

August 28, 2023

Hello Clinton Street PS Community:

It often seems that the week prior to the Labour Day weekend contains some of the best weather of the season. We hope that all our Clinton Street families are continuing to enjoy the summer break and that you are all healthy, happy, and refreshed.

Throughout July and August, the school has been an extremely busy place with multiple construction projects ongoing and some staffing changes as well. Allow us to provide you with some updates.

Staffing:

Mr. Shane Rucker will be returning to Clinton Street PS and teaching French as a Second Language (FSL) to three of our junior classes in the afternoon.

Ms. Karen Drodge will be teaching FSL in the morning.

Ms. Drodge has experience teaching the core elementary FSL program and was highly recommended by the administration at the schools where she has previously worked.

Ms. Drodge teaches FSL at Palmerston in the p.m. and is excited about joining the staff at Clinton Street.

Ms. Sophie Higgins was to be returning to Clinton Street PS this September and teaching the students in Room 206.

However, Ms. Higgins has needed to delay her start until January.

Ms. Taylor Jackson will be assuming Ms. Higgins' teaching duties.

In July, Ms. Jackson completed a summer school teaching assignment in the TDSB for students with exceptionalities and is excited about the chance to work with the team at Clinton Street.

Two years ago, Ms. Jackson was a teaching candidate in Jessica Hartrick's class, so she is familiar with Clinton's routines and community.

Welcome to the Clinton St. PS staff Ms. Drodge and Ms. Jackson.

Facility Update:

If you have children who attend the Centro Clinton Day Care, then you are aware of the summer construction connected to the installation of washrooms in a few of the main floor rooms. The projects began in early July and are nearing completion.

The other main school upgrade that started in early July is the replacement of the floor in our gymnasium/general purpose room.

As you can imagine, there are multiple steps involved in such a project and the final phases are now underway.

We hope that the new floor is ready when we open the school year, but we might need to wait a week or two.

We know that the students and staff will be thrilled it is done.

Needless to say, it has been a very busy summer for our caretaking team, and we thank head caretaker Shea Sevelka, Eric Swatogor, and Sayan Selvaretnan for all their leadership, co-ordination and dedication.

School Organization Update:

For those of you who were with us last year, you would know that, on the June report card, we included your child's tentative September classroom.

Our plans are based upon projected enrolment, and the staff dedicates a copious amount of time and energy to create positive, balanced, and effective classrooms based on the provided information. We receive our enrolment projections in late winter.

However, over the spring and summer, changes can occur.

At this point, on paper, we have more students in our primary (Gr. 1, 2, 3) classes (Rooms 200, 204, 207) than projected.

There is a strong possibility that we might be directed to re-organize and open another primary class. If indeed we need to open another primary class, we should be informed of that decision by the TDSB within the first two weeks of the school year.

As a staff, we would then work professionally and expeditiously to assign students to the new classroom and have any changes implemented by the final week of September.

We will inform the school council and community if we are asked to re-organize and we thank you for your understanding.

We look forward to seeing everyone again on Tuesday, September 5, 2023.

Sincerely,

Dan Taylor Principal