Michael Prendergast



Superintendent of Student Achievement Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board 20 Education Court, P.O. Box 2558 Hamilton, ON L8N 3L1 905.527.5092 ext. 2626

June 8, 2018

Dear HWDSB Parent(s), Guardian(s), community and caregivers,

As you are aware, in May 2017, HWDSB Trustees approved the closure of C.H. Bray, Fessenden, Queen's Rangers and Rousseau pending the related Ministry of Education funding for two new JK-8 elementary schools on the CH Bray and Rousseau sites and to convert Ancaster Senior to a JK-8 facility. Funding was received to create a K-8 school at the current Ancaster Senior Public School site to hold 505 students and build a new school at the C.H. Bray site to house 495 students. The funding for a new school at the Rosseau site was not approved and we will continue to apply for funding when the next opportunity presents itself.

This means you can expect the following in the upcoming year:

- No changes at Rosseau for 2018 2019 school year.
- No changes at C.H Bray for the 2018 2019 school year.
- No changes and Queen's Rangers remains open in 2018 2019.

In addition, Trustees also approved new boundaries for Ancaster Senior in June 2017, which sees:

- Fessenden English students directed to Ancaster Senior
- Ancaster Senior English students remain at the school
- Fessenden French Immersion students directed to Ancaster Senior when construction completed as space is available.

I would like to take the opportunity to update you on the progress towards creating a JK-8 school at the Ancaster sites. The Ancaster Senior Public School (ASPS) expansion design is progressing and we are now in the process of making our Site Plan submission to the City of Hamilton. No students currently attending this year at Fessenden or ASPS will be moved during the 2018 – 2019 school year.

For both ASPS and Fessenden students, this means that we will begin our Transition Committee process this upcoming fall in October 2018. The same process will be used for all schools in this letter where schools are being amalgamated or closed. The Transition Committee represents the interests of parents, students and the community, while providing input, advice and recommendations to the Principal and Superintendent. Areas that may be discussed include:

- Artifacts and school traditions
- Opening/closing ceremonies
- Student transition activities
- Traffic and transportation issues
- Accommodation and program issues



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- Outdoor Green Space
- Timelines for the construction and completion dates

A further letter will be sent in October 2018 to parents at both ASPS and Fessenden seeking your participation in joining the Transition Committee. If you have any questions or concerns about the process so far, please do not hesitate to contact your school Principal.

Thank you for your understanding as we work through these exciting projects to create better learning spaces for our students and communities.

Sincerely,

Michael Prendergast

Superintendent of Student Achievement