization
- To get the school redone
- Yes, the space is not being utilized build one school k-12 in Wildwood
- That way, everyone who is interested can come forward to express their concerns

3. What additional information could we provided you to help you understand the project?

(39 answered and 14 skipped)

- Regular updates
- Positives
- Would like to know how many students are in Grand Trunk High School from grades 7-9 only. Because the base of the discussion is how many children attend Grand Trunk but we have to look at how many actually are the Evansburg children as to all the children from Entwistle, Evansburg and Wildwood. Because Wildwood would be the one with the most students that way but yet is being pushed aside.
- I think enough information was provided
- You say Wildwood built in 55 but not the fact was redone in late 90s early 2000
- What is the timeline for the decisions to be made? How do the communities and families know their opinions and needs are being considered when making these decisions? It is not enough to just be told that the school division will “listen” to the people in the communities.
- Maximum budget, tax implications, busing solutions
- I got all the info I needed from the meetings
- More details on how the modernizing/ downsizing would happen
- N/A (x3)
- When do you have to come to a conclusion?
- What are all the trade offs to different options that are being identified
- Why?
- Community impact studies
- None (x2)
- Meetings, updates through emails
- I believe there is enough information.
- Time lines, government decisions
- Class sizes, what benefits would there be if schools merged, what programs would be offered
- A better timeline
- I think there could be more information about the benefits of having a large jr/high school in the area. Let people know how many more options their kids would have if there was a bigger school. More kids=more money.
- Don't patronize us by saying "we're not closing your school". Of course, you're not, 'this year'. Dah.
- Busing
- What are you willing to build? One or more schools? Which location(s)
- TIMELINE (x2)
- Floor plan, staffing plan
- Eventually, we would like to see the school designs. What will happen to the playground at Evansview?
- What is going to be happening to all the teachers and support staff?
- What is the associated increase in cost of transportation for each model?

- Send me an email with a detailed plan of what you've got in mind
- If the school stays in Evansburg. I really don't want my kids transfer to a different school. They are in town.
- I believe you have already made the decision and are lying when you say you haven't
- Time frame as to when a decision may be made.
- Not sure, I was not at the meeting so I don't know what material was handed out.
- Exactly what proposal is submitted.

4. How would you like to be involved in the next stages of the project? (check as many as apply)

(52 answered and 1 skipped)

Receive information by email	32
Receive information through the school	24
Attend meetings or workshops in my community	31
Participate on-line	30
Not sure	3
Other – please explain	3

- Would like evening meetings
- Media i.e. local newspaper
- All members of the community will be affected if Wildwood School is closed down. It is not enough to only notify parents of current students. All of the local papers should have information and updates.

5. Where do you live?

(53 answered and 0 skipped)

Evansburg	24
Wildwood	21
Neither	8

6. Do you currently have children attending a school in Evansburg or Wildwood? (check all schools that apply)

(53 answered and 0 skipped)

No	14
Yes – Evansview Elementary	20
Yes – Grand Trunk High	21
Yes – Wildwood School	12

7. Additional feedback is welcome.

(24 answered and 29 skipped)

- How can we increase enrolment? Would like to move students grade 7-9 to Grand Trunk and K -6 to Evansview
- I think we need to have a meeting again in another month, not waiting until September. I think by then your minds will already be made up and Wildwood would suffer.
- I have grandchildren attending and I also worked at Evansview 40 years so I do have a vested interest in the school system
- Closing any of these schools will kill the community
- The three schools need modernization, get it done.
- Schools are the hub of farming communities.
- I really think combining all 3 schools is the best plan. I would prefer to see a completely updated and modernized school that provides an incredible learning experience for all kids than to see just one school get an upgrade.
- Envansburg/Entwistle have 3 schools in an area. Why should we lose ours! :(
- I have 4 kids that attend Wildwood school, the teachers are amazing, the community is one big family, if you take our school away we have nothing, even the local businesses benefit from the school, the kids do the grandparent program and engage with their elders, they get to go outdoor skating at the complex every winter, and they get lots of field trips because we are a small school, please don't close our school, the community needs it to survive, and so do my children...
- I feel: 1) that should Wildwood lose its school there would be a huge impact on the town. I feel the community would fade away. Right now, the school has about 100 students but if the school is closed there is no guarantee that those families will stay around. I feel you will see a continued negative trend of enrolment in the remaining schools. 2) If Evansview and Wildwood are combined there are only a chance that it might draw more families to the area. This move does not increase the number of students attending Grand Trunk. 3) It does not matter the change the percentage of busing will only increase. It's rural Alberta.
- I am the Program Coordinator for Lobstick Successful Kids & Families our office is located in Wildwood School. We also hold a program in Wildwood School, Evansview School, Niton School and Entwistle School.
- If schools are merged I would have to re-evaluate sending my child to the merged school, I would consider sending my child to the nearby Entwistle school where it is smaller
- There seems to be a lot of preschoolers/babies in both communities right now. The playschools had waiting lists this year. Perhaps enrolment will rise. High school needs to offer better courses if they want the kids to stay in town.
- I think get rid of one school not two
- It is time that we look at the benefits for our Jr/Sr high school students. We need to have better options for these students and this can not be done with the current populations in both schools.
- If you close Wildwood School, you ruin the community.
- Looking forward to hearing what the next step will be
- That's it? That's your survey? Very inadequate.
- We believe it's important to proceed expeditiously with combining schools to increase efficiency in our school division.

- I think Wildwood should be a K-6 school and grades 7-12 at Grand Trunk. This way each community isn't really losing a school.
- I hope that Grand Trunk High School becomes a K-12 school or 7-12 school so it is able to receive the best programming possible. Also, then renovations will actually take place.
- Closing the school in Wildwood will kill the community the school needs to be built there Evansburg will survive. Niton is also in bad shape having a school in Wildwood would allow for more Niton students to have access to a building closer to them.
- We have friends with kids who are close to us, nieces and nephews too, it is most important to be included in these decisions.
- We live in Entwistle and send our high school aged children to Stony Plain where there are more options and opportunities available. I do not believe at this time that Grand Trunk provides educational opportunities for every student. With a K-12 School, I believe this could change and we would consider keeping our child in Grande Yellowhead. If not, she will attend high school in Stony Plain.