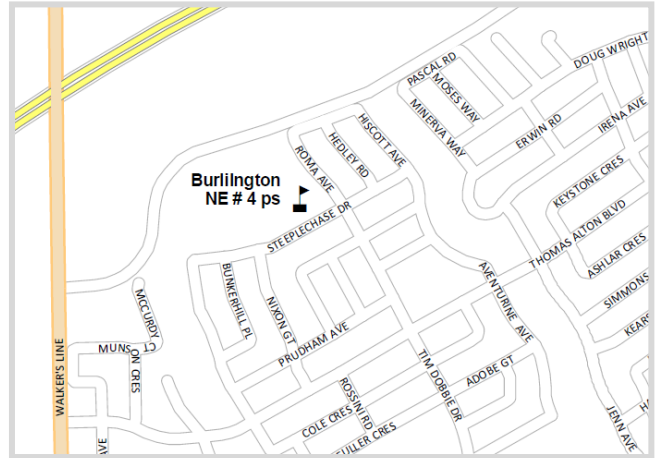


# Burlington NE #4 – Alton Elementary School (ERA 109)

## THE FACTS

- The new Burlington NE #4 Alton elementary school (ERA 109) is planned to open September 2012.
- The school is located at 3290 Steeplechase Drive in the Alton community.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### I heard that portables are being added to Charles R. Beaudoin PS. How does this impact the CRB FI boundary?

Only four portables have been approved, as such the school's OTG will only increase to approximately 796. There is insufficient space to accommodate North Headon Forest FI students. **However, FI students from North Headon Forest who attended CRB in 2011-2012 are being offered the choice to continue to attend CRB.** New grade 1 FI students and future FI students from North Headon Forest will attend Clarksdale PS as indicated in the Boundary motions passed by the board. Should younger siblings of those CRB students who were enrolled in the FI program in 2011-2012, wish to enroll in FI, they can be accommodated at CRB. However, this accommodation of siblings will only be provided with transportation until the current Grade 2 students have graduated from CRB. This means there will be no transportation from the North Headon Forest community to CRB beyond June of 2019. Therefore, if you have a Grade 1 student entering FI, have an older child in FI at CRB and would like to exercise this option under the transportation restriction above, please contact CRB as soon as possible.

For more information, please review the two letters sent to North Headon Families on [August 14](#) and [August 20, 2012](#).

### Will the new Alton elementary school have before and after child care on site?

Yes, the before and after care provider will be [Today's Family](#).

### 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 NE Burlington #4 (Alton) did not qualify to open with the Full Day Every Day Kindergarten program in Sep 2012. 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.

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### **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 will start in the Fall of 2011, with a decision voted upon by trustees in January or February 2012. There will be a public meeting to identify various boundary options and solicit community feedback.

### **How will I be kept informed about the boundary process?**

There is an Open House on Wednesday October 26, 2011. 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 704 pupil place school.

### **Will it 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.

### **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.

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Example:

A family currently has a JK and Grade 1 child attending Florence Meares (2011-12 school year). If the Board approves a boundary change consistent with Scenario 27, the current JK child would be attending CH Norton in September 2012. However, the current Grade 1 child would be grandparented at Florence Meares until the end of Grade 8. If the family did not wish to have their older child grandparented at Florence Meares, they would need to apply for Optional Attendance at CH Norton, in order to have the 2 children attend the same school. If CH Norton did not grant the Optional Attendance request for the older child, the parent(s) could seek Optional Attendance for both children at another Open School in the area. When applying for Optional Attendance, parents would need to be mindful that school bus transportation is not provided.

### **Will there be a “Gifted” program for the new Alton school?**

Charles R. Beaudoin PS is the designated school for the Gifted Program for Burlington elementary students. At this time, School Services does not envision opening up an additional Gifted Program at the new Burlington NE #4 school.

### **My understanding was that there were new guidelines in place that if a child was selected/tested as “advanced” then they would be selected for an enrichment program starting in Grade 1. Is this the case for the new Alton school?**

Subject to parent/guardian approval, students that have been identified from any elementary school in Burlington, would be directed to Charles R. Beaudoin PS for the Gifted Program, starting in Grade 1. This would include any students from the Alton Community.

### **When do we register children for the new school and when would we find out what days our child would be attending SK?**

Registration will begin on January 9th at your child's current designated home school.

### **Can we request a specific day for the child to attend SK, and also can we request that 2 children be put in the same SK class? If yes, how do we do this?**

You can request the days you would like your child to attend when you register, but we cannot guarantee what those days will be this early in the year. Most schools do not communicate this to parents until May or June at the earliest. This is due to the ongoing registrations that occur throughout the spring. You can also request that two children be in the same class, but this will not be automatically granted. Principals have to consider many factors in building classes, such as number of students, gender balance, students with special needs, etc. They strive to build the best classes possible and also consider parent requests, but this is not always possible.

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### **What is the status of the new NE Burlington #4 ps (Alton elementary school)? Will it open for the beginning of school next year (September 2012)?**

Building permits have been issued and the site plan has been approved for the new school. Tenders have been awarded and construction has commenced. The school is scheduled to open for September 2012, for the 2012/2013 school year.

### **When will the final decision be made so I can make child care arrangements for my family?**

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