

Committee Members

The Co-ordinating Committee is made up of representatives from George Vanier Public School, Jessie Hamilton Public School and Lively District Secondary School.

Rainbow District School Board:

Dr. Sharon Speir - Superintendent

George Vanier Public School:

Maj Myers – Principal
John Peacock - teacher
Diane Jeffery - parent

Jessie Hamilton Public School:

Lesley Fisher – Principal
Ted Smith – teacher
Lori Santi - parent

Lively District Secondary School:

Judy Noble - Principal
Kyle Gutsher – teacher
Pam Brown - 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 is not inclusive, nor does it cover every eventuality.

This newsletter will be sent home regularly to keep you informed about progress on the transition. It is available online at rainbowschools.ca. Click on accommodation. Click on Sudbury West.

A Smooth Move

Grade 7 & 8 to Lively District Secondary School

Co-ordinating Committee formed

As part of the Accommodation Review process in Sudbury West, Rainbow District School Board Trustees approved the following motion on February 19th, 2008 –

“That Grades 7 and 8 students from Jessie Hamilton Public School and George Vanier Public School be transferred to Lively District Secondary School effective September 2008.”

A Co-ordinating Committee has been formed to facilitate the transition. The Co-ordinating Committee will provide input on all aspects of the move, including orientation sessions for students and families, guidelines for scheduling of timetables, location and composition of classes, technical requirements, and communications.

The Co-ordinating Committee will meet monthly until the end of the school year to share information and review/revise plans. The Co-ordinating Committee will remain active (as a school committee) in 2008-2009, providing continuity in the first year of the transition. Committee members will be available (on an ad hoc basis) to provide support in the second year.

First Steps:

Co-ordinating Committee Meeting

On March 26th, the structure and purpose of the committee was reviewed as well as an overall transition plan. The Co-ordinating Committee discussed elementary and secondary schedules and the school day.

It was recommended that the Grade 7 and 8 students maintain the same schedule as the elementary schools with bus arrival at 8:35 am, start of classes at 8:50 am, and dismissal at 3:15 pm to facilitate the co-ordination of childcare for families and ensure that Grade 7 and 8 students arrive at the school when the secondary students are in class and depart after the secondary students have been dismissed.

The committee toured the wing of Lively District Secondary School designated for Grade 7 and 8 students. The wing is on the second floor. It is near an elevator and has a separate entrance at the front of the school.

Next Steps:

School-based Advisory Committees

Each school will develop a school-based Advisory Committee to provide input and support as the relocation progresses. The committee will include the school principal, as well as parent, student and staff representatives.

In April, these committees will liaise with parents/guardians and students to identify priorities at their respective schools. These might include end of year activities, a list of equipment for Grade 7 and 8 students, important awards, ceremonies and memorabilia that should be preserved, extra-curricular preferences, recommendations for school expectations (ie. student rules and routines) and input regarding representation on School Council.

Each school will develop their own plan of action. Any outstanding concerns will be forwarded to the Co-ordinating Committee.

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