

Toronto District School Board

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March 2, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians, Staff, Students and Community Members:

We would like to share exciting news with the community about the redevelopment of Bendale Business and Technical Institute and David and Mary Thomson Collegiate Institute.

As you may be aware, in February 2009, the Board of Trustees approved the consolidation of the two secondary schools, bringing new possibilities for enriched programs.

In 2011, the Ministry of Education approved the construction plan and funding needed for the new school. Since then, the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) has been working with the Ministry of Education, City of Toronto, Toronto Lands Corporation and the community to develop a suitable re-development plan for this site. As part of this plan, the TDSB sold a two acre parcel of land at 2740 Lawrence Avenue East to the City of Toronto.

The four storey state of the art facility is scheduled to open in September 2019. It will accommodate 1509 students from grade 9 to 12. The facility will include learning spaces for science, music, visual and media art, construction technology, culinary arts and environmental sustainable development (including an urban farm) as well as gymnasiums. Students will remain in the current school buildings during construction.

The TDSB has recently started a tender process to secure a contractor. The Board of Trustees will be requested to approve the general contractor at a special Board meeting scheduled for March 8, 2017.

Updates will be provided as information becomes available. If you have questions, please contact the Superintendent of Education Shirley Chan.

Sincerely,

Shirley Chan LC3 Superintendent of Education

David Smith School Trustee, Ward 19

