

Norwood Park Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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February 28, 2020

Dear Families,

Yesterday afternoon we experienced a strong smell of natural gas at Norwood Park, which was caused by an issue with one of the boilers. HWDSB Facilities Management staff have investigated the issue and the boiler is being repaired.

The school was evacuated as per our normal safety procedures. When an evacuation takes place in weather such as yesterday's, staff guides students to their school's evacuation site. In yesterday's case, the evacuation site was locked, and school staff couldn't gain entry. We are working with our community partners to review the evacuation site. In the mean time, we have identified Ridgemount Elementary School as our temporary site.

I understand how this situation causes concerns for parents, guardians and caregivers. HWDSB is going to review the use of communications during emergencies as a result. I can ensure you that the safety of students was considered in all of our actions.

I would like to once again thank our partners at Hamilton Fire, Hamilton Police and Hamilton paramedics for ensuring the safety of our students and staff during the evacuation. I would also like to thank Enbridge for their fast response. Lastly and most importantly, I would like to thank all the students for their prompt evacuation and following our safety protocols.

If you have any questions, please contact the school at 905.575.9808

Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Moules Principal