

August 13, 2018

Dear Avondale Schools Parents and Guardians,

I hope you are enjoying the summer. I wanted to provide you with an update on the construction of the new Avondale Public School and Avondale Alternative Elementary School.

The Toronto District School Board (TDSB) has been working hard to have the school completed on time and open to welcome students in September; however, unexpected issues experienced by the contractor have delayed the construction and sadly the school won't be ready by the first day of school.

This is disappointing news for all of us, but we want to assure you that we will continue working with the contractor to ensure the school is ready as soon as possible. Unfortunately, we don't yet know how much longer the delay will be, but we have plans in place to move into the school as soon as the site is approved for occupancy.

Before the summer, we began developing contingency plans for the possibility of a delay should we need them. As a result, we have some information to share, while other pieces are currently being confirmed. Until the building is ready for occupancy, most of the Avondale schools students will continue sharing space at Bayview Middle School. However, due to the new boundary changes that are coming into effect this September, the number of students attending Avondale Public School and Bayview MS has grown and we will not have enough space available at Bayview to accommodate all the Avondale Public and Alternative School students. Therefore, there will be six classes that will be housed at Cummer Valley Middle School. While we are still working on organizing which classes these will be, we are planning for older students to be located at Cummer Valley MS until the new school is ready.

We are continuing to work on the logistics of the contingency plan and we will update you as information becomes available. This will include:

- School start and end times (we anticipate returning to last year's schedule but will confirm).
- Bussing information (we are reviewing the bus routes to make adjustments).
- Room assignments for both schools (Bayview and Cummer).

Please note that the Extended Day Program (before and after school child care) will be offered at the Bayview site starting in September.

While these construction issues are beyond our control, we do want to apologize for the inconvenience and delay. We too had hoped to be enjoying the first day at a brand new

school but it's just not possible under the circumstances. Instead, I know staff and the school community at both Bayview MS and Cummer MS will welcome Avondale students and ensure that the year gets off to a great start. In the meantime, rest assured that staff will be working to complete the new school as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please connect with the school office at 416-395-3130 beginning August 14. You can also visit the school website for updates at <u>http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/avondale/Home/The-NEW-Avondale-171-Avondale-Avenue</u>).

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

Quide Cuntos

Linda Curtis, Superintendent of Education 416-396-9172