

Co-ordinating Committee

A Co-ordinating Committee has been formed to facilitate the move to the new green school in Sudbury West. The Co-ordinating Committee is made up of representatives from George Vanier Public School and Jessie Hamilton Public School.

Rainbow District School Board:
Dr. Sharon Speir - Superintendent

George Vanier Public School:

Maj Myers – Principal
Anne Lemieux - teacher
Mark Siedel - parent

Jessie Hamilton Public School:

Lesley Fisher – Principal
Kaarina McLaughlin – teacher
Jodie Larsen - parent

Guiding Principles

- The focus is on the well-being of students.
- Efforts are directed toward minimizing the impact of change.
- Providing the best possible education for the students affected is first and foremost.
- The process builds on our previous experience.
- Our response is flexible to the unique concerns of individual schools, students, staff and parents/guardians.
- The plan does not cover every eventuality.

**This newsletter provides
an update on the progress
of the transition.**

**It is available online at
rainbowschools.ca.
Click on accommodation.
Click on Sudbury West.**

**For more information, please
contact your school principal**

A Smooth Move

to the new Green School in Sudbury West



Sudbury West Goes Green

Sod Turning Marks Start of Construction of New Green School in Sudbury West

Rainbow District School Board held a sod turning ceremony on October 30th, 2008 to mark the start of construction of its second green school. Located on Sixth Avenue in Lively, the school will offer English and French Immersion programs for students in JK to Grade 6 from George Vanier Public School and Jessie Hamilton Public School.

“Rainbow District School Board has made education for sustainable development a priority,” said Board Chair Judy Hunda. “Valley View Public School, the first green school in Northern Ontario, is a tangible example of the vision that we share for our schools and the communities that we serve. The green features in this new school will reaffirm our commitment to creating a healthier, greener environment in which to live and learn.”

With this new school, the Board is exploring the possibility of building a carbon neutral facility, where the energy that is used is equal to the energy that is produced. This would be achieved by incorporating solar panels and wind turbines into the design. “Ideally, we want to use electricity as the only source of energy and offset what we use with renewable energy generated by the sun and the wind,” said Chair Hunda. “We will be ready to proceed with this next step in sustainability if and when we secure sufficient funding.”

There are many benefits to building high performance facilities, from education, environmental and economic perspectives. “Go green features protect the natural environment, provide a healthy, hands-on place to learn, reduce energy consumption and operating expenses, and make new schools exceptional learning and teaching tools for students and staff,” said Rainbow District School Board Director of Education Jean Hanson.

“As Rainbow District School Board begins construction of the new school in Sudbury West, they continue to set a green standard for others to follow,” said Tim Dettlaff, Senior Vice-President of Asset Management for Ameresco Canada.

He added: “Ameresco Canada is proud to be a partner in this new initiative. The Board’s environmental stewardship practices are an encouragement for students, teachers and members of the community and its actions are teaching and inspiring us to do our part in reducing our overall carbon footprint.”

The new school in Sudbury West will accommodate 500 students in 49,247 square feet over two floors.

Castellan James + Partners Architects Inc. is designing the school. Ameresco Canada Inc. is overseeing the construction with a targeted completion date of the fall of 2009.



Students from George Vanier Public School and Jessie Hamilton Public School were a hit when they performed the “Go Green” song at the sod turning ceremony for their new green school. The students were invited to perform at the Annual General Meeting of the Parental Involvement Committee held on November 11th, 2008 and received a standing ovation. The song was composed by teacher Paul Dunn. The performance is available online at rainbowschools.ca.

Junior Kindergarten and Senior Kindergarten Registrations

**George Vanier Public School and Jessie Hamilton Public School
will host JK and SK registrations for the 2009-2010 school year.**

Jessie Hamilton Public School

Wednesday, February 4, 2009 at 6:30 pm

George Vanier Public School

Thursday, February 5, 2009 from 6 pm to 7:30 pm

**This registration information will help
Rainbow District School Board plan for the new school.
The goal is to move into the new school in the fall of 2009.**

Two schools into one:

Planning for the merger of George Vanier and Jessie Hamilton

George Vanier Public School and Jessie Hamilton School Staff held a joint staff meeting on December 8, 2008. The meeting focused primarily on facilities.

Assistant Manager of Plant Sandi Ackroyd and Area Superintendent Sharon Speir reviewed the proposed plans for the new green school and answered questions from staff.

What will the gym/stage area look like?

What will the new school be called?

These were some of the questions that were raised by staff.

In January, proposals to address both of these questions will be developed and input from stakeholders will be sought.

A Co-ordinating Committee has been formed with parent, teacher and administrative representation from George Vanier and Jessie Hamilton as well as the area superintendent.

This committee and the School Council at each school would like to identify the questions that parents, students and staff have with relation to the new school, the merger of the two schools and the traditions/memorabilia of each of the schools.

To this end, the School Council of each of the schools is asking parents, students and staff to identify their questions and concerns under the following headings:

Orientation to the new school
Class placements
Boundary crossing requests
School rules and routines
Extra-curricular activities
School Council representation
Awards and Ceremonies
Special Needs
Transportation
Memorabilia
Closing Ceremonies
Other

Please fill in any questions that you have under the following headings and return them to your child's school on or before January 9th, 2009.

Orientation to the new school

Class placements

Boundary crossing requests

School rules and routines

Extra-curricular activities

School Council representation

Awards and Ceremonies

Special Needs

Transportation

Memorabilia

Closing Ceremonies

Other

Would you like to volunteer your time to help on subcommittees related to any of the topics identified above?

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____