



Churchill Alternative Program Review Action Committee (CPRAC)
OCDSB Elementary Alternative Program Review
Places Churchill Alternative AT RISK!
URGENTLY NEED YOUR ATTENTION & ACTION!

The Ottawa Carleton District School Board is in the process of reviewing the Alternative Program. The purpose of the review is described as “coming to a decision regarding the Alternative Program” by February 2010. There are a number of concerns with respect the larger purpose of the review as well as how the review is being conducted.

In brief some concerns are:

- **Short length of time** devoted to review (began end of June, **final public input November 15**, 2009, final report to board January 2010)
- **Report** will be **written by school board staff**
- **No current students** are to be **surveyed**
- None of the Alternative schools will be visited by those inputting to or making the decisions
- Alternative Program quality, delivery and success are NOT being measured or included in report
- Other Alternative programs are NOT being contacted (eg. Toronto and Hamilton)
- Only a **random sample of Survey submissions** will be used in report data
- No transparency into process and what decision they are looking to make or indications of what the deciding factors are
- Framework is not enough structure to allow for a proper, effective and complete program review

1. What's At Risk?

- The removal of a **CHOICE** of an educational option for your children
- The overall Elementary Alternative Programming. Our very own Churchill Alternative Public School's programming and ability to function as an Alternative school
- School catchments could potentially change resulting in children having to change schools
- Additional alternative programs at risk if Elementary Alternative Program closed (such as Summit and Canterbury HS)



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Churchill Alternative Parents Action Kit

Many parents have participated in the creation and locating of the many materials included and referenced in this document. There are links and additional information that you may find useful in your efforts to make your story heard. We need everyone to do as much as they are able to ensure that the CHOICE of Alternative remains a part of OCDSB.

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If you find there is additional information that would be helpful, or you have suggestions for our outreach efforts, please send an email to ChurchillAlternative@gmail.com



Churchill Alternative Program Review Action Committee (CPRAC)

What can you do?

Tell your story!

- Why is the CHOICE of Alternative programming important to you and your child?
- What distinguishes alternative education?
- Have an experience with more than one program within OCDSB? – Describe your varying experiences (if you have switched your child to the Alternative program from the English or French Immersion programs).

Write a Letter!

- Write an email to the Alternative Program Review team (see “Where to send your letter” section)
 - Email is a *formal* avenue for consultation in this review and *must* be considered by the review team and distributed
- Write an email to the Trustees (see “points to include” section below & email addresses provided below)
- Write a “Letter to the Editor” of the newspapers

Start Talking...to EVERYONE!

- Post your story to the video wall (<http://pages.overlay.tv/asac/>) Telling the community Why the Alternative Education System is Important to You!
- Tell your friends and family and co-workers to write a letter
- PRINT OUT THE POSTER (TO COME) and put it at your place of work, at the Library, the businesses in Westboro, Wellington, McKellar Park and other neighborhoods and all around the streets where it can be seen.
- Have some ideas for creative action we can take? Contact Becky Cronin at beckymike@rogers.com
- Tell the Churchill Program Review Action Committee if you prefer to receive updates by phone

Have your children tell their story!

- Create Posters to display around the school – Encouraging letter writing about their experiences at Churchill Alternative or inviting Trustees to visit
- Write letters to the Review committee and have a parent email it
- Write letters to the newspapers telling their perspective of why the program is important
- Record a video to the video wall telling their story



Churchill Alternative Program Review Action Committee (CPRAC)

Key Messages

For Parents & Community

- It's about having CHOICE in our children's educational options (It's not about "better")
- Alternative program is a distinctive learning environment in these ways (pick 3-4 from Principles) – Focus on program STRENGTHS
- Why CHOICE of this program is important to you and your children
- Program needs more awareness and promotion – More families need to know their choices
- More children should have access to Alternative programs (out of 12 Zones, only 4 have Alternative Programs available).
- Removing the Alternative program affects all parents with children K-8 age groups
- Every parent want the right learning environment for their children – at any point in their first 8 years of school you could be faced with having to find programming better suited to your child's style of learning – don't you want Alternative to be one of those choices?

