



## APRIL UPDATE

Please find below responses to some common questions being asked in regards to the Change of Address (Phase 1) of the restructuring of the Laval High Schools.

Additional questions or concerns can be directed to your principal.

### Questions and Answers | Phase 1

#### Programs

Q) Will the programs be maintained for the 2014-2015 school year?

The Director General, in her report to the Council of Commissioners at the March meeting, confirmed that all programs will be maintained for the 2014-2015 school year at the four Laval High Schools. These programs include (but are not limited to):

- Football, Hockey, Soccer, Music, Theatre, Arts, ATOMS\* and ALP\*(secondary 2 to 5)

\*ALP and ATOMS secondary 1 programs are dependent on entrance exams to be held in April. (A.T.O.M.S. entrance exams are April 12 and A.L.P. entrance exams are April 26)

#### Science Labs and Technology

Q) Will there be sufficient science labs?

There will be sufficient space for the eight labs required. Safety requirements for the science labs will be met.

Q) Will schools have similar amounts of Interactive Whiteboards as in their previous building?

Twenty-four additional interactive whiteboards were ordered, of which 5 have already been installed in the Daniel-Johnson building.

#### Special Needs

Q) When and how will articulation between elementary and high school take place?

The articulation process for all grade 6 students going to high school begins in February, as it does every year. High School teams meet with Elementary teams. This also includes articulation for students with special needs into more specialized settings which is overseen by the Complementary Services Department. This process ensures a smooth and successful transition for all students. In addition, student profiles and confidential files are transferred to the student's new school at the end of the school year as done systematically every year.

For our specialized classes, individualized articulation meetings will be held in June where students with special needs and their parents are invited to meet the receiving school teams.

This year, the returning students in specialized groupings at LJHS will be included in the articulation process to help the transition to their new building. This will also take place in June.

Q) Will there be an elevator in the Daniel-Johnson building?

Yes. The location has been selected and a professional is working on the plan. We are on schedule and the elevator will be in place for the fall.

### **Transition for students and staff | Student safety**

Q) Will the staff of the high schools have the opportunity to meet before the move?

Common professional development days are being used to bring the staff of the two buildings together to begin discussions and planning as well as familiarize themselves with the building.

Q) Will the students have the opportunity to visit the school before the start of the school year?

Yes, during the May-June articulation period.

Q) Will the junior students be permitted to leave the school premises during the day?

No. Junior high school students must remain on school property at all times during the school day.

### **Transportation**

Q) Have the arrival and departure times been established?

Busses will arrive at school 10 to 20 minutes prior to the starting time; this allows for staggered arrivals. Departures are 10 to 15 minutes after the end of each school day. These are approximate times taken into consideration in regular conditions (weather, construction, detours etc.).

Students will use the STL public transportation, as is the case now.

Q) How many STL busses will be needed?

Approximately 33 busses will be required to transport the Laval High School students, similar to the amount this year. The STL adjusts the required amount of busses needed based upon the student population.

### **Inventory Assessment and Physical Space Requirements**

Q) How is the school inventory assessment coming along?

School inventory (space, movables, labs, etc.) has already taken place as well as establishing the preliminary placement of classrooms.

Q) Are there enough lockers in the two buildings?

There are sufficient lockers.

Q) Will there be sufficient tables in the cafeteria to accommodate all students?

Additional tables have been ordered.

Q) What will happen with the library books?

Library needs have been assessed including identifying books and resources which require moving. Packing is on-going.

The Material Resources Department has deployed 500 boxes to the high schools in preparation of the move and will send more as needs arise.

Additional human support will be made available to facilitate the move.