



Jan 13, 2012

To whom it may concern,

We are writing to express our concern and dismay over reports that have been received by us at the Lakeview Ratepayer's Association as to the choice of a new name for our local public school that services our Lakeview children.

We understand that Hartsdale Public School is being renamed Janet McDougald Public School. The Lakeview Ratepayer's Association has more than one concern over this choice for a name. The more serious ones are listed below:

- We believe the new school should not be named after a
- currently sitting Public School Board trustee. This is against all accepted practice and would be prejudicial to the named incumbent in subsequent elections for trustee elections.
- The LRA has concerns over the optics of having the Trustee/ School Board Chair who sat on the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) which voted to close ALL of the public schools in our community being honoured with the name of the very school to which all of our Lakeview public school board children must now be bussed. For the first time in 100 years, Lakeview has no elementary public school. Naming the new school after one of the chief architects of this serious problem is seen as an insult to our community.
- According to the ARC committee minutes on file at the board, Madam McDougald herself is on record as supporting a neutral name for the new school, to avoid a negative effect on the new students arriving from our now closed Lakeview schools. As far as we understand, it was suggested and voted on by a committee that the name should be Hartsdale Public School, as this reflects Board policy in respect to priorities in school naming decisions as well as it being an unbiased name choice describing the location of the new school on Hartsdale Road as part of the effort of integrating children into the new school.

Thank you for your receipt of this community letter. We suggest that the school board reconsider their position and that the new Hartsdale Public School should not be renamed.

Thank you,

Lakeview Ratepayer's Association
Board of Directors
2012-01-13