Dear Parents/Guardians:

I am writing to provide with you some important information about teacher staffing and classroom changes to your child's class, effective Monday, November 16.

While this is a routine process that happens every year in September, the impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the creation of the DDSB@Home virtual school has resulted in a greater need for class adjustments, along with the distribution of teachers between in-person schools and DDSB@Home. It helps us ensure that students are in classrooms of a similar size to provide equitable access to education and support, and to promote student success.

After reviewing the enrolment numbers for both in-person learning and DDSB@Home, we are required to consolidate and reorganize classrooms as some students transfer over to the DDSB@Home virtual school on Monday, November 16. This means that your child's classroom placement and/or teacher may be changing as a result of the reorganization. If your child's classroom placement or teacher is being impacted, school staff will be notifying families by the end of this week. Students will begin in their new classroom settings on Monday, November 16.

The DDSB's enhanced health and safety procedures will continue to be in place at the school, along with spacing students apart at a minimum of one metre within classrooms as a precaution to help keep students and staff stay safe.

We have taken steps and allocated resources to attempt to limit class size changes as much as possible as part of this process. This will vary from school to school and are necessary to support the needs of students both in-person and virtual. Over the course of this school year, the DDSB has utilized provincial, federal and DDSB reserve funding to hire an additional 128 elementary educators to support students.

As school communities continue to navigate through the changes that the COVID-19 pandemic has introduced, the DDSB is committed to creating as smooth of a transition as possible for all students and families. We remain dedicated to providing your children with the best possible education and we appreciate your continued support and understanding.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at the school.

Sincerely, Sharon Knights Principal Clara Hughes P.S. 905 728-1212