

# Castleton P.S. has seen many changes

By BOB OWEN  
lowen@explornet.com  
CARRICOLE  
Feb. 1/07

School began in the 1940s. As many as nine or 10 kids would pile into a car hired by the local school board to ferry them to school.

Since the Continuation School closed in 1950, the school has remained an elementary school. It currently has six classrooms, a library and a playground.

There were about 135 students in attendance in 2004 according to data provided by the province.

In 2003-4, Castleton Public School was twinned with South Cramahe Public School as a means of staying within administrative costs allowed by the provincial government.

In May, 2004 the Ontario government gave the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board \$62,090 under its Good Schools Open initiative to apply to administrative expenses for the school which did not meet the province's perceived ideal pupil/principal ratio of 364:1

In 2006 Ministry of Education Director of Business Services Nancy Whynot released the results of audits of the school done in 2002-3 using two methods which placed it in the prohibitive to repair category. The minimum score to be placed in this category was 65 per cent. Castleton's scores were 97.31 and 125.02.

These audits were used to determine the needs and priorities of repairs to allocate provincial funding. It will spend up to \$50-million annually on new construction to replace schools in poor condition

The hamlet of Castleton has had a school since about 1840 when students attended classes in a small frame schoolhouse.

The current school cost \$29,000 to build and equip and opened in 1930.

Until 1950, the east end of the building housed a continuation school for students from grade nine to 12 and the west end held the elementary classes. Students in the continuation school came from about a dozen one-room elementary schools in the surrounding area. Students who finished grade 12 and wanted higher education had to attend grade 13 classes in Colborne, Warkworth or Cobourg.

Busing to the Castleton

## South Cramahe P.S. opened 1961

Six acres of Lot 20, Concession 3 in Cramahe Township was purchased for South Cramahe Public School for \$2,000.

In 1961, the first building with five classes, and a playroom was erected at a cost of \$120,000, allowing the closure of five area one-room schools. In 1966, South Cramahe Public School was expanded for \$78,000. A year later, a kindergarten class was added. The first principal, Robert Millar, served with a staff of five.

There were about 215 students in attendance in 2004, according to data provided by the province.

In 2003-4, Castleton Public School was twinned with South Cramahe Public School as a means of staying within administrative costs allowed by the provincial government.

In May 2004, the Ontario government gave the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board \$28,403 under its Good Schools Open initiative to apply to administrative expenses for the school which did not meet the province's perceived ideal pupil/principal ratio of 364:1

In 2006, Ministry of Education Director of Business Services Nancy Whynot released the results of audits of the school done in 2002-3 using the gross floor area method which placed it in the prohibitive to repair category.

The minimum score to be placed in this category was 65 per cent. South Cramahe's score was 70.59.

## Other Northumberland public school changes proposed - Karen Lloyd



**C.R. Gummow Public School, Cobourg**

Main campus built in 1953  
2006/07 enrollment: 680 students  
**Closure?**



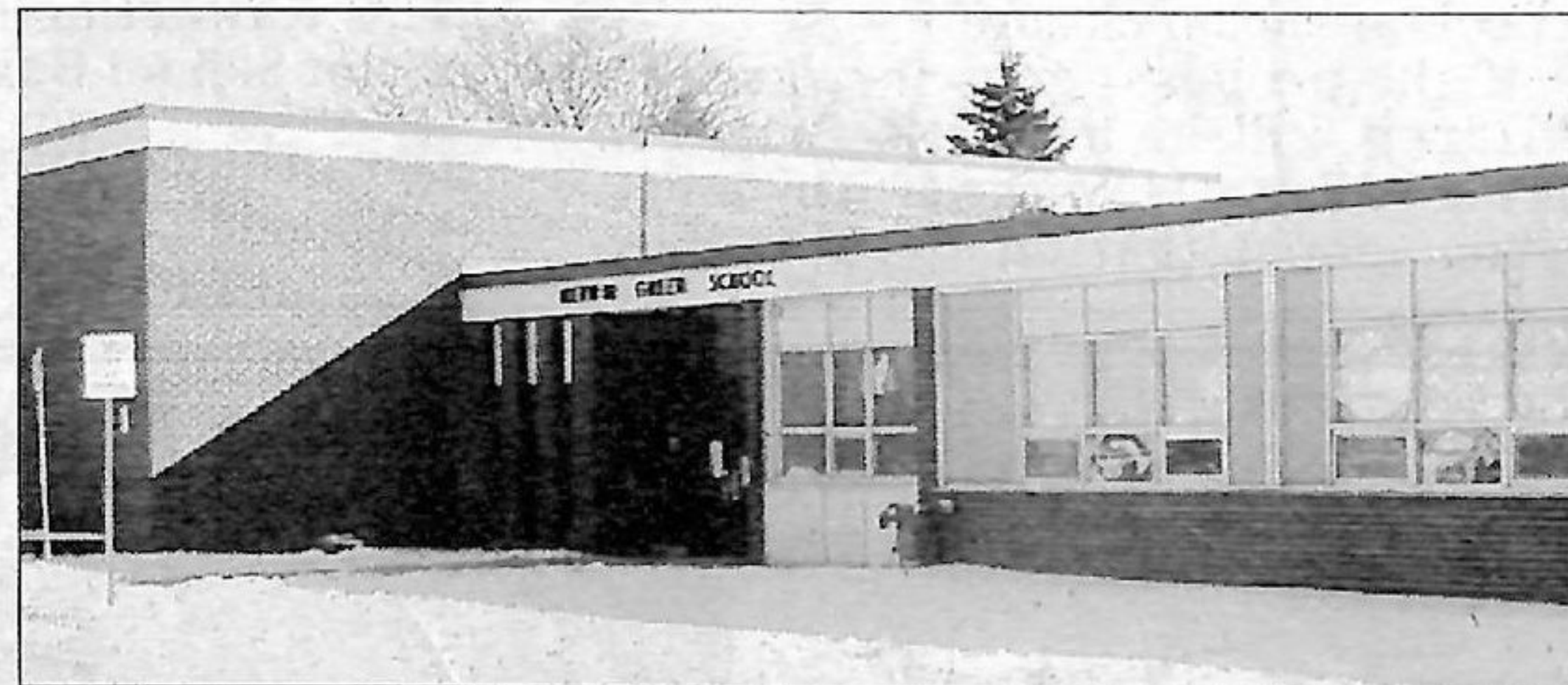
**Grant Sine Public School, Cobourg**

2006/07 enrollment: 100 students  
**Closure?**

### Cobourg

Administration is proposing a review to consolidate the following three east-end elementary schools: Grant Sine, C.R. Gummow and Merwin Greer.

Depending on enrollment trends, there may also be an addition to Merwin Greer. Tentative opening date — 2010.



**Merwin Greer Public School, Cobourg**

Built in the mid-1950s  
2006/07 enrollment: 103 students. **Possible addition.**

### Port Hope

A new school was approved for the Howard Jordan Public School site pending funding following the School Review Process of Central Public School. Its targeted opening date is 2008.



**Central Public School**

Built in 1912  
2006/07 enrollment: 184 students

**Expected closing date:**  
The end of this school year



**Howard Jordan Public School**

Built in 1958.  
Deemed cost-prohibitive to repair.  
2006/07 enrollment: 195 students

**To be replaced with a new school 2008**