



Spencer Valley Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

441 Old Brock Road
Greensville, Ontario L9H 6A7
Phone: 905.628.1788
Fax: 905.628.9146

EMAIL: spencervalley@hwdsb.on.ca
www.hwdsb.on.ca/spencervalley

Spencer Valley Accommodation Questions

Why is HWDSB spending money to fix Spencer Valley to house students and then not use that facility in a year?

The construction of the new school on the current Greensville site requires the demolition of the existing school. Therefore, we need to temporarily accommodate the current Greensville students at Spencer Valley, which brings with it some modifications.

Who makes the decision to move Special Education? Is it a values or geography decision?

Special education classes, like the two classes at Spencer Valley, are "system" classes which means that the students in the class can come from anywhere in Hamilton. They are opened, located and closed under the supervision of the Superintendent of Leadership and Learning responsible for Specialized Services.

Can the existing number of washrooms support an increase in students?

Spencer Valley meets and exceeds the number of washroom fixtures for the estimated 400 students that will be attending in September 2017. Through the Ontario Building code formula, we require 16 fixtures and the school currently has 21 available.

We are continuing to work on the potability of the water and when we have a viable solution, we will notify the school community.

Will students within the walking distance criteria receive busing, as the road ways can be unsafe?

Busing eligibility will be assessed on a case by case basis.

HWDSB's Transportation Policy reads "Extraordinary circumstances related to safety hazards, including lack of a safe walkway to and from school, may warrant an exception to the walking distances for the determination of transportation service eligibility."

Will playground equipment from Greensville be brought to Spencer Valley?

HWDSB staff will consider the playground equipment over the winter and spring. Safety and costs are the concerns that may not allow all the outdoor playground equipment be moved.



Spencer Valley Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

441 Old Brock Road
Greensville, Ontario L9H 6A7
Phone: 905.628.1788
Fax: 905.628.9146

EMAIL: spencervalley@hwdsb.on.ca
www.hwdsb.on.ca/spencervalley

Will fencing be installed at Spencer Valley?

HWDSB staff is considering fencing needs at Spencer Valley. Again, the safety and costs may limit the amount of fencing installed at the school. However, there will be fencing installed for Kindergarten students.

What are the school hours? Will it be nutrition breaks or a traditional day?

The Transition Committee will advise the Principal and Superintendent of Student Achievement on this question. The committee will look at transportation and child care and how they may impact the structure of the day.

If construction will be delayed, will the transition of students not happen in September?

Any delays in starting construction will not impact the demolition of the school. Therefore, students will still need to transition in September 2017.

How will we address heritage aspects of the two schools?

The Transition Committee will consider historical pieces of both schools and will work with HWDSB's archivist, who can support the committee and the schools on heritage aspects. Heritage items can be stored in HWDSB Archives.

When do we officially become one school?

On January 9, 2017, Spencer Valley and Greensville will have merged into one school. Grades 6 to 8 students from the Millgrove catchment area will continue to attend Spencer Valley during construction.

What is the impact on staff? Will they have to reapply for their jobs?

Staffing for all employee groups will be addressed through their respective collective agreements. Their employee groups are involved to ensure fair and transparent staffing processes.

What will be the name for the newly built school?

HWDSB's Naming of School's Policy will guide this process.



Spencer Valley Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

441 Old Brock Road
Greensville, Ontario L9H 6A7
Phone: 905.628.1788
Fax: 905.628.9146

EMAIL: spencervalley@hwdsb.on.ca
www.hwdsb.on.ca/spencervalley

Who will be in the portables needed?

The decision regarding which classes use the portables will not be made until the spring. The number of portables will be dependent on the number of classes needed and the available space.

Can Grade 6 students stay at Millgrove?

Grade 6 students from Millgrove will continue to transition to Spencer Valley.

Is it a strain on HWDSB resources to have simultaneous builds?

Ministry funding has been secured for the Greensville and Beverly sites. The work of building the schools falls to contractors not HWDSB staff.

Where will Umbrella Daycare be housed?

That decision will be made in collaboration with Umbrella Daycare. However, there is an expectation that classrooms will continue to be used for before and after school programming.

How will gym usage be handled?

The gymnasium is not currently being used every period. Some of the current usage is set aside for drama classes. Next year, we hope to do strategic scheduling, which would see the gym used every period of the day, with the drama classes moving into classrooms, the impact will not be that great. Grades 1-5 should have approximately two gym periods and Grades 6-8 possibly three periods. Kindergarten students would continue to have daily outdoor and classroom play.

Is the gym at full capacity now?

In the current timetable at Spencer Valley, there are six unassigned periods in the gym. Currently each regular class has three periods of physical education per cycle and one period of Drama/Dance scheduled in the gym. Special classes use the unassigned time as desired.