



Merivale High School

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From the Principal's Desk - Board Decisions on Merivale High School

I wanted to share information about changes coming to Merivale High School beginning September 2017. These changes are the result of decisions from the recent Western Area Accommodation Review. More information about the review and the decisions is available on the [district website](#).

Merivale to Become a Grade 7 to 12 School

In September 2017, Merivale High School will become a Grade 7 to 12 school. The Grade 7 and 8 programs at Merivale will include English with Core French, Middle French Immersion, and Early French Immersion. We are excited to welcome students for grades 7 and 8 from the following schools:

- Sir Winston Churchill Public School (SWCPS) including students in the Grade 7 and 8 English Language Development (ELD) program currently at SWCPS;
- Carleton Heights Public School (this will include students who currently attend Century Public School which will close); and
- Meadowlands Public School.

Changes to Attendance Boundaries

In order to better align Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12 feeding patterns for students, changes have been made to Merivale High School's attendance boundary for Grades 9 to 12. The Carleton Heights area will be redirected to Merivale High School from Brookfield High School and the Green Valley Crescent area to Merivale High School from Glebe Collegiate Institute. Current high school students residing in these areas and attending Brookfield High School or Glebe Collegiate Institute will be permitted to remain at those schools.

Application to Have an International Baccalaureate (IB) Program at Merivale High School

A decision was also made to apply for certification of Merivale High School as a new International Baccalaureate (IB) site to serve the west end of the District. This new program will be introduced to the school upon certification by the international body which governs IB. This process may take a few years to complete.

Renovations at Merivale High School

In order to support the above changes and welcome students to our school, new investments are scheduled for the school building. Over \$3M of improvements are planned including science lab renovations, a new Learning Commons area, an all gender accessible washroom, and music and computer lab renovations. While most of the work will take place during the summer months, it may be possible to start some during June of the current school year. We will update you on any work which is scheduled.

To enhance the physical fitness program at the school in future years, the Board has requested funding from the Ministry of Education for the construction of a gymnasium addition. A decision from the province regarding the request likely won't be known for a few months.

I appreciate that there will be questions relating to the implementation of these changes. We will continue to provide you with more detailed information as it becomes available. In the weeks ahead, we will be establishing a transition planning committee to assist with planning for student transitions in order to welcome the grade 7 and 8 students to our school.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Thanks for your ongoing support.

Barb Gage

Principal
Merivale High School