

Date: Feb. 17, 2017

Re: Honey Harbour Public School

From: Barbara Swyers, CEO Township of Georgian Bay Public Library, 705-756-8851

To lose both schools in our community at the same time is very tragic for our community and the children and their families.

This will have a very detrimental effect on the educational, social and economic fabric of our community in the future. Families will not be attracted to our region if there are no schools available.

The Honey Harbour Public School has always had an enrollment of between 30 and 40 children since I started at the library in 2002. The children visit the library with their teacher and it always seemed to me that they were one happy family.

The children will lose the connection to their community if they are schooled in another town. They will lose the experience of visiting the local library, a public building in their community. The library will not have that same connection with the children and their parents.

To provide each child with an exceptional education is paramount but they also need to be comfortable in their surroundings and have a sense of community spirit and connection.

Please consider each child when you make your final decision about the closure of this wonderful community school, Honey Harbour Public School, the little school that could!