

May 1, 2023

Families,

I am writing to let you know about some upcoming changes to address significant growth pressures in the Millwood 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 Millwood 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 families at Harry R. Hamilton Elementary know that [a modular unit](#) would be built this spring to ease these pressures. The 6-classroom addition is placed at Harry R. Hamilton Elementary and will help support growth in surrounding schools.

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

Changes in the Millwood High Family of Schools

- **Harry R. Hamilton Elementary:** no change, will remain Grades PP-5. Will now receive Pre-Primary from Millwood Elementary and Sackville Heights Elementary.
- **Millwood Elementary:** will remain Grades PP-5, except Pre-Primary will now be offered offsite at Harry R. Hamilton Elementary.
- **Millwood High:** no change, will remain Grades 9-12.
- **Sackville Heights Elementary:** will remain Grades PP-5, except Pre-Primary will now be offered offsite at Harry R. Hamilton Elementary.
- **Sackville Heights Junior High:** no change, will remain Grades 6-8 English and Grades 7-8 French Immersion.

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.

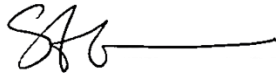
ThoughtExchange will remain open to feedback until May 9, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. Thank you for taking the time to share your ideas.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SAG', followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Steve Gallagher
Regional Executive Director
Halifax Regional Centre for Education