



PRINCESS ALEXANDRA SCHOOL

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SPECIAL EDITION

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

Dear PA School Families and Friends,

I am writing to you today to give you the breaking news about next year. The very exciting (and long overdue) major renovations at Diamond Jenness will have ripple effects both at PA and next door at Harry Camsell, and we would like you to know the details right away.

Our current grade 7s will remain in the building (and last year's grade 7s will return), but they will be Diamond Jenness students. Our plan is to turn the current grade 6 wing into a *de facto* junior high wing, housing both grade 8 and both grade 9 homerooms for the 2010-2011 school year. The grade 8 and 9 teachers will also be coming across, so that wing will be, in essence, an off-campus extension of DJ, just as if they were housed in a portable (though at far less expense). They will follow DJSS curricula, timetable and calendar, and be supervised by DJ staff according to DJSS rules.

At the other end of the spectrum, the grade 3 classes currently in Harry Camsell School will stay in that building next year for grade 4, and our grade 4 staff will be seconded to Harry Camsell to be their teachers. Although they will be PA students, taught by PA teachers and receiving PA report cards, the grade 4s will continue to follow Harry Camsell rules and schedules. For the sake of familiarity and continuity, Mr. Hill has very kindly agreed to serve as principal for those grades, and Harry Camsell staff will provide support services.

For next year's grades 5, 6 and 7 there will be only a few changes, chiefly having to do with location. The grade 6 classes will move into the current grade 4 homerooms, and the Assistive Technology Lab will be relocated next to the Computer room. Grades 5 and 7 will remain in their current homerooms, and the French and Slavey classrooms will also stay the same.

There's no doubt next year will look a little different, but it will all be worth it when the DJ retrofit is complete. We hope to be back to normal, with a wonderful new high school facility, for 2011-2012.

Please feel free to call me or drop by if you have questions about how PA will operate next year. If you have questions about the junior high program, please contact Principal Paul Thériault at DJSS. For more information about the renovation itself or if you have other concerns, you may contact Ms. Kandis Jameson, Chairperson of the Hay River DEA.

All PA'S in!



Geoff Buerger
Principal