



1. We will be sharing our physical space with the Catholic School Board. How does TDSB intend to maintain its mandated secular & non-sectarian principles? For example:
 - Will prayers be said over the announcement system?
 - Will religious symbolism (cross/statues/photos) be visibly on display?

TDSB will maintain its own PA system, religious symbols will not be on display in the area occupied by Baycrest PS.

2. As we move to a school with a much larger population and older grades, what plans are in place to ensure the safety & well-being of our kindergarten children?

For example:

- Will our children have a separate space in the school, including washrooms, entrance, coatrooms & fenced-in play area?
- Are kindergarten rooms larger than standard classrooms & equipped with low sink & countertops, carpeted area, water fountain & storage?

Yes. Kindergarten rooms will be built on the first floor of the school – they will be built to TDSB standards for FDK space and will include washrooms, sinks, counter-tops, storage areas, etc. purpose built for our youngest students.

3. Essential Component 3 of The Model Schools program is providing educational opportunities & resources to allow schools to become the heart of their communities & pillars of the neighbourhood. How is the relocation going to enhance our community and allow Baycrest to better reach this goal?

For example:

- Model Schools now have over 8 pediatric clinics. As Baycrest population & school expands, will this be implemented for our children?
- Is there space for a Parenting & Family Literacy Centre?
- Is commercial kitchen space available for our nutrition programs and for use as a community kitchen space?
- Is community garden space available?

These plans are in place once we take possession of the entire facility and any and all ideas are welcome. While the building is being jointly used, there will be a kitchen built on the second floor by the gym to ensure the Nutrition Program at Baycrest continues.



4. Baycrest Childcare Centre is an integral part of our school community. In our current location, the daycare has a separate kitchen, office, fenced-in playscape and outdoor seating. What plans are in place to ensure these facilities are in place in the new location?

The plan is for the Baycrest Childcare Centre to be rebuilt into the Sir Sandford Fleming building on the first floor. The Daycare has met with the planning team and they will have a fenced play space and the same number of classrooms as they currently occupy as indicated on the map.

5. It is written in the TDSB letter that this relocation will be beneficial to our students and provide better space and facilities. What are the specific advantages and how is being relocated more beneficial to our students compared to staying in our current location?

The new building offers more growth opportunity and the potential to be a community hub in the future. It has a large auditorium, full cafeteria and science, library and music facilities which we will have full use of once we obtain full possession of the entire school which is expected to be around 2025/26. During shared use, the two school administrations will coordinate the use of the cafetorium, library, main floor gym, etc. During the time that St. Margaret is in the building, the Baycrest School will also have exclusive-use of a large gymnasium on the 2nd floor.

6. The move is taking place mid-school year. What plans are in place to minimize the disruption to our children and their learning environment? Why is the move being done mid-year and not over the summer?

The move is being planned over the Christmas Break 2021 to minimize the impact on students and teachers. Students will attend classes in the new building on January 3, 2022 (to be confirmed).

7. The Catholic School Board has use of the auditorium and Baycrest will be using the smaller gym. Will Baycrest be able to request use of the auditorium for special events (i.e./holiday concert). What is the process of requesting use and is a permit required considering the property belongs to TDSB?

The large gymnasium as well as the other specialized spaces will be used by both schools. As noted previously, the school administration teams will work together to timetable.



8. What is the budget for new furnishings? How will it be appropriated? What is included? Is new furniture for classrooms and creative spaces included in the budget?

The Capital Project includes an allowance of \$178,000 for Furnishings & Equipment for school and \$28,000 for Childcare. We have also started discussions with the Sustainability group around outdoor play equipment as a separate initiative. Note that there is sometimes additional funding through Teaching & Learning - in terms of programming itself, that will be a separate discussion during the academic year.

9. A library, science lab, computer room and music room currently exist in this space. Will Baycrest be able to maintain use of these facilities for the same purpose?

Yes. Please see answer to question number five.

10. Will there be a sink in every classroom? With Covid-19 it has shown us how important it is to have a place for students to clean up without leaving the classroom.

No. Sinks are only available if the current classroom already has one (except for the FDK program). Funding is only to refurbish, not rebuild classrooms.

11. The knowledge and skills our children learn in health and physical education curriculum supports a healthy, active lifestyle during their school year and we want our child to learn in a safe environment. How is the school yard being modified to ensure safety? For example, fencing? Since we are phasing in grade 6-8, can the track field be maintained for our use?

