

**Cordella Jr PS & Dennis Ave CS
Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR)
Implementation Team
Public Meeting #1**

January 30, 2025



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

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

Zoom Webinar

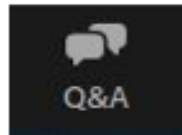
How to Ask Questions and Make Comments



For computer and smart device users

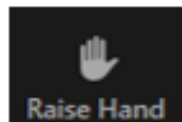
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Detailed Zoom Instructions

[Raising your hand in a webinar – Zoom Help Center](#)



Opening Remarks

Jack Nigro

Executive Superintendent, Learning Centre 1

Agenda

6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

| | | |
|----|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. | Welcome and Introductions | A. Tracey |
| 2. | Setting the Context | J. Kwong |
| 3. | Role of the Implementation Team | A. Tracey |
| 4. | Principals' Update | T. Di Biase/A. Viola |
| 5. | Facilities Update | R. Makhoul |
| 6. | Enrolment Update | J. Kwong |
| 7. | Child Care Update | L. Hoang |
| 8. | Next Steps | A. Tracey |
| 9. | Discussion | All |

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.

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

- 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.

Role of the Implementation Team

- **Monthly meetings** prior to the closure of Cordella Jr PS and regularly throughout the first year at Dennis Ave CS to receive feedback and make recommendations.
 - Implementation Team has already met twice (November 2024 and January 2025).
- **Two public meetings** will be held to update community members and receive feedback.
- **Project plan** outlines in more detail tasks, effort, and timing required to ensure a smooth transition.
 - Posted on [TDSB Accommodation Reviews website](#)

Principals' Update
April Viola
Tony Di Biase

Facilities Update

Reem Makhoul

Facilities Update

- The installation of the brick veneer is completed.
- New parking lot has been completed.
- The installation of lights and electrical devices is mostly completed.
- The elevator installation is completed and waiting for TSSA inspection.
- The sidewalk and the bus lay-by completed.
- The landscaping completed.

Facilities Update

UPCOMING WORK

1. Commissioning of mechanical & electrical systems will commence in the next couple of weeks.
 2. Continue working on the exterior fence.
 3. Play structure installation.
- The overall project is progressing well and remains on-track for completion.

Facilities Update



Dennis Avenue CS looking southwest

Facilities Update



Kindergarten Play Area



Facilities Update

Gymnasium



Facilities Update

Library



Enrolment Update

Joyce Kwong

Enrolment Update

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

| | Actual Enrolment | Preliminary Projected Enrolment at 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% |

- 2025/26 enrolment projection to be finalized by **end of February 2025.**

Enrolment Update

- Projection assumes all students **currently attending** Cordella Jr PS and Dennis Ave CS move to the new Dennis Ave CS building.
- **2025/26 Out-of-Area Admissions Status: Closed**
- **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 sent via email to parents/guardians of affected students on Friday, January 31st
 - **Deadline to respond:** Friday, February 7th

Child Care Update

Liz Hoang

Child Care Update

Before- and After-School Program (JK-grade 6)

- When schools merge in September 2025, Cordella Jr PS families will have access to the existing Dennis Ave CS Before- and After-Care Program (BASP) operated by George Brown College
- Principal Viola has shared information with families about how they can get on the Dennis/George Brown waitlist
- Information will also be shared with new families that inquire about registering at Dennis Ave CS.

New Child Care (0-4 years) at Dennis Avenue CS

- George Brown College, who operates the BASP, has officially signed on as the provider for the 0-4 year old program.
- Based on the process and requirements to get the program licenced and operational, we will be exploring whether a mid-summer opening will be feasible.
- At this point, we don't anticipate any challenges with the new program or moving the existing BASP over to the new location.
- Information about how families can put their 0-4 year old children on the waitlist will be shared as we move through the process.

Next steps

- Implementation Team will continue meeting monthly up until the end of June 2025.
- An Open House will be planned for May/June at the new Dennis Avenue CS.
- More information to come from school administration regarding:
 - Student/parent events
 - Closing ceremony at Cordella Jr PS
 - Ribbon-cutting at Dennis Avenue CS
- Slide decks to be posted on [Implementation Team public webpage](#).

Questions?

Zoom Webinar

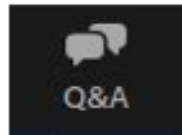
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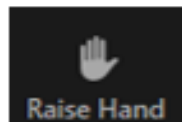
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Thank you!



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Board