For Trustees and OCDSB

- The Alternative Program is significantly different from regular English Programs (at majority of schools)
- The Alternative Program provides value to OCDSB
- The Alternative Program's are expanding at progressive and innovative public school boards across Canada
- The offering of the Alternative program and its principles should be strengthened and expanded beyond 4 of 12 zones in Ottawa
- Closing the program will result in negative attention for the Trustees and the OCDSB and likely cause a further reduction in enrollment
- There is strong community support for the Alternative Program

For Media

- OCDSB is conducting a review of the Alternative Program (provide links)
- **Parents and Students are concerned that the review is not being conducted in a way that allows for the collection of all information necessary to provide input for an informed decision:**
 - Short length of time devoted to review
 - Report will be written by board staff with information gathered by steering committee
 - No alternative schools are to be visited to gather input on the program content, quality or delivery
 - No current students are being surveyed
 - No visibility into factors for decision – what the weights and values are, gating factors etc.
 - OCDSB's review threatens the removal of the Alternative Program CHOICE for Ottawa Parents
 - The Alternative Program has been actively seeking a complete review since 2007, with proposals un-responded to by OCDSB (refer to 2006 Survey, Revitalization Report and Recommendations)
 - In 1998, after amalgamation, the OCDSB committed to a strong communications plan for the Alternative Program to increase the awareness of the Alternative CHOICE. None of that took place. (see OCDSB A New Vision Sept 1998)
 - Parents are looking for ways to provide assistance to the Board and its review to ensure all evidence that supports and proves the success of Alternative education are factored into their decisions.
- Parents want OCDSB to clearly understand that the removal of this program puts Ottawa's public education in a regressive position, not the progressive position of many other school boards across Canada (Toronto, Whole Child)



Churchill Alternative Program Review Action Committee (CPRAC)

Letter Writing Tips

Make it Personal

share your family's experience with that Alternative Program and Churchill Alternative.

Make it Big

get your neighbors and family involved, this impacts all aspects of our community. Talk to your kids and get them involved – they can send letters as well.

Make it Count

even if you only send a letter template it is important – we need to let the review committee know that we are concerned and feel that the review is being unfairly conducted and the CHOICE of Alternative education is a critical part of our community.

Points to include in Letters and Emails

- **purpose of letter:** concerns regarding the Elementary Alternative Program Review
- **who you are:** a parent with a child in the alternative program
 - **outline your concerns:** regarding the structure of the review: the short length of time being devoted to the review, the minimal role of the steering committee and the limited formal consultation with stakeholders
 - **concern about the purpose of the review:** the specifics of the program, its quality and how it is delivered, are not being considered; other Ontario alternative programs are not being contacted (as with the program here, it seems like the actual quality and delivery of their programs are not seen as relevant); the purpose of the review is described as being about coming to a decision regarding the alternative program, but there is no clarity around what decision they are trying to come to
 - the first objective of the review (as stated by the board) is "*to determine the extent to which the current mandate, expectations and practices regarding program delivery for the alternative elementary program in the OCDSB differs from that of the non-alternative programs (e.g., regular English and French immersion)*" -- without knowing how the alternative program functions, it is difficult to see how the review will determine how it differs from the non-alternative program offerings
 - efforts of the alternative schools to provide even more differentiated approaches have been denied by the board; the review does not address this
- **review will be solely on paper** and not take into account the lived reality of the program: for example, it is easy to look at a principle like "parental engagement" on paper and say that happens everywhere, instead of looking at how that principle actually manifests in different schools and programs
- try to end your letter with a question, so that a response is required
- **Be specific and refer to your own experiences** as much as possible
- Don't be shy about being really enthusiastic!
- **Use the language of alternative education:**
 - **multi age groupings, parental engagement** (parents contributing to the creation of the school environment, for example, **insert EXAMPLES HERE**).
 - **student-led conferences and anecdotal reporting** (teachers explain how your children are doing in a respectful and supportive way)
 - **intrinsic motivation** is where our children are motivated from within and not by marks or rewards
 - **acceptance and integration** of all children, the natural development of empathy
 - talk about **non-competition instead of cooperation**, most schools think they believe in cooperation, but we take an actually non-competitive approach in academics, athletics and fundraising



Churchill Alternative Program Review Action Committee (CPRAC)

Why choose Alternative?

