

January 25, 2017

Dear Gordon Graydon Memorial, Glenforest, Lorne Park, T. L. Kennedy and The Woodlands families,

I am writing to let you know that last night Peel District School Board trustees approved the following recommendations related to the Pupil Accommodation Review taking place in your school community:

1. Effective June 2018, Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School will close;
2. Effective September 2018, the Vocational (VOC) and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Programs will be relocated from Gordon Graydon Memorial S.S. to Glenforest Secondary School;
3. Effective September 2017,
 - a. students residing within the existing Glenforest S.S. Enhanced Learning Program (ELP) boundary entering Grade 9 ELP, will be directed to The Woodlands S.S. or Lorne Park Secondary School;
 - b. students enrolled in the Enhanced Learning Program at Glenforest S.S. and entering Grade 10 – 12, will be given the option to attend The Woodlands S.S. or Lorne Park S.S. Students who do not exercise this option for 2017 will complete their secondary education at Glenforest Secondary School;
 - c. ELP boundaries for The Woodlands and Lorne Park will be expanded as described in the Final Staff Report
4. Effective September 2018, the International Business and Technology (IBT) and Graphic and Design Management (GDM) Programs will be relocated from Gordon Graydon Memorial S.S. to T.L. Kennedy Secondary School.

Peel board staff will now prepare a transition plan that will include timelines for implementation and the support available to staff and students moving to their new school sites.

In addition, transition committees will be formed, comprised of appropriate Board staff and parents. These committees will develop plans for items of historical significance, the control, reclamation and disposition of a closing school's inventory, maintaining appropriate records and building a collaborative culture in the consolidated sites.

Trustees

Janet McDougald, Chair
Suzanne Nurse, Vice-Chair
Carrie Andrews
Stan Cameron
Robert Crocker
Nokha Dakroub

David Green
Sue Lawton
Brad MacDonald
Kathy McDonald
Harkirat Singh
Rick Williams

Director of Education and Secretary
Tony Pontes

Associate Director, Instructional Support Services
Scott Moreash

Associate Director, Operational Support Services
Jaspal Gill

You may be wondering about what will happen to staff at your teen's school. There will be minimal impact for staff at Glenforest, Lorne Park, T.L. Kennedy and The Woodlands secondary schools. Gordon Graydon teaching staff will follow an amended staffing process that has been agreed upon by the Peel board and the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF) District 19, as required by the 2014-2017 collective agreement for pupil accommodation reviews. Gordon Graydon non-teaching staff will be declared excess as part of the normal staffing process in Spring 2018. Rest assured, as is our normal practice, the board will be working closely with our federation and unions throughout this process to provide support and assistance needed to affected employees.

I understand that some of these changes can be upsetting. However, as you know, the prime guiding factor for the Peel board during this accommodation review was to best meet the learning needs of all students in this area. The changes being implemented include input we received from school communities and feedback we received from the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC), which had parent representation from each school under review on the committee. In fact, the recommendations approved by trustees reflect all of the feedback put forth by the ARC.

I would like to thank you for all of the feedback you have provided throughout this process. Your participation was vital – so thank you for the effort and time you have contributed. We will keep you up-to-date and share any new information as it becomes available as we move through the implementation process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Pontes', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Tony Pontes
Director of Education