

June 28, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As the school year comes to a close, I wanted to extend my thanks to you for all your support as we worked through the transition planning for the program changes at Severn Public School. There have been many questions about the impact of the accommodation review decisions and I am pleased to provide you with an update.

Student Learning

At the school, we have worked hard to maintain regular routines and create opportunities for students to make connections to their new school. Managing transitions is important and parents might find the information in our [OCDSB Managing Transitions Guide for Educators](#) helpful. The link is accessible through the electronic copy of this letter which is available on our website.

Just today, we held a school picnic, followed by a choir performance and end of year ceremony. It was a wonderful celebration of the strength and character/history/community at Severn Public School. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who contributed or participated in this event.

Building and Records Access

After the end of classes the building will be closed except for the REKSAP program and new incoming school staff.

Student Files and Contact Information

All student files will be redirected to their new school site. This includes paper and electronic records. Parent contact information will be redirected to the database for your child's new school. As per usual, in September, all parents will receive a form from their child's school asking for contact information to be updated.

Childcare at the School

For parents with children in the childcare program at Severn, information about the program operation over the summer and for the fall will be communicated to you directly by the childcare operator if you are an existing client. Those wishing to obtain more information about their program, may call 613-828-3039.

Special Education

If your child is assigned SEA equipment to accommodate learning needs, that equipment will be relocated to their school for September. Parents of children with special needs may be interested in [this publication](#) about supporting the transition of students with special needs. The link is accessible through the electronic copy of this letter which is available on our website. If you have specific questions, you may contact our Learning Support Services Department at 613-596-8713.

Construction

Over the summer months, new exterior lighting will be installed at Severn Public School. Our goal is to complete as much construction work as possible over the summer so that we have learning spaces ready for the start of school in September.

School Transportation and Busing

The Ottawa Student Transportation Authority is currently working on bus route information. That information is expected to be available in mid-August. You can check the OSTA website at <http://www.ottawaschoolbus.ca/>. If your child walks to school or is dropped off at the school, please consider familiarizing yourselves with the walking routes and drop-off and pick-up locations at the school.

Staffing

As you know, many of our staff will be relocating at the end of this school year. While many will follow the student population, some have found new opportunities at other locations. I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to all of my colleagues at Severn Public School. This has been a very challenging school year and it has been my privilege to work with such a dedicated team of professionals who remained committed to providing the best learning opportunities for our students.

Finally, my sincere thanks to all of you for everything you have done for our school. This is a wonderful community and I have enjoyed working with you. Have a safe and happy summer.

H. Jamal

Principal Severn PS