

April 24, 2019

Dear students, parents, and staff:

We are writing you today to update you about our progress towards our new Bloor CI and Alpha II Alternative School building. We are pleased to report that we are moving along in the process, though there remains significant work ahead. As you can appreciate, a project this size has a number of moving parts and will require all stakeholders working together throughout. As we move along, we are privileged to have the partnership and engagement of your School Advisory Council, Councillor Ana Bailao, City of Toronto Staff, and great neighbours like the Build a Better Bloor and Dufferin group.

Our goal is to ensure that everyone in our school community has the same information at the same time and that there is space in the process for plenty of input. Here's where we are now:

- The TDSB is currently proceeding through the City of Toronto Site Plan Approval (SPA) process, which is necessary in order to secure building permits for the new school. This process is expected to be completed by end of June 2019.
- At the same time, TDSB staff are following Ministry of Education Approval to Proceed (ATP) requirements. We expect that this process will be completed by September 2019.
- Once ATP is received, the TDSB will tender the project, with Board approval of the construction contract to follow likely in October.
- TDSB staff anticipate that construction of the replacement building would begin in November 2019, subject to the Ministry and City approvals. It is estimated that construction will take a minimum of two years to complete.

One challenge we are facing is that the existing building must be vacated by the end of December 2020 and the rebuild of the school will take place for the ensuing year. As such, TDSB is actively working on plans to accommodate students and staff, including administration, together at a nearby school for September 2020. In this way, the 2020-2021 year will not be interrupted with a mid-year move, and we can focus on supporting our students. Some of the criteria considered for a suitable location included proximity to our school and to public transportation. Central Technical School was selected as an ideal site on the Bloor/Danforth subway line, just 2.5 km to the east of our school, with ample space available, and featuring a number of amenities that will support and enhance programs. Bloor CI/Alpha II will remain at its current location for the 2019-2020 school year.



TDSB staff have coordinated other projects that involved holding sites while new schools are built, so we are confident that the move will be effectively managed. Bloor CI/Alpha II and Central Tech administration teams will be meeting regularly in the months leading up to the move so that the transition to the new site is smooth for all involved. We are very appreciative of the hospitality of our neighbours and look forward to temporarily sharing their facility.

We will share additional information as it becomes available and are also planning a community meeting in the near future so that we can provide more information about the new build, our temporary move, and related timelines. TDSB Staff and our partners will join us to discuss the project, hear from the community, and to respond to questions.

As we begin this journey together, we want to thank you in advance for your patience and understanding. Inevitably, we will experience some inconvenience during this process. However, we will collectively do our very best to minimize disruption to students and continue to provide the very best programming and co-curricular opportunities in a caring and safe space. We hope you will share our excitement about our brand new facility that will greatly benefit our students and the community for many years to come.



Trustee Stephanie Donaldson  
Ward 9, Davenport and Spadina- Fort York



Superintendent Mike Gallagher  
Learning Network 21

