

**A community school in Waterloo Region has the following characteristics:**

Identity	Relates to an identifiable area providing educational and community use operations.
Location (existing)	Located in or proximate to an identifiable geographic area, place or grouping of neighbourhoods.
Location (proposed)	Located centrally within planned land use areas sharing access to public open space. Maximize walk-in potential.
Size	450 – 600 pupil places provide economies in program delivery, organization, core facilities, staffing and operations and construction costs.

It is recognized that there needs to be flexibility for schools in rural communities. In those instances the schools would be located in a settlement area – town or village – that has been designated in the municipal plan for future services and residential growth. The size of such facilities could range from 300 to 600 pupil places because of their larger catchment areas and sparse rural populations, creating issues of travel distance and community connection.

**Above excerpt from the Board’s 2001 Long Range Accommodation Plan**

Dictionary definitions:

Community:

- State of being shared or held in common.
- Body of people living in same locality.
- Organized political, municipal or social body.

Neighbourhood:

- Nearness, in the vicinity.
- Close at hand, nearby.