

June 6, 2019

Good day families,

Thank you to everyone who has shared their thoughts and values with us so far on the planned configuration of the feeder system for the new intermediate school planned for Paradise. All voices matter, so your participation is crucial and valued. We've had **125 people** share approximately **140 thoughts** so far and we are reviewing your feedback.

We hear what you are telling us and are committed to ensuring you have the appropriate information to understand the reasons why the District is proceeding as it has outlined. From some of the initial comments that have been shared, we feel it is important to highlight the following for your consideration:

- The District has always recognized that it is impossible to accommodate all students feeding from the four elementary schools in Paradise within the new intermediate school. Therefore, the planned configuration provides for two elementary schools closest to the new location to attend the new school.
- The District cannot efficiently design school attendance zones without crossing municipal boundaries. Therefore municipal boundaries are not a decision-making factor in the school planning process. Throughout the province, and specifically throughout the north-east Avalon, many students cross municipal boundaries to attend their zoned school. Some students from St. John's attend school in Mount Pearl; some from Portugal Cove-St. Philips attend school in St. John's; students from Holyrood attend school in Avondale, and so forth. The District must utilize existing infrastructure to house anticipated student populations, and students are zoned to attend an area school irrespective of the municipality in which they live. Full details on the system capacity for the Holy Spirit High and Mount Pearl Senior High school systems are available on the [Review Website](#).
- Many people continue to share a desire to see a high school in Paradise. As indicated in the first round of ThoughtExchange discussions, that decision is outside the scope of this process. As noted in the updated [Information Booklet](#), the District asked the Provincial Government for a new intermediate and high school for Paradise in 2014. While Budget 2015 announced both an intermediate and high school for the area, both projects were deferred by the Provincial Government in 2016; the high school was deferred indefinitely while the intermediate school was deferred until 2017. Subsequently, the District has, once again, added a high school for Paradise to its capital request list provided to the Provincial Government.
- As noted in the presentation, it is possible that families with multiple school-aged children may see two students from the same household enrolled in two different feeder systems. We are asking any families in this situation to make themselves known to the administrative team of your youngest child's current school.

We are, once again, asking for feedback from your school community. We ask that you review details of the planned configuration available on the District website, then follow the link below to enter your thoughts on the following question:

**After reviewing our planned configuration, what are the most important things for us to consider to make this plan successful?**

Please click here to participate: <https://my.thoughtexchange.com/#607825600>. Participation will be open until **11:59 p.m., Thursday, June 13, 2019**.

Again, complete information on this School System Review process is available on the District's website at <https://www.nlesd.ca/schools/schoolreview/2019/system-hsh-mpsh.jsp>.

Thank you in advance for your input and guidance.

Regards,



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