



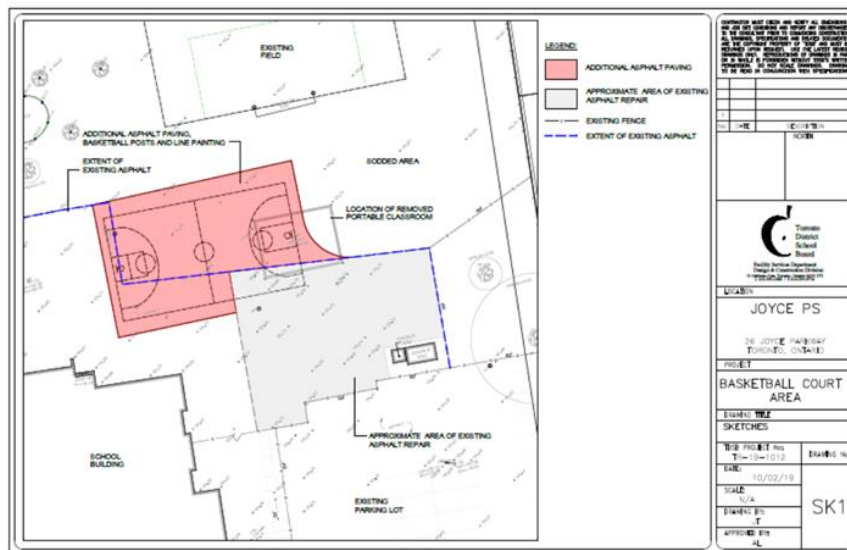
25 October 2019

Dear Joyce Public School Parents/Caregivers, Staff and Community:

Re: Joyce PS Master Plan

Thank you to the parents and staff from both the school and the childcare who have worked with the administration and the Toronto District School Board's Design staff and consultants to develop a Master Plan for Joyce Public School's outdoor space. The Master Plan Committee has met many times and engaged other members of the community including students and parents over the past three years. We are very pleased to confirm that the TDSB is prepared to fund a number of the elements in the project.

When the portable was recently removed, it left a lot of broken asphalt. We have a commitment from Board staff that when the Maintenance department replaces the asphalt, they will follow the master plan. Our staff will not only replace the broken asphalt and regrade the asphalt area, but will be adding some additional asphalt so that we can create the basketball court. This will include adding the basketball uprights in this area when they do the new asphalt, as per what is shown in the master plan. The asphalt work will begin this Fall and depending on the weather, may need to be completed in the Spring. Please see the following diagram.



There is also agreement that the playground structure at the back of the school will be replaced at the Board's cost. The school team has provided TDSB staff with the selection criteria for the playground equipment based on consultation with the community and the process for selecting the equipment has begun. The school team will be given the play equipment bids from vendors, and they will choose the preferred equipment. There will be a seating area next to the play structure.

We are also working with the Grounds Team for more pruning to be done on three oak trees on the west side of the school and we are working with the Maintenance department to completely replace the soil in the planters at the front of the school. The school can then use the planters to support your EcoSchools program. In addition, there will be modifications to the Full Day Kindergarten/Child Care yard to enable a paved pathway from that part of the school grounds to the front door of the school.

We are taking a close look at removing the play equipment at the front of the school. It is close to the end of its life – as part of this project, again, at the Board's expense, this structure won't be replaced with manufactured equipment, but in consultation with the committee, a number of other elements may be added including sand play, stepped posts, loose parts play, learning circles, etc. As a new OPAL school (Outdoor Play and Learning) the committee is working to ensure the master plan supports creative and diverse outdoor play experiences, so children can explore their imaginations, their physicality, their friendships and the world around them.

You can find out more about OPAL programs here – <https://earthday.ca/earthplay/schoolplay/>.

A copy of the Master Plan of the Project, developed through consultation, can be found on the next page. To enlarge it for viewing, please click on the link below – [https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/ward8/docs/Shelley%20Laskin/2019-07-18%20TDSB%20Joyce%20Rendered%20Concept%20Plan\\_R\(small\).pdf](https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/ward8/docs/Shelley%20Laskin/2019-07-18%20TDSB%20Joyce%20Rendered%20Concept%20Plan_R(small).pdf)

Please note that the playground equipment replacement will be done during the Summer of 2020. Although this part of the school ground will be closed off, it will not affect the new basketball courts nor the ability to operate the Child Care over the summer.

All the work involved with the school ground master plan project will be closely monitored and performed in accordance with strict government regulations. We are also cognizant of being good neighbours, so this includes respecting city by-laws about noise levels and working hours. While we will do our very best to minimize it, some inconvenience and noise are inevitable during this process. Be assured that student, staff, and community safety will remain the very top priority throughout.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school at 416-395-2600. In the case of an Emergency, you can reach our Security Operations Centre at 416-395-4620.

Sincerely,

Shelley Laskin  
Trustee, Ward 8

Curtis Ennis  
Superintendent of Education, LN 04

cc: Susan Billington, Aileen Leadbetter, Councillor Mike Colle

