



SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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PRESS RELEASE

Date: Wednesday, August 29, 2007
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George O'Neill Public School Renovation Nears Completion

MARATHON, Ontario – Students, teachers and staff of George O'Neill Public School will soon be walking through the halls of a school that has undergone a \$2.4 million upgrade. However, student and staff will have a slight delay in taking occupancy of the school as the finishing touches on the facility upgrade will continue into the opening of the new school year on September 4, 2007.

“We want to be certain that the environment that students and staff are going into is completely safe and sound. Until this happens, we will temporarily relocate these students to the Red Rock Public School to begin the school year,” said Director of Education Lise Haman. “We expect students to take occupancy of their newly renovated school very shortly,” said Haman.

Superintendent of Education Colleen Kappel said that arrangements are in place to have all students from the George O'Neill Public School transported by school bus to Red Rock Public School on a temporary basis. She added, “Students who regularly take the bus to George O'Neill will be picked up and dropped off at their regular bus stop.”

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Students who walk to/from school daily can continue to do so as well. Once all the walking students have gathered at the Nipigon school site each morning, daily bus transportation into Red Rock will be provided for all students. Students will be returned to Nipigon in the same manner.

Lise Haman noted that a project as ambitious as this one would normally displace students from the school for a full year, however by staying on a stringent project timeline, displacement of students is being kept to a strict minimum.

“A tremendous effort from all Superior-Greenstone DSB staff, including teachers, support staff, custodians and administration at both the George O'Neill and Red Rock Public School has gone into this project,” said Haman. “It is an exciting time and in a short while, a wonderful new facility will be enjoyed by the community.”

Colleen Kappel advised that parents of children enrolled at George O'Neill Public School will receive further details from the school regarding this temporary arrangement. She encouraged parents to call the school if they have any questions.