With the OCDSB Elementary Alternative Review Process underway it is important for us to recommit ourselves to Churchill Alternative's philosophies and what makes the Alternative Program truly unique

Churchill Alternative School Philosophy

- **Children learn in different ways** and at different times from things around them that interest them, from adults and from one another.
- Learning involves the development of the **whole child**
- The subjects we study are increasingly related to each other and it is through knowledge of these **interrelationships** that students gain an understanding of the world
- Learning occurs when students are **agents and initiators of their learning**
- Learning is **shared responsibility**, a partnership between children, parents, and teachers.
- Human development is a **lifelong, continuous, sequential and interactive process** through which each person moves at a unique rate.

Churchill Alternative Mission Statement

Each child will find success, self confidence, and independence in learning. A positive atmosphere conducive to learning, mutual respect and social responsibility will exist throughout the school. Creativity and a love of the arts will be fostered. Parents will be partners in the education of their children. Staff will engage in professional development activities creating an atmosphere of lifelong growth. Evaluation will be used by children and teachers for program planning. A sense of community will exist



Churchill Alternative Program Review Action Committee (CPRAC)

Alternative School Philosophy

7 characteristics form the foundation of the alternative education philosophy

<p>1. Co-Operative & Non-Competitive Environment</p>	<p>Cooperation and teamwork are emphasized instead of competition in all aspects of the school. The core believe if that children who are motivated from within, instead of by rewards will be come lifelong learners, eager to take on challenges.</p>
<p>2. Anecdotal Reporting and Student Self-evaluation</p>	<p>Assessment and evaluation is on-going using multiple strategies which include student self-evaluation. The primary focus of this process is personal growth, as well as being sued as a goal for program planning and assessment. Anecdotal reports provide a fuller, richer and more meaningful picture to parents and teachers.</p>
<p>3. Shared Teaching and Decision Making Responsibility</p>	<p>A commitment to innovative approaches to teaching a learning through a shared responsibility among staff, students and parents. (Teacher/Student/Parent Triad)</p>
<p>4. Student-Centered and Child- Directed Learning</p>	<p>A balance between student-directed and teacher-directed learning: the teacher acts as a facilitator/mentor/guide of the child's learning; enhances self-concept, enthusiasm for learning, and personal responsibility.</p>
<p>5. Purposefully designed Multi –Aged Groupings</p>	<p>Multi-aged groupings foster interaction among children of different ages and at different stages of development provides an environment wherein students learn from each other as well as from the teacher. It provides a wider range of learning levels for children and affords opportunities for peer mentoring, teaching leadership and thinking skills. For some it also allows children to have the same teacher for two years in a row.</p>
<p>6. Integrated & Innovative Programming Approaches</p>	<p>Children learn better when lessons involve many of the sense and related directly to their experiences of the world. Cross curricular /Integrated lessons work to capture and sustain childrens' interests and give real world meaning to math, science, language and social in a creative environment. – blending the traditional subject boundaries.</p>
<p>7. Family-Centered School Environment</p>	<p>Pro-active Parental involvement is a partnership between the home and school fostering self- respect, respect for the ideas and the opinions of others and an appreciation for people's differences.</p>



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Where to send your letters!

Here is a comprehensive list of individuals that you can send your letters to – please be sure to copy the program review on all of the letters that you send. (Be sure to check out the “Letter Writing Tips and Key Messages” section for help in crafting your letter.)

Send your letters and comments before *November 15, 2009* to the following people:

1. FIRST: To The School Board – elementary_alternative_review@ocdsb.ca

This email address has been set up specifically to receive input about the alternative education program review. This email address **is the formal avenue for consultation**, the emails sent to it must be considered by the review team and distributed to the trustees on a weekly basis.

DEADLINE for public submissions and input is November 15, 2009.

- a. **Be sure to copy the** Alternative School Action Committee (ASAC). This is the committee set up to oppose the Alternative Program Review so please always send them a copy your letters programreview@asac-ottawa.org

2. SECOND: To the School Board Elementary Program Review Team (inputs)

The this is a list of specific individuals at the school board who are involved in the review.

