

March 6, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As you are aware, a new Grades 5-9 school is being completed on Thorburn Road in Portugal Cove-St. Philip's. Along with members of the school communities of the Prince of Wales Collegiate school system, the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District is eagerly awaiting the opening of this modern school facility.

As a result of the addition of this new school the District is undertaking a school attendance zone review for the Prince of Wales Collegiate (PWC) school system. The process includes consultation with school councils, administrators and the school communities, and will result in realignment of school attendance zones or grade configurations informed by the feedback received. The District has compiled an information booklet which contains details of the proposed catchment and grade level reconfiguration scenarios and also information about the impacted schools. Members of the school community are encouraged to review the information booklet and then provide feedback to the District. This information is available here:
www.nlesd.ca/schools/schoolreview/2017/systempwc.jsp.

As explained in the information booklet, resulting analysis of the PWC system recognized changes are necessary to relieve enrollment pressures at Larkhall Academy and use available space at St. Andrew's Elementary and Leary's Brook Junior High. A number of models for the reconfiguration of grade levels and attendance zones were explored that achieve this aim and ensured a viable model that minimized disruption and maintained program delivery. This collaboration resulted in confirming the plan to reconfigure Beachy Cove Elementary as a Kindergarten to Grade 4 school and the configuration of the new school in Portugal Cove - St. Philip's as a Grade 5 to 9 school and two potential scenarios for consideration for St. Andrew's Elementary, Larkhall Academy, and Leary's Brook Junior High.

We request that you review the information package and complete the feedback form available online by noon on **March 17, 2017** to help inform the District as we move forward with this process. As well, the District will hold an information session on **Thursday, March 9, 2017** to provide a briefing on the information package provided. This session will be held in the gymnasium of Leary's Brook Junior High and begin at 6:30 p.m. Members of the school community who would like to receive the information package as a presentation by District staff are invited to attend this session.

Further, should any member of the school community prefer a paper copy of the information package or prefer to provide their feedback through a paper form, they may do so by contacting your school administration.

Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Cathy Martin at cathymartin@nlesd.ca or 758-2701.

Thank you for contributing to this important process and we look forward to receiving your feedback.

Sincerely,



Tony Stack
Associate Director of Education