March 24, 2017

Board of Trustees

Upper Canada District School Board

Dear Trustees, Director and Superintendents,

 The Lanark County Planning Council for Children, Youth and Families is a network of more than 40 child and youth-serving organizations in Lanark County. Our role is to plan for the best possible outcomes for children, youth and families in Lanark County and the Town of Smiths Falls. We are supported in this work by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services and the Ministry of Education.

 We commend you on your dedication to the students and families in the Upper Canada District School Board, and thank you for your hard work in the recent Pupil Accommodation review. We know that there is work still to be done in Lanark County, and we want to be your partner in this labour.

In an official letter to ARC#4, we stated, “The Lanark County Planning Council remains committed to alternate options that respond to the budget realities with creative solutions. We encourage you to advocate to slow down the accommodation review process, and to consider a “family of schools” approach. If the Board engages communities to explore local opportunities, including co-locating with co-terminus boards, shared space with community partners and vibrant community hubs, and then we create our future together. “

We remain committed to this statement, and would welcome the opportunity to discuss further opportunities in partnership.

Sincerely,

Kevin Clouthier and Sue Poldervaart, Co-Chairs

Lanark County Planning Council for Children, Youth and Families