



May 1, 2023

Families,

I am writing to let you know about some upcoming changes to address significant growth pressures in the Woodlawn High Family of Schools (FOS).

As the population continues to grow in Halifax Regional Municipality, student enrolment is rising in the Halifax Regional Centre for Education. The Woodlawn High FOS is becoming one of the fastest growing areas.

To ensure all students have safe, welcoming, and comfortable learning spaces, some changes are necessary.

Modular Units

Last fall, we let Ellenvale Junior High know that [a modular unit](#) would be built this spring to help ease these pressures. The 12-classroom addition placed at Ellenvale Junior High will help support growth in surrounding schools.

Effective September 2023, grade configurations will change at some schools in the Woodlawn High FOS.

Changes for Woodlawn High Family of Schools

- **Admiral Westphal Elementary:** no changes, will remain Grades PP-6.
 - **Alderney Elementary:** will change from a PP-6 to a PP-5. Grade 6 will move to Ellenvale Junior High.
 - **Bel Ayr Elementary:** no changes, will remain Grades PP-6.
 - **Brookhouse Elementary:** will change from PP-6 to a PP-5. Grade 6 will move to Ellenvale Junior High.
 - **Caledonia Junior High:** no changes, will remain Grades 7-9.
 - **Ellenvale Junior High:** will change from Grades 7-9 to Grades 6-9 for English, will remain Grades 7-9 for French Immersion. Will receive Grade 6 from Alderney Elementary, Brookhouse Elementary and Portland Estates Elementary.
 - **Eric Graves Memorial Junior High:** no changes, will remain Grades 7-9.
 - **Ian Forsyth Elementary:** no changes, will remain Grades PP-6.
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- **Michael Wallace Elementary:** no changes, will remain Grades PP-6.
- **Mount Edward Elementary:** no changes, will remain Grades PP-6.
- **Portland Estates Elementary:** will change from Grades PP-6 to Grades PP-5. Grade 6 will move to Ellenvale Junior High.
- **Woodlawn High:** no changes, remains Grades 10-12.

For more information, rationale, and to view a detailed chart of all changes in this FOS, please [click here](#).

We Want Your Input

We know the success of each student's experience will depend on a strong transition plan. This is our current focus, and we're looking for your input:

"As we respond to growing enrolment and make necessary changes, how can we best support your child to ensure their success and well-being throughout this transition?"

To collect your thoughts, we're using an online platform called *ThoughtExchange*. You can contribute ideas and opinions, see what others have offered, and rate comments. It's available any time, it's accessible, and it's anonymous. Schools will use what you share to create meaningful plans to ensure a smooth transition.

[Click here](#) to get started.

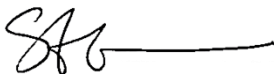
ThoughtExchange will remain open to feedback until May 9, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. Thank you for taking the time to share your ideas.

What's next?

You can expect regular communication from school principals in the coming weeks as more information becomes available about transition plans.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please reach out to your school principal or connect@hrce.ca. We will continue to update our website with answers to your questions.

All the best,



Steve Gallagher
Regional Executive Director
Halifax Regional Centre for Education