- **Jennifer Adams**, Superintendent of Curriculum - jennifer.adams@ocdsb.ca
- **Pino Buffone**, System Principal, Elementary Curriculum - pino.buffone@ocdsb.ca
- **Joan Oracheski Manager**, Quality Assurance - joan.oracheski@ocdsb.ca
- **Walter Piovesan**, area superintendent for Lady Evelyn, Manor Park and Summit - walter.piovesan@ocdsb.ca
- **Cathy Nevins**, area superintendent for Grant - cathy.nevins@ocdsb.ca
- **Neil Yorke-Slader**, area superintendent for Churchill and Riverview - neil.yorkeslader@ocdsb.ca
- **Barrie Hammond**, superintendent, liaison to ASAC - barrie.hammond@ocdsb.ca

3. **THIRD: To The School Board Trustees (Decision Makers)**

The trustees are will be the ones that vote to make the final decision – we need to influence ALL of them as much as we can – particularly those not as familiar with the Alternative Program

- Zone 1: Lynn Scott, lynn.scott@ocdsb.ca
- Zone 2: Cathy Curry, cathy.curry@ocdsb.ca
- Zone 3: Mark Fisher, mark.fisher@ocdsb.ca
- Zone 4: Douglas Lloyd, doug.lloyd@ocdsb.ca
- Zone 5 (Grant): Pam FitzGerald, pam.fitzgerald@ocdsb.ca
- Zone 6 (Manor Park, Riverview): Bronwyn Funicello, bronwyn.funicello@ocdsb.ca
- Zone 7: Pam Morse, Pamela.Morse@ocdsb.ca
- Zone 8: John Shea (ASAC liaison), john.shea@ocdsb.ca
- Zone 9 (Lady Evelyn): Rob Campbell, rob.campbell@ocdsb.ca
- Zone 10 (Churchill, Summit): Jennifer McKenzie, jennifer.mckenzie@ocdsb.ca
- Zone 11: Riley Brockington, riley.brockington@ocdsb.ca
- Zone 12: David Moen, david.moen@ocdsb.ca

4. **FOURTH: To Our Friends and Family – The Ottawa Community**

This is where your story can have impact on others in your neighborhood and the greater Ottawa Community. Reach out to your friends and family to strongly encourage they too send a letter to the board outlining why CHOICE is an integral part of the OCDSB offering. This isn't about "better" it's about CHOICE.

5. **FIFTH: To The Media**

Media is where we need to get this story elevated to. We need to put the people, the families and the community at the forefront of this issue. It is about our children's options and our CHOICES as parents.

Write a letter to the editor of the many newspapers in the Ottawa area, send and email to the many talk-radio stations in Ottawa, submit your comments on blogs and other community conversations.

Here are some helpful links:

<i>Ottawa Citizen</i>	<i>CFRA</i>
Gerry Nott, Editor-in-Chief, (613) 726-5903 gnott@thecitizen.canwest.com	Steve Winogron, CHUM Ottawa News Director, CFRA Assistant Program Director steve.winogron@chumottawa.com
Drew Gragg, Deputy Editor, (613) 596-3671 dgragg@thecitizen.canwest.com	On Air Personalities
Graham Green, Executive Editor, (613) 596-3685 ggreen@thecitizen.canwest.com Rob Warner, Managing Editor, (613)726-5902 rkwarner@thecitizen.canwest.com Teresa Honeyman, Deputy Managing Editor, (613) 596-03751 thoneyman@thecitizen.canwest.com Peter Robb, Deputy Managing Editor, City, (613)726-5981 probb@thecitizen.canwest.com Melanie Coulson, Sr. Editor, Online, (613)596-3730 mcoulson@thecitizen.canwest.com Kurt Johnson, Letters Editor, (613) 596-3785 letters@thecitizen.canwest.com David Watson, Deputy Editorial Pages Editor, (613) 596-3707 dwatson@thecitizen.canwest.com	Steve Madely mornings@cfra.com Mark Sutcliffe mark.sutcliffe@chumottawa.com Lowell Green lgreen@cfra.com Michael Harris mharris@cfra.com Ron Corbett unscripted@cfra.com Rob Snow afternoons@cfra.com John Counsell jcounsell@cfra.com

