

From: Menno Meijer  
Sent: Sunday, April 07, 2013 2:46 PM  
To: Smith, Craig  
Subject: Manor and Highland Park School

Dear Mr. Smith,

While I am a strong proponent of affordable housing solutions in Manor and Highland Parks, I am most strongly opposed to the closing of Manor and Highland Park Public School and its conversion to housing units and building lots.

My two children are now bused out of this community to their new schools. Kensall Park has far too many portables and Woodland heights is severely overcrowded. Adding even more housing for single-parent families or small family homes, will only increase the number of children requiring busing to these high-density facilities.

I believe the city should take a leadership role in rethinking the closing of the school and preventing any development of the property and facility until a thorough review and community assessment has been conducted. If no solution can be found to re-open the school as a public school, then an alternative education facility should be given priority consideration.

London has a large Indigenous population. In Manor and Highland Park there is a large representation from both Chippewa and Oneida Nations. If the Thames Valley District School Board remains unapproachable to public education solutions to Manor and Highland Park School, then priority should be given to Indigenous peoples in London to use the facility as an education centre for all Indigenous peoples living in London.

I would also like to remind the City of London, that the gymnasium of the school was funded largely through the efforts of senior citizens raising the necessary funds in this community. The school belongs to the people of Manor and Highland Parks and our voices must be given precedence over those with no vested interest in this community.

Sincerely,

Menno Meijer

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