

June 26, 2018

Dear Merivale Families,

On Monday, June 25, 2018 the OCDSB Board of Trustees passed the Implementation Plan for the introduction of an International Baccalaureate Program at Merivale High School. Thank you to all of the families that participated in the consultation process and provided insight into how the OCDSB can integrate a new program into the vibrant Merivale school community.

The following motions were passed by our Trustees:

International Baccalaureate Program Implementation Plan at Merivale High School.

1. Merivale High School will adopt a non-semestered program delivery model starting in September 2019 with the incoming grade 9 cohort coincident with the start of the IB Program;
2. A phased in approach of non-semestering continues with grade 10 becoming non-semestered in 2020-2021 and grades 11 and 12 becoming non-semestered in 2021-2022;
3. The attendance boundary for the IB Program as reflected in Appendix A [Report 18-064](#) be approved; and,
4. Students living in the new Merivale High School IB program boundary area who are eligible to enroll in the program and have older siblings attending the Colonel By Secondary School program be provided an option to also attend Colonel By Secondary School.

NOTE The boundary for Merivale

An additional point for families to note: The start time for the school remains the same (8:10 am for secondary students), and therefore students will continue to be eligible for transportation, including yellow bus, as determined by OSTA.

Providing a rich learning environment for our students is our focus. The school leadership team, along with Merivale's Learning Support and Student Success teachers, will be very involved in the development of a school timetable that supports all students, beginning with grade 9 students in 2019. We will spend the 2018-19 school year preparing for a dual delivery model structure as the school introduces the IB program in a gradual manner. Our goal is to ensure our students continue to have strong academic experiences, in addition to the growth in our co-curricular and extra-curricular offerings as our student population expands.

This is both a very exciting and a very challenging task ahead. We are committed to provide ongoing communication with our families and to look for opportunities to increase our shared learning as we navigate the implementation process together. More information will be posted to both the OCDSB and school websites soon.

We are very proud of the characteristics that combine to make Merivale an amazing place to learn and to work each day. The opportunity to grow our Merivale family by welcoming new students and their families through the IB Program is another example of our community's great heart and warm embrace.

Sincerely,

Jean Fulton-Hale, Principal