



**November 20, 2017**

**Update – Status of Paisley Central School**

As many in our local communities are aware, Paisley Central School was included last year in an accommodation review conducted by Bluewater District School Board. The final outcome of this review was determined through the following motions passed by the Board of Trustees on April 18, 2017:

*That Bluewater District School Board approve accepting the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie’s partnership offer at Paisley Central School to offset the expected annual school operation deficit, based on the agreed upon terms.*

*That Bluewater District School Board approve negotiating with the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie and with future potential viable partners who come forward, to secure funding that offsets capital upkeep for Paisley Central School.*

*That Bluewater District School Board approve scheduling Paisley Central School for closure June 30, 2019 if sufficient partnerships and funding options are not in place by March 31, 2019 to offset capital upkeep; and, That this closure recommendation come before the Board of Trustees for decision; and, That the students be accommodated at Chesley District Community School, Walkerton District Community School, and Port Elgin-Saugeen Central School.*

Since the trustee vote in April, Bluewater District School Board and the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie have been engaged in positive and productive discussions with a common goal of meeting the requirements of the motions. No additional decisions have been made regarding the future of Paisley Central School. Both organizations are committed to continuing to work in close collaboration over the next year and beyond, in the hope of achieving a solution that will serve the needs of all students and families.

Our local communities will continue to be updated as required should any new developments arise from this partnership between our board and municipality.