



# Halton District School Board

Wayne Joudrie, *Director of Education*

Bruce Jones, *Chair of the Board*

May 27, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians,

**Re: New Milton Elementary Schools – Construction Delays**

We are writing to update you on the scheduled opening of the Halton District School Board's two new elementary schools -- Escarpment View Public School (Milton #5) and P.L. Robertson Public School (Milton #6).

After much discussion between the construction companies building the schools and the Halton District School Board's Facilities Services Department, we have determined these two new schools will not be ready for occupancy by the first day of school on Tuesday, September 8, 2009. While this outcome is regrettable, it is unavoidable, as we must ensure the school construction is complete and the buildings are safe for staff and students. We anticipate the completion date will be in late December 2009.

In light of this information, Board staff members are currently developing options to accommodate the students temporarily. This is not an easy task, as the following issues must be considered in determining the best possible option for accommodating our Milton students:

**Consistent Teachers/  
Program**

To ensure the highest quality program for students, staff members will be assigned with their students so minimal staff changes will be necessary once the new schools are complete. Minimizing disruption will ensure the smoothest possible transition to the new schools.

**Temporary Location**

It is anticipated the students will be accommodated in more than one of the existing Milton schools. Currently Milton elementary schools are being fully utilized, many with portable classrooms. There is no existing Milton elementary school that can accommodate the entire staff and student body of either Escarpment View Public School or P.L. Robertson Public School. We will make an effort to keep students housed at their current locations to minimize movement.

**Available Daycare**

The principals of the new schools are very aware of the "Before & After School" care issues for parents and are working with the program providers to make sure space is available for September in the temporary locations.

Parents will be informed, by letter, as soon as the temporary accommodation plan is finalized in early June. School principals will host information sessions in June to provide parents with detailed plans of school start-up and transition. Dates and times of these meetings will be confirmed shortly.

Please check the websites of affected Milton elementary schools for up-to-date information.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we resolve this unfortunate situation.

Sincerely,

Wayne Joudrie  
Director of Education

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Superintendent of Education (Milton schools)