



Davisville Jr PS & Spectrum Alt Sr School  
Virtual Community Meeting  
Re: Transitioning Update to the New Site  
Tuesday, May 11th 2021, 7:00pm-8:30pm

Q1: We understand that the school is encouraging in-person learning for September.....but is it allowed for parents to choose virtual classes and is there a restriction on location from where the kids are attending virtual class (province, country)?

No. All students are attached to a school based on their address. Students not living in the TDSB attendance area need to attend their home school by address. Students living in a different school district, province, or country will not be permitted to attend remote/virtual classes as TDSB students.

Q2: Are there any prerequisites (learning wise) for kindergarten?

No. Educators meet students at the level they are at when they arrive. Kindergarten is a two year program as opposed to a set curriculum. We encourage students to have a voice in their learning as it is an inquiry based program.

Please follow this link for more information: [The Kindergarten Program, 2016](#)

Q3: Will before/after school care be at the same location? Will kindergarten students move to the childcare rooms?

There are 6 kindergarten classes next year, and 2 of those rooms will be used for before and after care. It depends on if your child has classes in the before and after school rooms.

Q4: Can you advise on the per class student capacity for Kindergarten?

All TDSB schools have the same student capacity for Kindergarten. Kindergarten classes with 15 or fewer students are led by one classroom teacher. Kindergarten classes above 15 are led by one teacher and one early childhood educator who work in partnership. Twenty nine is listed as the cap, however, there are times when more than 29 students are in a classroom.

Q5: When can we apply for childcare/ preschool? Can you please tell before and after school times? Is there a deadline for application to the before and after school program?

Davisville bell times are 8:55 and 3:30. There is no deadline to apply for the before and after program. Please email Donna Boyce at [davisville@bellnet.ca](mailto:davisville@bellnet.ca) for more information.

Q6: If the morning bell is at 8:55am, what time could students be dropped off at school?

Supervision begins 15 minutes before school starts and 15 minutes after school closes.

Q7: Will there be no before and aftercare for school-aged kids before Jan 2022?

The before and after care program will continue to run as it is now. There will be no disruption to this service. The new Infant and Toddler childcare program will not open until January 2022. In the old building, we had two different providers. Moving forward, we only have one provider.

Q8: Any consideration for keeping Grade 6 students at Davisville?

No. The building is currently designed to hold 731 students. The building will be full with JK-5 English, SK-6 French Immersion and Spectrum grade 7 and 8. We applied for an additional 5 classrooms to accommodate this growth using the same grade configurations we now have.

Q9: Could you please give us some information on sound protection, since there is a busy traffic on Davisville as well as there will be a construction for 2 years, were you able to have some stronger insulation?

All the classrooms have been placed on the north side of the property, away from the traffic and construction. The new windows will also help reduce noise.

Q10: I notice that the furniture for grades 1-6 are designed to seat multiple students. If distancing continues to be required next year, how will this be accommodated?

We hope to be back in person in September but if we aren't, we are in the fortunate position of having access to all the desks we are leaving at 529 Vaughan Road. We are confident we could make arrangements to borrow the desks until we are back fully in person.

Q11: Do we know if construction of the aquatic centre will affect the kids staying on site?

There will be safety boarding around the school yard area where the aquatic centre construction will take place. Students will be able to stay safely on site while the construction takes place.

Q12: Will the community be able to use the field/basketball court outside of school hours?

Absolutely. We designed the yard to be fully accessible by the community outside of school and childcare hours. We encourage the community to use the yard as it is intended.

Q13: Is there any kitchen facility in the school? As a volunteer who helped to run the snack program we would like to have some place to prepare it.

Yes, it was very clear from the community that a kitchen prep space would be necessary for the snack program. There is a kitchen area on the first floor with a large island for prep work, along with a triple sink and a double fridge.

Q14: Where will students eat lunch in the new space?

