

ERA 121 MILTON SW #8 SCHOOL BOUNDARY REVIEW

THE FACTS – Milton SW #8 ps

- The new Milton SW #8 elementary school (ERA 121) is planned to open September 2013, **subject to Ministry of Education funding.**
- The school is fronting onto the west side of Farmstead Drive, north of Ruhl Drive in Milton.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why are portable classrooms used rather than permanent additions?

Portable classrooms are utilized to provide interim pupil accommodation at schools experiencing enrolment growth due new residential development (i.e. new subdivisions) or as a result of policy/program initiatives. The trend for schools located within new residential communities is to have significant enrolment growth in the short to medium term, with enrolment peaking in year 10. As the community matures, enrolment declines and the portable classrooms are removed to the point that all students are able to be accommodated within the building itself. Constructing permanent additions to facilities to accommodate the peak enrolments, typically results in the school(s) being under capacity with vacant pupil places once the community matures. This could possibly result in the Board having a number of schools with vacant pupil places, which could result in the need to undertake a Program and Accommodation Review (i.e. school closures or consolidations) for these underutilized schools. Historically, schools were built to meet these peak enrolments. However, due to declining enrolment in these schools as a result of the communities maturing, the Board has undertaken a number of PARC's, which has resulted in school closures in many of these neighbourhoods. In the event that there are new policy/program initiatives (i.e. implementation of Full-Day JK/SK), with funding from the Ministry of Education, permanent additions are constructed.

ERA 121 MILTON SW #8 SCHOOL BOUNDARY REVIEW

Will Milton #8 open with portables?

Typically, new schools located in new neighbourhoods will have portables on site to accommodate enrolments. The timing for the placement of portables will depend on factors such as demographics, the established boundary and program offerings at the school.

If students are redirected to the EC Drury HS, will they be sharing the facility with high school students?

No. Effective September 2012, high school students from EC Drury HS will be relocated to Craig Kielburger Secondary School. For more information [click here](#).

Why are you moving forward with the Milton #8 review when the school has not been given funding approvals, meanwhile Milton #7 has received funding and the review has been delayed until later in 2012?

The PL Robertson PS/Milton #8 area (ERA 121) is facing accommodation pressures for September 2012 that require an interim accommodation plan. Consideration is being given to provide accommodation relief to PL Robertson PS and to where Milton #8 students can be housed until the new school is constructed. Milton #7 ps (ERA 120) was delayed due to the timing of the purchase and will not be ready for September of 2012 as planned. There is no need to complete the boundary review for ERA 120 at the present time, since the school will not open until September 2013.

Will the new school offer full day every day kindergarten?

Full day JK/SK is being implemented gradually by the Ministry of Education, with full roll out by 2014. The start date is yet to be determined, but it will either be September 2013 or September 2014. In the mean time, kindergarten programs will be delivered using the all day alternate day delivery model.

What is the boundary for the new school? What grades will be offered?

When new schools open, a [Boundary Review process](#) is initiated for establishing the school's boundary and determining the program structure (i.e. whether or not the school will offer French Immersion and if so, which grades). The boundary review process started in the December 2011, with a decision to be voted upon by trustees in March 2012. There will be a public meeting to identify various boundary options and solicit community feedback.

ERA 121 MILTON SW #8 SCHOOL BOUNDARY REVIEW

How will I be kept informed about the boundary process?

When the Boundary Review Committee has news and information to share with the community, it could be done through a variety of means such as ads in the newspaper (for public meetings), messages/flyers from your school, emails and website updates posted to <http://www.hdsb.ca>

How long does it take to build a school?

Construction of a new elementary school typically takes 12-14 months. Further information about school construction and timelines can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

How big will the school be?

The new elementary school is planned to open as a 740 pupil place school.

What will the name of the school be?

HDSB names new schools in accordance with the [Naming New Schools](#) procedure. This is a consultative procedure which welcomes community input. The Board of Trustees will make the final decision based on a shortlist of potential names in the spring of 2012.

What is Grandparenting?

Grandparenting is a decision to allow existing students of a specific grade(s) in a neighbourhood(s) or geographic area(s) to remain at their current school until they complete a particular grade at that school (e.g., grade 8). This usually occurs in situations where changes to school boundaries have taken place. When not grandparented, change in boundaries would normally require affected students to change schools. Students being grandparented are provided transportation subject to the HDSB transportation policies. Siblings of students that have been grandparented will be directed (unless otherwise stated) to the designated school as per the new approved school boundary. Students preferring not to be grandparented may apply for Optional Attendance as per the [Board's Administrative Procedure](#). Historically, the Halton District School Board has made an effort to grandparent students in their graduating year.

Will there be a “Gifted” program for the new Milton #8 school?

W.I. Dick PS is the designated school for the Gifted Program for Milton elementary students. At this time, School Services does not envision opening up an additional Gifted Program at the new elementary school.

When will the final decision be made?

Please note that no boundary decisions have been made at this time. These decisions will be made by the Board of Trustees in March 2012. Immediately following, all affected schools and students will be informed of the changes, which will be effective September 2012.

Will the new school have before and after care available on site?

No determination has been made on whether or not the new school will open with child care available. This will be decided closer to the opening of the school. It should be noted that the three schools to open most recently in Milton do have child care on site. HDSB communicates with the YMCA and MCRC about the provision of child care in HDSB schools.

ERA 121 MILTON SW #8 SCHOOL BOUNDARY REVIEW

Has the Boundary Review Committee considered a scenario to include opening a French Immersion program at Escarpment View PS?

Yes, this has been considered, however it is not one of the BRC's preferred scenarios as it would result in Escarpment View PS being over capacity by September 2013.

Are any new elementary schools planned for ERA 121, North of Derry Road?

The need for Milton SW #10 ps has been identified in the 2011/2012 LTAP but the site has not been selected at this time. Given the trend of growth in the southern portion of the ERA, it is more likely the school will end up being located south of Derry Road.

Will there be any provision to keep siblings together?

Consideration is being given to whether this could be accommodated.

Will EC Drury require renovations to make it suitable for elementary students?

Yes. Renovations will take place during the summer months to ensure the facility is suitable for operating an elementary school.

If my child currently has a spot in before and after care, will they keep their spot after being moved? How do I ensure our space is not lost?

HDSB is working with MCRC to ensure a seamless transition to the EC Drury campus.

Why not build bigger schools?

Schools are sized to be consistent with the longer term needs of a community. If schools were being built larger, we would eventually face a situation where we would have to consolidate surplus pupil places, in other words, close schools. Additionally, elementary schools function best at a certain size, 2000 pupil places would be unmanageable for the age group.