

November 11, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians and Community Members:

I am writing you to share the final recommendations of the Program Area Review Team (PART) that was established this fall regarding Brian PS, Cliffwood PS, Crestview PS, Dallington Public School, Don Valley JHS, Forest Manor PS, George S. Henry Academy, Georges Vanier SS, Kingslake PS, Lescon PS, Seneca Hill PS and Woodbine JHS. The PART has completed its work and has developed the following recommendations.

Staff is in general agreement with the recommendations of the PART. These recommendations result in improved utilization rates, efficient use of space, program choice, equity and fair access to specialized programs. They do not incur additional transportation costs. They achieve a significant decrease in the number of portables needed at the schools.

- 1. Grade Changes:
 - a. The junior elementary schools (Crestview PS, Dallington PS, Forest Manor PS, Kingslake PS, Lescon PS and Seneca Hill PS) become JK to Grade 5 schools.
 - b. That Don Valley JHS and Woodbine JHS become Grade 6 to 8 schools.
 - With corresponding school name changes being, to Don Valley Middle School and Woodbine Middle School.
 - c. Georges Vanier SS becomes a Grade 9 to 12 school.
- 2. Shift in French Programs Pathways:
 - a. The pathway from Don Valley MS for Grade 9 be Windfields JHS, and then to York Mills CI for Grades 10 to 12.
 - b. That an additional guaranteed option be provided to Don Valley MS French Immersion pupils to attend Newtonbrook SS for Grades 9 to 12.
- 3. Shift in Special Education Programs:
 - a. The pathway from Lescon PS and Seneca Hill PS for the Grades 6 to 8 Gifted Program be Zion Heights MS and then on to their designated Secondary school by home address;
- 4. Change to the Dallington PS Attendance Area west of Leslie Street that becomes part of the Lescon PS attendance area with the pathway to Don Valley MS and Georges Vanier SS.
- 5. That a future study be conducted of the viability of a TOPS program at Georges Vanier SS.
- 6. Implementation:
 - a. That Grade 6 and 9 shifts occur for September 2016;
 - b. That program changes occur beginning September 2016 meaning new program sites will have their first grade of intake;
 - c. That the change to the Dallington PS boundary be implemented for September 2016 with grandparenting of existing pupils and their younger siblings;
 - d. That a study of a TOPS program take place as early as September 2016;

e. That school based transition teams be established, involving teachers, parents, principal, and when appropriate students, to identify and mitigate issues in student readiness, including such matters of student safety.

One change that staff is recommending concerns the timing of the implementation of the relocation of the Grade 6 French Immersion program from Dallington PS to Don Valley MS. The implementation date will change to September 1, 2017 to be consistent with other changes being made at Brian PS and Cliffwood PS as a result of other Program Area Reviews that occurred concurrently. This alignment will lead to a more viable program with a larger critical mass of students and a stronger program at Don Valley MS that will be supported by increased classroom resources.

The next steps in the approval process regarding staff's recommended changes are as follows:

- School board staff will present a report with their recommendations to the Board's Planning and Priorities Committee on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. If you would like to share your thoughts in person or in writing with Trustees, please contact Denisse Parra at <u>denisse.parra@tdsb.on.ca</u> by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2015. For more information, please go to <u>www.tdsb.on.ca/boardroom</u> and click on Delegations.
- The Planning and Priorities Committee will present its recommendations regarding the Program Area Review to the **Board of Trustees** at a meeting on **Wednesday, November 25, 2015**. At this meeting, the Board will make the final decisions about the schools.

If you have any questions about the process, please feel free to contact me. I will inform you about the Board's decision.

I would like to thank all members of the PART and those who attended the public meeting for their valuable contribution. A great deal of time was spent developing recommendations that will benefit area students.

Regards,

Beth Veale

Beth Veale Superintendent of Education ER18

cc: Alexander Brown, Trustee Ward 12 Ken Lister, Trustee Ward 17

English	This document contains important information. Please take it to someone who can read English or to your School Office so that they can arrange for an interpreter or translation.
French	Le présent document contient des renseignements importants. Veuillez le montrer à une personne qui comprend l'anglais écrit ouau bureau de votre école qui prendra les dispositions requises pour engager un interprète ou un traducteur.
Arabic	يتضمن هذا المستند معلومات هامة. برجاء الذهاب بها لشخص يمكنه قراءة اللغة الإنجليزية أو إلى مكتب إدارة المدرسة/ الكلية حتى يمكنه اتخاذ الترتيبات الخاصة بتوفير مترجم.
Farsi	این مدرک حاوی مطالب مهمی است. لطفاً از کسی که انگلیسی می داند بخواهید تا آنرا برای شما بخواند، یا آنرا به دفتر مدرسه (فرزندتان) ببرید تا یک مترجم را برای خواندن آن ترتیب دهند.

Mandarin (Simplified) 处以便他们能替你安排一口译员或翻译员。

R02 (P20151111-GeorgesVanierClusterPARTStaffResponseLetterv2.doc)sg.3982