As the Ministry of Education does not fund separate spaces for lunch, our students will be eating at tables in the gym every day. This is very common in TDSB schools.

Q15: Is there a lunch program at this school?

At this time, all students bring their lunches to school or go home for lunch. In the past, we have had paid lunch program options. If this is desirable for the community, we can certainly look at this in January 2022 once we are settled in the school.

Q16: Will there be a running track at the new site?

Yes, there is a track that will be on the outside of the artificial turf soccer area.

Q17: Where would we park bikes?

We have 3 bike racks placed in the yard. We encourage as many students to ride or walk to school.

Q18: When will the swimming pool be ready for students to use?

The construction for the new aquatic centre is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2022, with an estimated completion date of fall 2024.

Q19: When will the new play structure be placed? Will it be ready for the opening of school? How big is the turf area? Big enough to play soccer?

The new play structure process is well under way, but there are still a few more pieces to happen before the structure/s can be placed. While we are hopeful it will be ready for September, it may be after that time. Luckily there will be many new play areas for the students to explore right away in September.

Q20: The entrance is on Davisville.....because it's a busy road, what measures will the school put in place for safety?

We have been working with a Traffic Safety committee to determine the best walking and cycling paths for our community. We will be preparing a "walking/cycling" map for not only our school, but also the larger community. The principal and vice principal will be outside before and after school for the first few weeks to help the community with the new walking/cycling routes. There will also be additional signage to help clarify safe ways to walk/cycle. There will be 10 minute parking along Millwood road for parents/guardians to safely drop off their children.

Q21: Will there be access from Millwood?

Yes. There are 2 dedicated gates along the fence on Millwood as well as the walking entrance by the north east corner of the property



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Q22: My child is starting school this September. Will they be asked to study from home because of covid19?

At this point in time, we are hopeful that school will reopen for in person learning in September. The TDSB will be sending out a selection form asking parents/caregivers to select an either in person or online option to be delivered by the home school staff. Should COVID19 continue to be a challenge in September, the TDSB will take the advice of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and/or the Premier.

Q23: Is there AC in the building?

Yes.

Q24: Is there a mandatory COVID vaccination program for all staff?

No. We are not able to mandate this for students or employees.

Q25: Will there be a badminton playing facility in the school and will there be any badminton coaching program for the kids?

Badminton is part of the regular physical education program and students will learn how to play badminton there. We have had badminton teams in the past and are open to having them again. We need a staff person to lead this. We can certainly ask staff about this. Parents are also encouraged to help coach teams. Let us know if you are interested.

Q26: What will the atrium be used for?

The atrium is a gathering place for students and or parents. It is also a place to showcase our student work.

Q27: What time does Spectrum Alternative start and end?

Spectrum Alternative starts at 8:55 am and ends at 3:21 pm.

Q28: What is a Maker Space?

A Maker Space is a flexible learning space where students can explore Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). We have a Maker space in both the Spectrum Alternative Suite and in the Library/Learning Commons.

Q29: Will students be able to customize their lockers?

We encourage students to customize the inside of their lockers but we are asking them not to paint or customize the outside of the lockers. Students will have an opportunity to showcase their creativity on the annual Spectrum mural which will be documented in a picture library each year.

Q30: Is the big roof outdoor space available for all kids from school or just Spectrum school?

Davisville students will access the outdoor space during morning and afternoon recess. Spectrum students will have access during the lunch hour. Both schools will have the opportunity to use this space as an outdoor learning area as well.

Q31: For the Spectrum staff will the teachers have additional training for project based learning? Will students have one to one digital access?

Spectrum Alternative Senior School is very richly resourced in terms of technology. We have a 3D printer, we have 8 desktop Mac computers, 2 Macbook Pros, chrome books, 5 Wacom tablets, Promethean boards, and ipads.

**Please forward any additional questions to Principal Shona Farrelly: [shona.farrelly@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:shona.farrelly@tdsb.on.ca)**