Yes, the outdoor spaces will be redesigned for a JK- Grade 8 school and ensure safety and security. The community will be involved in the design of the outdoor spaces.

12. Is there any existing agreement with Baycrest Arena for use of the outdoor rink? If so, can Baycrest School maintain the existing usage agreements? If not, is this a partnership we could establish?

Not yet. However, with the intent of Baycrest to be a community HUB in the future we can partner with the city to build a relationship with the arena.



13. The school gets extremely hot during the warm months and frequently the children take their classes, snacks and/or lunch outdoors. Oftentimes the heat is so extreme it is an impediment to a healthy learning environment. Is this building air conditioned? We would like outdoor seating and picnic tables to facilitate outdoor education and offer students “beyond the classroom” learning experiences that cannot be created indoors.

These concerns were noted and will be addressed during future meetings and planning.

14. How will the announcements, bells and school schedules be shared or coordinated with St. Margaret’s?

It was stated that we will have different PA systems and different starting times so bells will be separate for each school. The systems will be adjusted to function independently except in the event of an emergency.

15. How will the parking and bussing be shared or coordinated with St. Margaret’s to ensure fairness, safety and organization for all students arriving and departing?

The staggered start times will resolve any congestion or confusion that might occur.

16. The kindergarten / daycare catchment area proposed for the front of the school is directly adjacent to the very busy school bus drop off road. Has there been any consideration regarding the children being so close to the exhaust from the buses and the effects that may have?

The health and safety of students is a priority. The school administration of both St. Margaret’s and Baycrest will engage in planning with consideration to when students are in various areas in relation to pick up and drop off times. The Trustee has also engaged with the City Councillor’s office and there is a commitment to review the location of the current TTC stop and the provision of a stop sign.

17. What is the plan for a school playscape, will our current one be relocated or are we getting a new one?

At this time, there has been no funding identified to install a new playscape - however, a soft-surface area will be incorporated into the school ground to be used for the future installation of a new play structure. Staff will also evaluate the existing play structure to see if it can be relocated. This information will be provided to the school community in a future update.



18. Will there be an outdoor area with basketball nets for older students?

Yes. TDSB staff will use the paved and green spaces provided in the retrofit to determine equipment needs.

19. Will there be separate areas for the Baycrest students to have an outdoor gym and after school sports, if the Catholic school is outside as well?

Both TDSB and TCDSB staff will engage in meetings to discuss Bell Times and use of indoor and outdoor spaces for student and staff use.

20. Will there be seating on the outside area where students can have lunch or outdoor learning to take place?

School Council will have continued opportunities to engage in consultation regarding use of space and community projects with parent and student voice in mind.

21. Will we be able to have a green space where students can plant?

Yes. As students and staff at Baycrest Public School engage in teaching and learning, student inquiry processes will take place to determine how students will demonstrate learning for sustainability, STEAM, and with Global Competencies in mind.

22. Will TDSB be working on getting a crosswalk or stop light in front of the school to ensure the students safety? The area is high traffic with school buses, TTC buses and cars.

Trustee Laskin and TDSB staff will engage in discussions with the City Councillor to discuss possibilities in the streets surrounding the school with safety in mind.

23. Will TDSB be saving the keepsakes on the exterior of Baycrest such as the birds and rainbow?

Yes. Principal Stewart, staff, students and community will be engaging in the process of identifying keepsakes to bring and integrate into the new site.

24. Will the new location be called Baycrest?

The retrofitted TDSB site will still be called Baycrest Public School. There is a TDSB process in which communities interested in name changes may engage, but that is separate from the Baycrest-Sir Sanford Fleming retrofit.



25. Will Baycrest students have a Science lab of their own? Especially the younger students will benefit from their own science lab where they can have more age appropriate experiments.

Baycrest intermediate students will have access to the shared Science lab. In the primary and junior divisions, there are numerous cross-curricular connections to Science and Technology that can be done in the classroom and outdoor learning spaces with minimal transitions needed for students.

26. Will we be getting the music room and art spaces requested earlier on in the process?

School based decisions will be made according to classroom models and timetabling. The school staff will determine which classrooms will be dedicated to homerooms with desks/tables and chairs. They will also determine which rooms may be dedicated to the Arts (i.e. music, drama and dance, and/or visual arts) and what type of furniture, equipment and storage would be utilized for these programs.

