

Cordella Jr PS & Dennis Ave CS Implementation Team Meeting #1

November 26, 2024



Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognize the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and the Inuit peoples

Meeting Norms

- Meetings will be chaired by Alex Tracey, Superintendent of Education, Family of Schools (FOS) 7
- Members will arrive on time and we will ensure that the meeting ends at the scheduled time.
- The chair will follow the meeting agenda.
- Members will treat each other, and the opinions of each other, with respect.
- Meaningful information sharing comes through dialogue and collaboration.

Agenda

5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

1.	Welcome and Introductions
2.	Setting the Context
3.	Role of the Implementation Team
4.	Principals' Update
5.	Facilities Update
6.	Enrolment Update
7.	Next Steps
8.	Discussion
9.	Adjournment

Implementation Team Members

School/Department	Name	Position
Cordella Jr PS	April Viola	Principal
	Abeselom Haile	School Council Representative
	Angie Beatty	Teaching Staff Representative
	Sunita Persad	Non-Teaching Staff Representative
Dennis Ave CS	Tony Di Biase	Principal
	Keli Bellaire	School Council Representative
	Nicole Mantzukis	Teaching Staff Representative
	Abo Mohamed	Non-Teaching Staff Representative
York Memorial CI	Amena Asad	Secondary Student Representative
	Mathushri Uthayakumar	Secondary Student Representative
Learning Centre 1, Family of Schools 7	Alex Tracey	Superintendent, Chair
Learning Centre 1	Jack Nigro	Executive Superintendent
TDSB Ward 6	Liban Hassan	Trustee

Implementation Team Members

School/Department	Name	Position
Communications	Dan Cvjeticanin	Communications Advisor
Child Care Services	Liz Hoang	Manager, Child Care Service
Facilities	Sal Beltrano Reem Makhoul Dean Orsatti Brian Smith	Manager, Capital Projects Delivery Project Supervisor Facility Team Leader Regional Manager
Information Technology	Ronnie Lebi	Senior Manager, IT Operations
People and Culture	Michelle Lawrence Kim Jones	System Officer, People and Culture Staffing Officer, Elementary
Special Education	Deanna Cape	Centrally Assigned Principal
Strategy and Planning	Joyce Kwong	Manager, Accommodation Planning
Student Transportation	Ellie Cameron	Manager, Student Transportation

Setting the Context: why are we here?

- In June 2017, the Board of Trustees approved a series of recommendations coming from the Ward 6 South Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR).
- Recommendations included the closure of Cordella Junior Public School and the merging of Cordella Junior Public School with Dennis Avenue Community School when the new Dennis building opens.
- New Dennis Avenue Community School building will be ready for occupancy in September 2025.

Setting the Context: why are we here?

- Pupil Accommodation Review is a Ministry-mandated process that involves studying a school that is significantly underutilized and its adjacent schools.
- The TDSB's Pupil Accommodation Review procedure (PR 598) is intended to adhere to the Ministry of Education's Pupil Accommodation Review guidelines.

Role of the Implementation Team

- As per the Ministry of Education's Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline, *"The transition of students should be carried out in consultation with parents, guardians, and caregivers and staff. Following the decision to consolidate and/or close a school, the school board is expected to establish a separate committee to address the transition for students and staff."*
- In 2024, TDSB Executive Council approved a revision to the Pupil Accommodation Review procedure to include a new section on how to implement a school closure.

Role of the Implementation Team

- Advisory group
- Monitor progress, share information, and provide input on:
 - Transition of students, staff, and families;
 - Retrofits at receiving schools, if required;
 - Health and safety;
 - Program considerations;
 - Student accommodation;
 - Child care, where applicable;
 - Selection, archiving, and consolidation of artifacts;
 - Merging of school traditions;
 - Occurrence of opening and closing ceremonies, and
 - Other issues arising as they impact immediate stakeholders.

Proposed Meeting Schedule

The team is to meet monthly prior to the closure and regularly throughout the first year at the new school to receive feedback, make recommendations and contribute to a successful transition into the new school(s).

School Year Meeting		Platform	Date
2024/25	Meeting #1	Virtual	Tuesday, November 26, 2024
2024/25	Meeting #2	Virtual	Thursday, January 16, 2025
2024/25	Public Meeting #1	Virtual	Thursday, January 30, 2025
2024/25	Meeting #3	Virtual	Thursday, February 13, 2025
2024/25	Meeting #4	Virtual	Thursday, March 20, 2025
2024/25	Meeting #5	In-Person	Thursday, April 24, 2025
2024/25	Meeting #6	Virtual	Tuesday, May 20, 2025
2024/25	Public Meeting #2	In-Person	Thursday, May 22, 2025
2024/25	Meeting #7	Virtual	Thursday, June 19, 2025
2025/26	Meeting #8	Virtual	Thursday, September 25, 2025
2025/26	Meeting #9	Virtual	Thursday, October 23, 2025
2025/26	Meeting #10	Virtual	Thursday, November 20, 2025
2025/26	Meeting #11	Virtual	Thursday, December 18, 2025
2025/26	Meeting #12	Virtual	Thursday, February 19, 2026
2025/26	Meeting #13	Virtual	Thursday, April 23, 2026
2025/26	Meeting #14	Virtual	Thursday, June 18, 2026

Principals' Update
April Viola
Tony Di Biase

Facilities Update

Reem Makhoul

Facilities Update

1. The installation of the brick veneer is completed.
2. New parking lot has been completed.
3. The installation of lights and electrical devices is mostly completed.
4. The elevator installation is mostly completed.
5. The sidewalk and the bus lay-by completed.
6. Start-up for the roof top units was done on October 29, 2024.
7. The installation of the gym flooring is underway.
8. The exterior fence on progress.

Facilities Update



Facilities Update



Facilities Update



Enrolment Update

Joyce Kwong

Enrolment Update

- **New school building capacity: 372 pupil places**

Dennis Ave CS	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Enrolment	Cordella: 100 Dennis: 174	306	324	345	373	380
Utilization	Cordella: 52% Dennis: 47%	82%	87%	93%	100%	102%

Enrolment Update

- **2025/26 Out-of-Area Admissions Status:** Closed
- There are currently **33 English track students at Cordella Jr PS** that reside outside of the combined Cordella/Dennis junior attendance areas.
- There are currently **12 English track students at Dennis Avenue CS** that reside outside of the combined Cordella/Dennis junior attendance areas.
- Projection assumes all students currently attending Cordella Jr PS and Dennis Ave CS move to the new Dennis Ave CS building.
- **No new out-of-area students will be admitted into the new school in September 2025.**

Enrolment Update

- Survey to be sent to all out-of-area students currently attending Dennis Ave CS and Cordella Jr PS.
- **Purpose of survey:** to determine if out-of-area students intend to move to new Dennis Ave CS building in September 2025 or return to home school.
- Survey to be distributed after January 30, 2025 public meeting.

Discussion

Next steps: Project Plan

- A document that details the tasks, effort, timing, and resources needed to meet project goals within a predefined scope.
- Plan to be submitted to Executive Council for approval before the next meeting of the Implementation Team.

Next steps

- Next Implementation Team meeting:
 - Thursday, January 16, 2025 (5:30pm to 6:30pm)
- First public meeting:
 - Thursday, January 30, 2025 (5:30pm to 7pm)
- Slide decks and meeting notes to be posted on Implementation Team public webpage. Webpage will be updated regularly throughout the transition.

