



ANGLOPHONE SOUTH SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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December 16, 2014

To Parents of Eastern Charlotte;

Anglophone South School District has recently begun consultations about the reconfiguration of schools in your area and the purpose of this letter is to provide you with information on the process to date and to communicate next steps.

In Eastern Charlotte County, Pennfield Elementary is a K-5 school with students moving to Blacks Harbour Elementary for grade 6 and to Fundy High for grades 7-12. Back Bay Elementary is a K-5 school and students move to St. George Elementary School for grade 6 and onto Fundy High School for grades 7-12. The proposal we would like to discuss is the reconfiguration of both Blacks Harbour and St. George Elementary to K-5 schools. Fundy High School would become a grades 6-12 middle/high school, with the addition of approximately 85 grade 6 students from Blacks Harbour and St. George Elementary Schools.

In our province, grade 6 is part of the middle school program (grades 6-8) and has been for many years. We have several schools in the province that are grades K-8; some that are grades 6-12 (Sir James Dunn Academy and Belleisle Regional High in Anglophone South), and others that are K-12 (Campobello Island Consolidated and Grand Manan Community School, also in our District).

The process for introducing a grade reconfiguration is explained in Policy 409 of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. It states that before there are any meetings with parents, "the Superintendent will advise the Minister in writing when the school district intends to reconfigure grades and will then consult with parents on the *proposal*." The Minister was informed in October, 2014 that we would begin the parent consultations.

Communication began with the PSSC's of the five schools. Each PSSC submitted to us their questions, and we prepared a presentation for the PSSC's and met with them on December 2, 2014 at Fundy High. Additional questions were posed that evening and we will now incorporate those into our next presentations.

In January, we will visit each school and offer a meeting to share the presentation and discuss the proposal with you. The presentation contains information about the elements of the middle school program, a day at the middle school in Fundy High, the safety of students, proposed enhancements to Fundy High School, transportation, student activities, after school activity program, planning for the transition between elementary and middle school.

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The schedule for meetings is as follows:

Back Bay Elementary at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 7, 2015

St. George Elementary School at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 12, 2015

Pennfield Elementary School at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 19, 2015

Blacks Harbour Elementary School at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20, 2015


Fundy High School at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 27, 2015

We would encourage you to come out to the meetings and learn about the proposal to move the elementary schools in Eastern Charlotte toward an elementary K-5 model and Fundy High to a grades 6-12 middle/high school model.

All the best for a happy holiday season with your families.

Yours truly,


Zoë Watson
Superintendent


Jenny MacDougall
Director of Schools, St. Stephen