



UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL 8:30 PM, MARCH 30

Lester B. Pearson School Board Announces Possible Major School Changes for the 2010/2011 School Year

Mon. March 30, 2009

Dorval, Qc., March 30 – Lester B. Pearson School Board in Dorval, Quebec, today announced that some major school changes may take place for the 2010/2011 school year. These possible changes are being discussed in order to build the LBPSB Future Directions together as one community and the board's main goal is to enhance learning opportunities for all present and future students.

The possible changes that were presented in the Major School Change document and that will be discussed in the coming months include:

- New elementary attendance zoning for all off-island elementary schools
- Improved French Language Programs at elementary and secondary schools
- To rationalize the school network with new and exciting program options, possible school closures, community schools and to look at the adult and vocational needs

The community played an important role in the Major School Change document. Through the Town Halls, email input and many discussions, the board administrators and Commissioners composed the document presented. After the decrease in enrollment in many Lester B. Pearson Schools, the board is dedicated to finding a more effective and positive use for the buildings should any school closures be decided upon.

The time line of when all discussions are to take place was also revealed. Through internal study and review, Town Hall discussions, council and administration workshops as well as community and consultation meetings, a final decision as to what changes, if any, will be taken no later than December 21, 2009.

Public hearings will take place November, 17,18 and 19, 2009. If any changes are undertaken, they will take effect July 1, 2010 for the school year of 2010/2011.

A list of resources was presented as well. A dedicated page on the LBPSB website entitled "Major School Change" where all information about the decisions and discussions taking place will be available. There will be scheduled local, community and school group meetings and a dedicated email address for requests and comments has been

set up. The school board will also utilize its RSS notification system to send updates and changes to everyone who is a part of the system.

The board and its commissioners are relying on comments and suggestions from the public and are available to answer any questions and provide any information that may be needed.

Marcus Tabachnick, Chairman of the board is available for interviews.

For further information: Daniela Scoppa, Communications Officer for LBPSB, 514-422-3000 ext. 2666 or 514-207-6625, dscoppa@lbsb.qc.ca

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