<p>EMC News editor@thenewsemc.ca</p>	<p>CBC Ottawa cbcnewsottawa@cbc.ca Direct email addresses are not provided but additional CBC news contacts can be contacted through the email form on their website : http://www.cbc.ca/ottawa/contact/</p>
<p>Kitchissippi Times Managing Editor editor@kitchissippi.com Publisher Mark Sutcliffe mark@kitchissippi.com</p>	<p>CBC Radio Newsroom: TEL: (613) 288-6485 FAX: (613) 288-6490</p>
<p>Centretown News ctown@carleton.ca</p>	<p>CBC Television Newsroom: TEL: (613) 288-6445 FAX: (613) 288-6490</p>
<p>Ottawa Sun ottsun.oped@sunmedia.ca</p>	<p>CBC Ottawa Online News: Emily Chung TEL: (613) 288-6539</p>
<p>Metro Web form with no direct email address: http://www.metronews.ca/ottawa/contactus</p>	<p>Senior Producer - News Assignment: Kim Drummond TEL: (613) 288-6485 FAX: (613) 288-6490</p>
<p>24 Hours Same as Ottawa Sun ottsun.oped@sunmedia.ca</p>	<p>Producer - Radio News: Laurence Wall TEL: (613) 288-6481 FAX: (613) 288-6490</p>
<p>CJOH – CTV Ottawa News: ottawanews@ctv.ca News Tips: ottawanews@ctv.ca</p>	<p>Senior Producer - CBC News: Ottawa at 5, 5:30 and 6 pm: Lynn Douris</p>
<p>A Channel News Tips and Story Ideas ottawa.producers@Atv.ca A Morning amorning@Atv.ca</p>	<p>Executive Producer - CBC News: Ottawa at 5, 5:30 and 6 pm: Paula Waddell TEL: (613) 288-6445 FAX: (613) 288-6490</p>
<p>Rogers Ottawa Daytime erin.lannan@rci.rogers.com Talk Ottawa TalkOttawa@rogerstelevision22.com</p>	<p>CPAC Mailing Address: CPAC P.O. Box 81099 Ottawa, ON K1P 1B1 Phone: 1-877-287-CPAC Fax: 613-567-2749</p>



Churchill Alternative Program Review Action Committee (CPRAC) Additional Details, Information & Contacts

Here are additional resources if you are looking for a deeper level of understanding or more details around the OCDSB Elementary Alternative Program Review.

Additional Information (including the Board's review framework) can be found at:

- Elementary Alternative Program Review was approved June 23, 2009 – the OCDSB Elementary Alternative Program Review Overview can be found here:
 - http://www.ocdsb.ca/au_hi_program-reviews_EAPR.asp
- OCDSB Elementary Alternative Program Review Framework
 - http://www.ocdsb.ca/Documents/Board_Meetings/Meetings/2009/June_2009/Brd_June23_2009/16c_Append_Fi_to_EC_partial_16june09.pdf
- OCDSB 1998 Report Summary (what the OCDSB committed to)
 - http://asac-ottawa.org/files/documents/A_New_Vision.pdf?&MMN_position=89:7:9
- **Facebook Group** "Alternative Schools in Ottawa: More Choices"
(<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=120591670218>)
- Lady Evelyn Alternative School's website (<http://www.ladyevelyn.ca/programreview>)

Action Groups

- Lady Evelyn Alternative School is participating and driving a larger effort to get attention and action around the program review (their site can be found here <http://www.ladyevelyn.ca/node/236>)
- There is a larger Action Group includes six committees which also has the participation of Churchill members:
 - Research/policy/legal – leads: Joey Gunn and Caroline Hyslop
 - Lobbying – lead: Stephanie Dugdale
 - Media – lead: Teresa LeGrand
 - Producing a Minority Report – lead:
 - Outreach – lead: Monique Cuillerier
 - Creative Action – lead:

Churchill Alternative Contacts

- Churchill- Program Review Action Committee Contacts
 - Pam Dilworth- Christie (CASC) 613-792-1815 (dilchrist@rogers.com)
 - Soula Dimitrey 613-725-3334 (soula.dimitrey@rogers.com)
 - Petra Bokowski 613-729-2851 (petra@bokowski.de)
 - Jay Johnson (jay.johnson@telus.com)



Churchill Alternative Program Review Action Committee (CPRAC) Example Letter – Alternative School Parent

Date
Name
Address

Dear XXXX,

I am writing to you to express my concerns regarding the OCDSB Alternative Program Review. I feel that the review is being unfairly conducted and I have a larger concern about the purpose of the review.

(Paragraph About You)

I am a parent at Churchill Alternative and my experience at this school as been ...**PLEASE USE THIS SECTION TO TALK ABOUT YOUR FAMILYS EXPERIENCE AT CHURCHILL AND WHY YOU CHOSE THIS PARTICULAR SCHOOL**

My Concerns With the OCDSB Alternative Program Review

Short Time Frame - The short length of time devoted to the review does not allow the review to fully capture the scope of the Alternative Program – they are not able to evaluate the **QUALITY** or **DELIVERY** of the program. Nor does it give the Trustees the opportunity to spend time in the schools that run the programs that they are tasked with reviewing.

