

Dawn-Euphemia Support Our School Committee  
Presentation to the ARC

February 17, 2010

# Dawn-Euphemia Support Our School Committee

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## ▶ **Who we are...**

- ▶ Community members who support local community based learning.
- ▶ Rural based families having already lost two schools in the past 10 years.

## ▶ **What we believe...**

- ▶ Our children have a right to education in their home community.
- ▶ Smaller schools lay the foundation for life long learning.

## ▶ **What is our mission...**

- ▶ Demonstrate the importance of our school to our children and community.
- ▶ Rally support for our school.
- ▶ Ensure the voice of the community is heard.



# Our Community

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- ▶ Rural Demographics – Bucking the Trend
- ▶ The Community – Partners in Education
- ▶ Developing Sustainable Rural Communities

“A school in a community [...] is the **heart and soul** and the promise that a community holds for the future. To close a school has a profound impact on the sense of community and the promise it holds for its **future**, so we’ve got to be really careful.”

– Dalton McGuinty, 2008



# Our Children

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- ▶ Quality of Education – No One is Suffering
- ▶ School Size - Bigger is **Not** Better
- ▶ Student Success – We Excel

“We’ve made it law now that if you want to close a school in your board, you have an obligation to **prove** it’s in the interest of the children’s education”

– Dalton McGuinty, 2008



# Our Future

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- ▶ Community Schools – Critical Social Infrastructure
- ▶ Focus on Innovative Idea Generation
- ▶ Developing Responsible Citizens
- ▶ Small schools are worth saving...small schools are worth the cost.

“Without schools, there are no children;  
without children, there are no families;  
without families, there are no communities.”

– Mary Reddyk, 1996


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“The school helps define the community and give it an identity. It is a connection to the past and represents a hope for the future. Most importantly a school is a sign of the community’s viability as a place to live, a place to stay, and a place to move to. The presence of children and the sounds of their play throughout the day are signs of life and vitality sorely needed by our rural communities.” – Dennis M. Mulcahy, 1997

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**You can choose this...**

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**...or this!**

