



April 7, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are writing further to our letter dated April 3, 2017, where we explained the purpose of the special placement process and indicated that a draft of the special placement process would be made available online, after it was shared at the School Council meeting on April 4, 2017.

That has now occurred and a copy of the draft special placement process is attached. You may share your feedback on the proposed process by emailing Principal Marlene Harroun, or dropping them off at the school, by April 18, 2017.

#### *Context of the Special Placement Process*

The intent of the TDSB is to maintain and support a viable French immersion program. Nonetheless, many parents have indicated that even if the TDSB determines that it is safe to operate the school at its current location, they may withdraw their child/ren from French Immersion and seek placement at an English school in the local area.

It is important to put the special placement process into context. As you are aware, the TDSB hired an independent expert, Environmental Consulting Occupational Health (ECOH), to conduct a risk assessment in relation to the proposed development adjacent to the school. The *Phase II Risk Assessment Report* is expected to be received by approximately mid-April, 2017. This risk assessment is part of a comprehensive risk management strategy undertaken by the TDSB. While it is the intention of the TDSB that the risk mitigation strategy will allow the school to continue operating at its current location during construction, a final decision will be made following the review of the *Phase II Risk Assessment Report*. If the TDSB determines that it is not safe to remain at the current location, it will relocate the school to the Vaughan Road site. Further, the TDSB will consider relocating the school to the Vaughan Road site depending on parent demand and will survey parents to assess demand.

The special placement process only applies to parents that choose to withdraw their child/ren from French Immersion and seek placement at an English school in the local area. We understand that for those parents who may be considering this option, they will likely need further information and a definitive decision from the Board about whether the school will remain at its current location during construction.

#### *Framework and Timeline*

Therefore, the TDSB is implementing the following framework and timeline:

1. April 18, 2017:

TDSB to start review of comments on the special placement process.



2. Mid-April to the end of April:

- a. Receipt of the *Phase II Risk Assessment Report*.
- b. Placement of the *Phase II Risk Assessment Report* on the school website.
- c. Final special placement process to be posted on the school website.
- d. Parent survey to be posted on school website (to be completed later – see step 5 below).

3. Mid-April to the end of April:

Review of the Phase II Risk Assessment Report.

4. Last week of April to first week of May:

- a. TDSB to host a public meeting to address and discuss the *Phase II Risk Assessment Report* (the Developer, ECOH and the City will be invited and are expected to attend). The date will be confirmed shortly, but we are currently targeting April 26 or May 3.
- b. TDSB to confirm whether, in light of the *Phase II Risk Assessment Report* and its risk mitigation strategy, it will continue operating the school at its current location during construction (the TDSB will still consider moving to the Vaughan Road site depending on parent demand as gauged in the survey – step 5).

5. May 8, 2017:

If the TDSB determines that it will operate the school at the current location during construction, parents to return completed survey on whether they would nonetheless prefer to move the entire school to Vaughan Road.

6. May 11, 2017:

- a. TDSB to confirm that it has received and reviewed the survey results.
- b. TDSB to confirm that the school will remain at current site or whether it will be moved to the Vaughan Road site (please note that, in either case, the TDSB will provide regular updates to parents as to site and facility conditions and changes or improvements that they can expect in that regard).

7. May 12, 2017:

TDSB Planning department to confirm the English-program receiving schools, dates for the process, transportation policies and application, and to send all information including information about the placement process and necessary forms to parents.



8. May 13-June 9:

The special placement process to proceed in accord with steps 3-8 of the attached special placement process (subject, of course, to changes that may be made to the process following receipt of any parent comments on the process).

We will communicate the final version of the attached special placement process to all parents once we receive and review the *Phase II Risk Assessment Report* and any comments from parents on the special placement process. For regular updates, please visit the school website.

Sincerely,



Beth Butcher  
Executive Superintendent LC1



Carla Kisko  
Associate Director, Finance & Operations



# Draft Centralized Placement Process for John Fisher JPS Students Seeking Registration in their Local English-Program School

## Considerations

Available space, grade, siblings, distance, child care and necessary staffing adjustments.

## Process Details

1. The Planning Department will identify potential English-program receiving schools in consultation with the affected trustees, superintendents and principals. **It is anticipated that most students will be accommodated at their home English-program schools such as Bedford Park PS, Blythwood JPS, John Wanless JPS and Hodgson SPS.** However, because many students currently attending John Fisher JPS live in the Eglinton Junior Public School's catchment area, which is over-capacity and on a site that cannot accommodate portables, they are likely to be the most impacted. The following schools are being considered to accommodate students living in the Eglinton Junior Public School's catchment area: Maurice Cody JPS and Whitney JPS.
2. The Planning Department will send information about the placement process, including dates for completion of each of the steps set out below, to all parents of students at John Fisher JPS through the principal, once the consultation process is complete and Phase 2 of the risk assessment is received.
3. Following the review of Phase 2 of the risk assessment, parents who want to transfer their children out of John Fisher JPS to an English-program school will do so by sending a completed form (which will be available online) to the Planning Department by May 19, 2017.
4. The Planning Department will acknowledge receipt of the forms by sending an email to the parents.
5. The Planning Department will assign each student to an English-program receiving school based on the home address and the considerations outlined above.
6. By May 26, 2017, the Planning Department will send emails to parents offering a placement. The affected superintendents and principals will be copied.
7. From May 29, 2017 to June 2, 2017, parents may visit the school by contacting the school principal.
8. By June 9, 2017, parents must respond to the placement offer via email to the Planning Department.
9. Central staff will register the students who accepted placement offers at the receiving schools. The affected superintendents and principals will be provided with lists of the students who accepted placement offers.
10. The Planning Department will work with the Student Transportation Department to ensure transportation is in place for those who require bussing.
11. The Employee Services Department will make staffing adjustments as needed at the appropriate time.

