

Bernie Custis Secondary School

June 12, 2018 – Public Meeting Feedback

Q: What are your hopes for the new school?

Student Involvement:

- Keep the kids involved in the next year – naming, colour, mascot, the branding.

Community Partners:

- Hoping to partner with Tim Horton's Field for students to have somewhere to participate in sport.
- Hoping that the community will be able to be positively involved in the school.
- Hope for partnership between the school and the rec centre and the senior centre.
- Opportunities for partnerships for students to be involved in the community and show care for community. (Program where students interact with residents).
- Access to Pathways Program – tutoring
- How do residents raise concerns with the school?
- Partnerships with Ti Cats, Prince of Wales School

Positive Culture and Well-Being:

- Safe spaces - concerned due to lack of space @ new school
- Welcoming environment
- Hoping that the two schools mesh well incorporating the diversity.
- We want the community to be a peaceful place.
- Nutrition program
- Bullying prevention program
- Opportunities to learn about other cultures
- Hoping for a safe school and community
- Concerns about the elementary school being right across the street
- The school will be very big, want it to be safe
- Supports for students who may be homeless

Programming:

- All students (not just university-bound) are engaged.
- Supports for Special Education – what supports will be there for students?
- Looking forward to collaborating on various aspects (e.g., drama)
- Programs to help students 'open up'
- Trips (class trips)
- Many groups & clubs (other than sports) e.g., Girl Group (depending on interests), Games Club
- Art program – will continue into the new school and of value to the students.

- Environment that encourages staff and students to take on extracurricular activity.

Traditions and Ceremonies:

- How do we bring in the legacies of the old schools but allowing the new students to make the school their own?
- Wall of excellence – at Delta – what you could be – former students of Delta – inspire students to greatness (There is one person who went to Delta in 1929) to preserve Heritage of Delta
- Transition meetings are focused on trying to preserve individual high school culture - How can we blend our new culture it with a new perspective?
- Take ‘traditions’ from all schools and encompass into new school, e.g., ‘Holiday lunch’ @ Delta
- New school to start Wall of Fame/Wall of Excellence – create their own legacy
- Time capsule – for new school – 50 years, 100 years

Q: What else might we consider for students in this transition?

Student Activities:

- Having a day where both SJAM and Delta get to visit new school to become more familiar with school.
- Grade 8 Transition activities
- Student involvement on Transition Advisory Committee
- Joint events – class trips, after school programs. E.g., ‘Sports Day’ @ stadium for students to meet on neutral ground, Grade 9 ‘special days’
- Grade 12’s involved in helping younger students
- How will the SJAM Students who now will attend Westdale be supported to ‘adapt’ to the Westdale culture vs. SJAM kids being able to ‘create’ new culture?
- How do we resolve conflict, deal with SJAM and Delta even before we merge?
- Perhaps continuing sport teams next year may help with transition.
- Do we do a drama production combined with Delta and SJAM? Vision – art centred/drama
- Older kids: will they be nice?
- Can we have student mentors? I’d like to have someone to help to meet other students: talk to guidance counselors
- Is the transition for older students the same or different?

Program:

- English support programs
- What happens for students currently in the Cosmo program when Delta closes?
- Accessibility (not always visible – psychological, emotional disabilities)

- Will students be allowed to go out of catchment to SHSM's like Cosmetology?

Parking and Transportation:

- Will there be an HSR bus stop added closer to the school?
- SOBI bike hub near the school?
- Has HSR been consulted to make sure there are enough buses on routes?
- Crossing the street is a concern.
- Will transportation be available for students?
- When will transportation be available?
- Parking - where will students or parents park?
- Concerned about parking because have had a poor experience with parking issues with Tim Horton's Field, ambulance unable to get to homes? What is the increase in volume?
- Street parking for residents and maybe permit parking for residents only?
- Is there a drop off (kiss & ride) at the school and how do you make that safe?
- How will you be deal with the traffic and parking issues, with the rec centre, public school and stadium?

Facilities:

- Air conditioning?
- Proper sports field – needed – but when?
- Proper bicycle storage
- An orientation of the school might help so we know where to go? Tours before September 2019?
- Open windows are not very safe so how can we ensure safety?
- How are we going to manage garbage/grounds pick up?

Community Partners:

- Will the Pathways program be available to the students of the New North SS?
- Partnership with the Rec Centre – what services will be available there?
- Will there be office space for community meetings, for the Pathways to Education workers?
- Student Clinic with Nurse Practitioner – how will that continue?

Other Issues:

- Honouring previous school symbols.
- Will students be expected to wear uniforms?