Limited Consultation With Stakeholders –During the short review time, no current students will be surveyed about their experiences in the Alternative Program. The appointed Steering Committee will also have little to no input during the review process nor will any of the alternative schools will be visited by board staff, trustees or the steering committee.

No Expanded Research – During the review, the process will not include looking at alternative programs in other areas (for example, the very successful and expanding Alternative Programs in Toronto and Hamilton). Only written descriptions of their programs will be considered as part of the literature review. The actual quality and delivery of their programs is not considered relevant.

Diluted Focus of the Review - The quality and delivery of the Alternative Program is not being considered in the review. The purpose of the review is described as being about “coming to a decision” regarding the alternative program, without reference to how such a decision should be made. There appears to be a disconnect between this objective and the structure of the review process. Without knowing how the alternative program functions, it is difficult to see how the review will determine how it differs from the non-alternative program offerings.

Paper Based Review – The Alternative Review will be solely done on paper and will not take into account the lived reality of the program. For example, it is easy to look at the Alternative Program principle like "parental engagement" on paper and say that happens everywhere, instead of looking at how that principle actually manifests in different schools and programs

Why Churchill Alternative?

We have chosen the Alternative Program because we feel that **children learn in different ways** and at **different times**. Learning involves the development of the **whole child and that** through knowledge of these **interrelationships** that students gain an understanding of the world. Learning occurs when students are **agents and initiators of their learning** and this learning is a **shared responsibility**, a partnership between children, parents, and teachers. Human development is a **lifelong, continuous, sequential and interactive process** through which each person moves at a unique rate.

We feel that the Alternative Program addresses our family's needs and provides ALL parents within the OCDSB a **CHOICE** regarding their children's K-8 education. As active and concerned parents we would appreciate knowing what factors you will use to make your decision. How are you determining whether to expand the program or close it?

Sincerely,

(Your name here)



Churchill Alternative Program Review Action Committee (CPRAC) Example Letter – Non Alternative Parent

Date
Name
Address

Dear XXXX,

I am writing to you to express my concerns regarding the OCDSB Alternative Program Review. I am a parent in the Ottawa School Board and I feel that the review is being unfairly conducted and to close the Alternative Program would have a far reaching impact.

Limited Choices - Removal of the Alternative Program would limit the choices within that School Board – one of fundamentals of the Ottawa School board “More Schools, More Choice”. If at any point in our child’s educational path we may need to explore alternative education I feel that it is important to have that choice.

Changes in School Zoning - I am also concerned that the removal of the Alternative Program will impact MY child’s school. With the potential changes in catchment areas and student dispersment ALL students will be impacted by these decisions.

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We feel that the Alternative Program is a vital part of the Ottawa School board that provides families like ours a CHOICE regarding children’s education. As active and concerned parents we would appreciate knowing what factors you will use to make your decision. How are you determining whether to expand the program or close it?

Sincerely,



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Example Letter – Children

Date

Name

Address

Dear xxxx

My mom/dad/teacher has (or parents have) told me that the School Board is reviewing the program for alternative schools in Ottawa, including my school. I know that people are collecting information and will write a report that will make recommendations to the Board of Trustees that could have an impact on the alternative school program.

I am in Grade X at (name of school). Before coming to (name of school), I went to (name of school) – if applicable. I enjoy going to (Name of school) because the teachers work with us to help us learn interesting things – (give recent example from your class). Our classes are mixed grades so we get to stay with the same teacher and friends for two years. Since each class is paired with another class for certain activities, it is like belonging to 2 classes, which is not the same for my friends who are in French Immersion or English-only programs or was not the same for me at my old school.

I really like that I know almost everyone at (name of school) and they know me. This is a friendly place where we are encouraged to do our best. I also like the fact that parents can come into the classroom and help out, in addition to coming on field trips.

I know that any decisions about the alternative program will be made by adults, but I wanted to let you know that children like me will be affected by these decisions. Please come for a visit to my school so you can see exactly what we love about going to school everyday.

Yours sincerely,

(child's name)