



Lord Tennyson Elementary School

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Tennyson 2020 – Playground Update Bulletin

Sept 26, 2018

It was quite an exciting day at Tennyson today! Habitat workers arrived in the morning to dismantle the small playground. We were able to talk to the primary classes about this, as well as most of the intermediate students about this, and about the concept of sharing the larger playground. They were excited that we have planned for alternate spaces for activities for both primary and intermediate students.

Today we tried having the larger playground open to all students. Teachers pre-loaded students with expectations and practice, and we had a variety of staff members outside to help. Students had a great time at both recess and lunch! Students used the playground and slides safely. We even had older student leaders helping younger students, and the atmosphere had a positive energy – sidewalk chalk proved very popular. Some of our intermediate students were on the playground, but many were playing four-square, and doing other things. We are so impressed by our students!

We know that there are a variety of ideas about ways to work with the sharing of playground space. In conversations with district staff who have worked in many schools on seismic projects, we know that it is important to try different things (eg. all students sharing a space versus having rotating days for different grade levels in a given space, such as the playground) to get a sense for what works for our students and spaces. We will analyze these patterns over the coming days, including when we open our gym and basement spaces (once the field becomes unavailable). It is important that we continue to provide structure and ample supervision and ongoing teaching of expectations for all students.

Timeline for Construction and Completion

The current *anticipated* timeline is as follows:

September 2018-March 2020: Construction

March 2020: Completion of the new building (our move date is to be determined)

March 2020-August 2020: Demolition of the current building, completion of grounds

August 2020: Project complete!

Principal: Douglas Roch
Vice Principal: Regina Vosahlo
Admin Assistant: Veronica D'Angelo



Director of Instruction: Magdalena Kassis
Trustee: Judy Zaichkowsky
PAC Chair: Tam Cummings