

Toronto District School Board

The Status of York Memorial CI – Questions and Answers

Q1. Where are the York Memorial students and staff being accommodated?

Immediately following the fire, York Memorial CI was relocated into the nearby George Harvey building to allow the students to finish the school year. At that time we also consulted with the students, parents and staff of York Memorial CI and George Harvey CI on how to accommodate York Memorial CI for the upcoming school year. As a result of the feedback received, the Board of Trustees approved the relocation of York Memorial CI to the vacant Scarlett Heights building located at 15 Trehorne Drive, northwest of Eglinton Avenue West and Royal York Road. Over the summer, the Scarlett Heights building was refreshed to receive the York Memorial students and staff. New furniture and equipment was purchased. Students who meet a distance requirement are being provided with TTC tickets.

Q2. What is the plan for the York Memorial site?

The Ministry of Education provided TDSB special exemption to allow a pupil accommodation review to be done in this area due to the devastating fire at the school. We will be conducting a pupil accommodation review in the spring of 2020 to determine the long-term future of the York Memorial site. This review will involve meetings with the public. In this review we will be proposing the construction of a new school building on the York Memorial site. It is anticipated that recommendations coming out of this review will go to the Board of Trustees for approval in June 2020.

Q3. What is the current status of the York Memorial building?

The existing York Memorial building is designated as a heritage property by the City of Toronto. As required by the City's Heritage Preservation Services Department, the heritage features of the building that survived the fire (e.g. front exterior wall) are being preserved. The upper floor was heavily damaged by the fire and is being carefully disassembled – the bricks are being stored offsite for later use in a rebuild. A temporary roof has been installed to keep the elements out of the remaining structure.

Q4. Will condominium residential units be part of a rebuild of York Memorial CI?

Incorporating residential development into a rebuild of York Memorial CI is not actively being pursued by TDSB staff at this time.