

Anticipated Questions from Parents Regarding Minister Roberge' Announcement

What was announced?

The minister announced that he intends to bring a motion to the floor of the National Assembly transferring the Riverdale building to the CSMB on July 1, 2019. He can do that under extraordinary circumstances, but he needs to have it approved by the National Assembly.

Why is the Minister doing this?

There have been a lot of new registrations in the French system, mostly because of the huge influx of new immigrants arriving in the province. They are overloaded with students and the CSMB just doesn't have the space anymore. They have students coming to school at 3:30 or working on gym stages or in basements. We know that we can help with some of the empty space we have. In the end, we are all thinking about the kids.

What does that mean for the kids at Riverdale?

Students at Riverdale will have their registrations transferred to PCHS for 2019-20.

What does it mean for PCHS?

If this happens, the school board will treat this like a merger. The two communities will have to come together and form a new school. There is a whole process for that, but both schools get to have a say in how things work.

What happens to the teachers?

In this sort of situation, the teachers will follow the students to PCHS and they will make a single new staff. There will be some new faces and familiar faces for everyone.

What happens if I don't want to be part of this?

You always have the right to transfer to another high school if there is space available. We think it is an exciting opportunity to build something in Pierrefonds, but we can't deny you the right to change schools if you wish.

What about bussing?

Obviously we would need to re-work some of the bus routes so that students who normally walked to Riverdale would get bussing to PCHS if they are eligible. There may also end up being bussing to PCHS in places where there wasn't before. It will depend upon where you live.

Will the school have a new name?

That will be up to the schools to decide when they meet. When this happens, there is always a committee put together with people from each school. That is called the Merger Committee. They talk about these kinds of things and come to agreements on how they will proceed.