

March 11, 2021

Families,

The new JL Ilsley High School is scheduled to open in September 2021. If you haven't had the opportunity to see the construction up close, we have some pictures on the Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) website which you can see at: [www.hrce.ca/jli-new-school](http://www.hrce.ca/jli-new-school).

In March 2019, I wrote to families indicating the new high school would open as a grades 9 to 12 school. This would address the increase in students we are seeing in the area with new developments and provide flexibility to address capacity issues with some of the elementary schools in the JL Ilsley Family of Schools.

With the move of grade 9 to the high school, we will be making similar shifts at the junior high schools. Starting in September, grade 6 will now be included in the junior high schools. The one exception to this involves John W. MacLeod – Fleming Tower (JWMFT) and its feeder junior highs – Cunard and Elizabeth Sutherland. Grades 5 and 6 from JWMFT will move to the respective junior highs.

The grade configurations will become:

School	Current Configuration	Configuration September 2021
Central Spryfield Elementary	Pre-Primary – 6	Pre-Primary – 5
Chebucto Heights Elementary	Pre-Primary – 6	Pre-Primary – 5
Harrietsfield Elementary	Pre-Primary – 6	Pre-Primary – 5
John W. MacLeod – Fleming Tower	Primary – 6 (Pre-Primary hosted at Cunard)	Pre-Primary – 4
Sambro Elementary	Pre-Primary – 6	Pre-Primary – 5
William King Elementary	Pre-Primary – 6	Pre-Primary – 5
Elizabeth Sutherland School	Pre-Primary – 9 French Immersion 7 – 9	Pre-Primary – 8 French Immersion 5 – 8
Rockingstone Heights School	Pre-Primary – 9	Pre-Primary – 8
Cunard Junior High	7 – 9 (Cunard hosts JWMFT PP)	5 – 8
Herring Cove Junior High	7 – 9	6 – 8
J.L. Ilsley High	10 – 12	9 – 12

This reconfiguring will provide flexibility for future enrolment growth throughout the JL Ilsley Family of Schools and will ensure capacity for future program expansion.

Between now and the end of the school year, staff from HRCE will work with the school principals, School Advisory Councils and families to support a smooth transition process. This will include providing opportunities and activities for students to feel welcome, included, and comfortable in their new school.

Please look forward to regular communication from the team overseeing these transitions. Information will also be shared on school websites and in school newsletters.

With thanks,

Elwin LeRoux,  
Regional Executive Director of Education

c: School Principals, JL Ilsley Family of Schools