



April 3, 2020

Dear Baycrest Public School Community:

Re: Update on the transition of Baycrest Public School

Firstly, we hope you and your families are as well as can be expected during these unprecedented times.

As you know, the Ontario government announced that, due to the continued spread of COVID-19, all publicly-funded schools in Ontario, including those at the TDSB, will remain closed to students until at least Monday, May 4, 2020. The government also said that as we approach these dates, the decision will be reevaluated and that the closure may be extended based on public health advice. As a result, and with deep regret we want to inform you that there has been a delay in the Board's plans to relocate Baycrest Public School to the Sir Sandford Fleming site for September 2020 as the school expanded to JK-8.

The design development of the project and the construction documents are complete. Prior to the Covid-19 shutdown, Building Permits were applied for and the approvals for Baycrest Childcare were in place. The TDSB team was ready to issue the project for Construction Tender. However, prior to the Construction Tender, the project required a Ministry of Education "Approval to Proceed (ATP)". The ATP was submitted to the Ministry the week of January 10, 2020 and staff were in on-going discussions with the Ministry. The ATP Approval by the Ministry was still pending at the time of the Covid-19 shutdown. Given the circumstances we find ourselves in, the project is essentially on hold.

A window of 8 to 9 months construction time is anticipated for the scope of work set out in the Construction Documents. Given current delays and uncertainties, it is now no longer possible to complete the necessary improvements and conversions to both the Sir Sandford Fleming building and site in time for a September, 2020 relocation of both Baycrest PS and Baycrest Childcare.

As a result, TDSB is forecasting a 12 month delay of the school relocation to September, 2021. There is the potential of an early transfer in the spring, 2021 that will be explored by the TDSB team once the Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, ATP approval has been received and the construction start date has been established.

As soon as we understand the new timelines, we will update the community on the project status.

Please know that we will work with your Principal and our Facilities group to ensure that space is added to the Baycrest site (one or two portables) to accommodate all students. We know that this situation is far from ideal, and not what we originally committed too, but these circumstances we find ourselves in are out of our control. We appreciate the communities' continued patience as the Board works through this process. We will continue to ensure a positive school experience in our current location for all students, staff and community for the 2020-21 school year.

We hope you and your families stay healthy during these increasingly difficult circumstances.

Sincerely,



Shelley Laskin
Trustee, Ward 8
Eglinton-Lawrence and Toronto-St Paul's



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