



## Office of the Regional Executive Director of Education

March 6, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In January 2017, the provincial government announced a new high school would be built to replace J.L. Ilesley High School. The targeted opening date for the new school is September 2021.

In the near future, the provincial Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal will be issuing a tender for the design and construction of the new school. The tender issued will be for the construction of a Grade 9-12 high school. Issuing the tender for a school of this size and grade configuration will provide flexibility for future enrolment growth and will ensure capacity for future program expansion. This is a significant and exciting step in the process.

Enrolment in Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) schools is growing, including in some schools within the J.L. Ilesley Family of Schools. There is also a major development underway in the area, such as Governor's Brook which will lead to further population growth. Planning for a Grade 9-12 school ensures a larger space and increased capacity for students in this Family of Schools. This offers us greater flexibility for future planning.

The provincial Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is currently revising the Public School Program for junior and senior high which will see Grade 9 more closely aligned with high school. While the curriculum is still being developed, we expect the changes will be in place before the new school opens.

We have created a communication page on our website for this project: <https://www.hrce.ca/jli-new-school>. Regular updates will be posted on this page and shared with schools for distribution. Opening a new school is a great opportunity to work with our School Advisory Councils to gather their advice as we shape the future of education for the entire J.L. Ilesley Family of Schools.

Many Thanks,

Elwin LeRoux,  
Regional Executive Director of Education

cc: School Principals, J.L. Ilesley Family of Schools  
Cathy Montreuil, Deputy Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development  
Honourable Lena Metlege Diab, MLA – Halifax Armdale  
Brendan Maguire, MLA – Halifax Atlantic