

A Smooth Move

to the new Green School in Sudbury West



School Naming Committee

An Ad Hoc committee was established with representation from the following members:

- Area superintendent (chair)
- One representative from the staff of each of the schools
- One representative from the student body of each of the schools
- One parent representative from the School Council of each of the schools
- Two trustees (one from the area)
- Two members from the community

Choice of the name

The name of the school was chosen from one of the following areas:

- The street on which it is located
- The district which the school serves
- An historical name that once applied to the area
- The name of a person recognized as having made a significant contribution to the community and/or to Canadian or international society

The name was agreed to by consensus of the committee. The committee brought a recommendation for the school name to the Board.

Opening ceremony

The principal of the school, in consultation with the area superintendent, will hold opening ceremonies as soon as practicable after completion and opening of the school.

For more information, please contact your school principal.

Welcome to Walden Public School

When the new green school in Sudbury West opens in the fall of 2009, it will be known as Walden Public School. Rainbow District School Board Trustees approved the name at the Board Meeting on May 19th, 2009.

The Naming Committee, made up of student, staff, parent, trustee and community representatives from George Vanier Public School and Jessie Hamilton Public School, recommended "Walden" because of its historical significance to the area. The name was one of nine suggestions considered by the committee.

The Town of Walden was established in 1972 following the amalgamation of the towns and townships of Drury Denison, Graham, Waters, Lively, Lorne, Louise, Dieppe, and parts of Trill, Fairbanks, Creighton and Snider. Councillor John Robertson came up with Walden by combining the names of the townships of Waters (WA), the Town of Lively (L) and the Townships of Drury Denison and Graham (DEN). The name "Walden" is traditionally associated with the areas that will be served by the new school - Lively, Creighton, Waters, Naughton, Whitefish, Worthington and Beaver Lake. The Naming Committee thanks everyone who provided input.



Vice-Principal Jim Wachnuk

Jim Wachnuk has been appointed Vice-Principal of Walden Public School. Jim Wachnuk has worked as an administrator at both Jessie Hamilton and George Vanier and has a sound knowledge of both school communities. He is also bilingual. A classroom teacher since 1993, Vice-Principal Wachnuk has taught all grades in the elementary panel. He is a life-long resident of Northern Ontario.

Smile of the Day

Upon seeing construction of the new school, one student sadly commented: "The new school is blue. It was supposed to be green!"

Principal Lesley Fisher

At the Board meeting on April 20th, 2009, Lesley Fisher was appointed Principal of the new green school in Sudbury West. Lesley Fisher is well prepared to assume this leadership role. She has been Principal of Jessie Hamilton Public School since September 2006. She is also a resident of the Lively community. A classroom teacher since 1993, Principal Fisher taught a variety of grades in both the French Immersion and English programs prior to her appointment as a school administrator. She is also a graduate of the Rainbow District School Board's French Immersion program. Principal Fisher looks forward to working with the community and the staff of the new school to promote ongoing excellence in both official languages.

Important start up plans for September 1st, 2009

Planning for the new green school over the last school year has been focused on facilitating a smooth move for students and their families as the two elementary schools merge into one. The Co-ordinating Committee, with staff input, has developed a contingency plan should the school not be ready for occupancy on September 1st, 2009.

In making decisions, one of the Committee's priorities has been to ensure that staff and students will come together as one school right from the start. Regardless of where students are located on the first day of school, they will identify with the new school, have opportunities to mix with their grade level peers and participate in age related sports, and make the transition to the new school as a class with their teacher.

Parents: Please note....

It is anticipated that the move to the new school will take place in late September or early October. In the interim, JK to Grade 3 students from both Jessie Hamilton and George Vanier will be accommodated at the George Vanier site. Grade 4 to 6 students will be accommodated at the Jessie Hamilton site. The Sudbury Student Services Consortium is arranging busing to both sites as part of interim planning. The Consortium will advise parents of bus pick up times during the summer. Class lists will be created over the summer to allow maximum time for reorganization before the school year begins. Class lists will be available on the first day of school.

Teaching Staff

Principal - Lesley Fisher
Vice-Principal - Jim Wachnuk

English Primary

Jennifer Dewit
Johanna Campbell-Friesen
Allison Kiviaho
Carolyn Mulligan
Jill Isard
Jacky Stephen
Sarah Keyes
Heather Rowell
Cathy Pankow
Dawn Knight
Fern Fleming

French Immersion Primary

Sabrina Campbell
Stacey Foy
Rachel Lehocky
Emilia Corsi
Julie Wrinn
Tina Pietrandrea-Barbeau
Shannon Groom
Kristin Gibeault

Tracy Bartolucci
(Early Reading Intervention)

Natalie Lammi
(Special Education Resource Teacher)

English Junior

Warren Frantz
Kaarina McLaughlin/Kelly McCauley
Diane Santala
Karyn Stinson
Wes Hubert
Corrie St. Pierre

French Immersion Junior

Lynn Hansen
Vanessa McAfee
Dora Raymond

Walden CAN presentation

Sandi Ackroyd, Assistant Manager of Plant (Special Projects) for the Rainbow District School Board, provided an overview of the green features of the new school at the Walden CAN Community Conference on Saturday, April 25th. The green features, including geothermal heating and solar panels, will greatly reduce the school's carbon footprint. While Sandi Ackroyd answered questions about the construction of the school, Principal Lesley Fisher was in attendance to address the educational component for the students and the community. Conference participants expressed an interest in contributing to community gardens at the school and developing a partnership with a local youth organization.

Students GO GREEN

Earth Rangers

Students from Jessie Hamilton Public School and George Vanier Public School enjoyed a multi-media presentation by the Earth Rangers. The presentation, which incorporated video, role-playing, games and the introduction of live animal ambassadors, reinforced the importance of making wise choices to support the sustainability of our planet. The gathering, held in the gym at George Vanier Public School, gave students an opportunity to meet future classmates.

Litterless Lunches

The students of Jessie Hamilton Public School and George Vanier Public School have already adopted a green initiative in preparation for the move to their new school. Both schools have had Litterless Lunches throughout the 2008-2009 school year. Students are encouraged to pack their food and drink items in recyclable containers and to bring home any garbage that their lunches produce for sorting, recycling and composting.

This has been a great way for students to become aware of the amount of garbage produced by pre-packaged foods. Both schools have also noticed that students are no longer throwing extra food in the garbage, opting to bring it home instead. The reduction in waste and the awareness of the impact of food choices on the environment has provided a wonderful learning experience for students.