27. Currently Baycrest has Smartboards (interactive white boards) in each classroom will this be the case for our new location? Are we getting new smart boards or bringing over our existing ones?

Baycrest Public School will move all existing technology and equipment to the new location. This will include all Chromebooks, laptops, iPads, and Smartboards.

28. At the beginning of the relocation discussion the parents at Baycrest had requested we get an Industrial kitchen that would facilitate our current Breakfast Club program, hot lunch fundraisers and cooking classes, will we be getting this?

This discussion did occur, and a location was identified, and measurement taken to determine how the changing rooms off the upstairs gym would be retrofitted to accommodate this plan. Access from the hallway was also identified, as well as how to preserve a change area for the students. All of this was initiated in response to a TPH expectation that public safety measures must be implemented when any cooking occurs in any institution.

29. Confirming that Baycrest will have access to the auditorium / stage area?

Yes. Baycrest students and staff will have access.



30. We currently have a storage space issue at our school. Has storage been a consideration in the planning of the space?

There is a sizable storage space attached to the 2nd floor gym that should help to address some of the storage concerns. There are also smaller spaces in the region of the school which will be occupied by Baycrest that could also be used for storage purposes.

31. Do we have a moving date? Are you expecting any more delays?

Currently the planned move date is January 3, 2022.

32. When will the Baycrest community be updated again? Will we have the opportunity to have additional input as things move forward?

We will continue to post updates on the TDSB Website every 4-6 weeks. Principal Stewart will engage the community for input through school council meetings and other methods of communication throughout the spring and fall.

33. Do you have a firm date on when the Catholic School will be moving out?

The estimated date for the Catholic School to move out of the Sir Sandford Fleming building is the summer of 2024. The Catholic Board will be building a new school on the Baycrest site that they have purchased from the TDSB. Construction will only begin on the Baycrest site after Baycrest PS and the childcare centre have moved out. Once the new school is completed and ready for occupancy, the Catholic School students will move out of the Sir Sandford Fleming building. The construction process involves approvals from the City of Toronto and the Ministry of Education which can take longer than anticipated to receive - hence 2024 is an estimate and not a firm date.

34. Will they be improving the washroom conditions? Will they be locating washrooms near the kindergarten class?

Yes. There will be washrooms located within each Kindergarten class.

35. In a past meeting there was mention of adult learning classes utilizing the Sir Sanford building. Is this still a long-term goal?

Yes. TDSB Planning and Permits Department identifies areas available to both TDSB Continuing Education Department and community groups for programming. Access to permits for Baycrest Public School will be available on the TDSB website.



36. Will they be inserting air conditioning units due to poor air quality issues during the warm weather (summer), especially in the daycare classes?

The Childcare will be air conditioned as part of the Capital Project. Cooling centre improvements related to the large gym are also being looked at. This is a separate program.

37. Why has this process taken so long?

The implementation of this project required a Provincial Capital Grant which was provided in 2018. This allowed the design of the relocated facility to begin. Once the construction documents for the project were complete at the end of 2019, TDSB was required to submit to further Ministry approval prior to going out to Tender. This review has unfortunately coincided with COVID – resulting in a delay in the project start. It should be noted that TDSB has used the period of review to undertake other key facility improvements such as window & roof replacement.

38. Will Baycrest staff be relocated to the new school?

Yes, Baycrest permanent staff will continue to work at the new location at the time of the move.

39. Will there be cameras around the school?

Like other TDSB schools, the school will have video surveillance outside of the school building.

40. What other ways will the TDSB engage Baycrest families and the community as the transition continues?

Parent and community engagement occurs through School Council. The engagement may occur through virtual meetings, school assemblies, surveys, School Messenger email, phone callouts, and school correspondence. Engagement also occurs during conversation at pick up and drop off times, scheduled appointments and parent/guardian-teacher conferences.



41. What decisions do Baycrest families contribute to, if any?

While all final decisions related to this project rest with the TDSB, ideas/suggestions from the Council/community will be given due consideration, and that any suggestions not already included in the scope of the project will be assessed for implementation in conjunction with established Elementary programming and budgetary expectations might be an acceptable response.