

# **Metrolinx Construction Activities at Pape Avenue Junior Public School Frequently Asked Questions**

**1. If the Pape school community is required to relocate, what is the expected timing of the move?**

There is no predetermined date however, due to the retrofits required for the Jones Ave school, the earliest we could support a move is March break of 2025.

**2. What are the key factors/safety thresholds that would result in the decision to relocate students?**

There are no key factors being considered at this point. Over the past school year, we have worked with Metrolinx to address concerns raised by the school community. Metrolinx has adapted their work in response to those concerns including building the noise wall, supporting changes to drop-off/pick-up and altering the schedule of work to minimize disruptions when students are in the playground. Safety of students and staff is our top priority and we will continue to closely monitor the work over the next few years and bring forward any concerns to Metrolinx.

**3. How will community/parent input be weighed in the ultimate decision to move to Jones Ave?**

Parent input will be gathered through a survey to be issued at the end of June regarding the option of a move to Jones. A staff report with the results of the survey will be presented to the board in the fall. Parents will have an opportunity to delegate at the board meeting when the report is presented. We will continue to seek community and parent input throughout the duration of the Ontario Line construction near Pape Ave JPS.

**4. Is there a risk to students and staff if they stay at the current school location?**

We understand there are safety provisions in place. However, there will be disturbances and disruptions associated with the construction. Although there may not be risks related to health and safety, there can be operational challenges that affect the ability to run a school. For example, these challenges could affect traffic patterns and as a result affect drop off and pick up. There could be challenges with the level of

noise, resulting in teaching being disrupted within the school. These challenges could also impact the children playing outside. It is possible that the degree of disruption is so great, it is better to operate out of a nearby facility.

There is an opportunity for Pape Avenue Jr PS to move to the Jones Avenue building if construction results in excessive disruptions to school operations. Currently, no decision has been made and we continue to work very closely with Metrolinx to address any concerns and prioritize school safety.

**5. Will any retrofits occur at Pape if the building is vacated? How long could these retrofits take?**

Yes, if the school and child care center are relocated to the Jones Avenue building, the TDSB will take the opportunity while Pape Avenue Jr PS is empty to do major renovations of the school's interior. The timeline for these renovations is currently undetermined.

**6. What are the main sources of disruption?**

The following anticipated disruptions could have an impact on school operations:

- Changes in drop-off and pick-up location: drop-off/pick-up will remain at Pape Avenue until summer 2024, and then will be relocated to Riverdale Avenue.
- Traffic on the streets will be re-adjusted frequently due to various construction activities.
- Noise level may increase during the storm sewer demolition.
- Dust level may increase during the storm sewer and private property demolition.
- Vibration due to micro-tunnelling is expected to be within acceptable limits and will be further assessed.

**7. Has consideration been given to outdoor space for the kids at Jones? Will playground equipment be installed?**

Yes, outdoor spaces will be part of the renovations at the Jones Avenue building. Some of the renovations that will take place are an outdoor kindergarten play area that will be built on the south side of the building, and an outdoor child care play area that will be built at the front of the

building. Grade 1 to 6 students will use the existing hard surface play areas in the courtyard and at the back of the building. Additionally, Pape students will share the existing sports field with Earl Grey Sr PS.



**8. Will students be provided bussing to the Jones Avenue building?**

Students within the Pape boundary in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 may be eligible for school bus transportation if they live 1.6 km or more away from the Jones Avenue building. Students in Grade 6 may be eligible to receive TTC tickets if they live 3.2 km or more away from the Jones Avenue building. Majority of addresses in the Pape boundary are within 1.6 km of the Jones Avenue building. There are some addresses south of Gerrard Street East that are further than 1.6 km from Jones Avenue and would be eligible for bussing.

**9. Will there be any impact on the capacity of Pape school and Pape Children’s House (PCH)?**

There are no anticipated impacts to the capacity of Pape Ave JPS or Pape Children’s House. If a move to Jones Ave does take place, the rooms that would accommodate Pape students and PCH early learners at Jones Avenue are similar to the space both groups are currently occupying at Pape. PCH has both exclusive use rooms and shared space rooms. Exclusive use rooms are classrooms that are used only by the child care provider. Shared space rooms are classrooms that are used by both the school and the child care.

**10. Can students change schools if they prefer not to relocate to Jones Avenue?**

Students living within the Pape boundary who would like to change schools will have to apply for the Out-of-Area admissions process. Parents can apply each year from January to March. Out-of-Area students that currently attend Pape can return to their home schools.

**11. Will TDSB work with external before and after care providers that currently serve the Pape community to ensure those services are not interrupted?**

TDSB staff will be reaching out to external before and after care providers so that they are aware of the construction activities planned by Metrolinx, and the potential option of relocating Pape students to the Jones Ave facility, so that these agencies can also work on contingency planning.

**12. Are there any other options being considered, other than relocating to Jones Ave?**

There are no other relocation options being considered at this time.

**13. Are there any other schools planning to move to Jones Ave?**

No, there are no plans to move other schools in the Jones Avenue building. Currently, there is an Adult ESL Centre that operates on the third floor of the building.

**14. Would the ESL school operate during daytime school hours? If so, have there been any examples of elementary and adult ESL schools sharing a building? How is safety handled?**

TDSB schools by their nature are community hubs and accommodate a variety of groups. For example, elementary schools have childcare centres, EarlyON programs, and office spaces for TDSB central staff. Schools that operate multiple user groups have operational procedures put in place to ensure safety and identify things like designated entrances and washrooms that will be used by respective user groups, the times people will enter and exit the building, etc.

The Jones Avenue building has the Adult ESL program exclusively on the 3rd floor. They enter the building through the ground level and make their way to the 3rd floor. Details such as the entrances that will be used, how the adults will make their way to the 3rd floor, and which stairwells will be used are operational procedures that TDSB will establish with the principal of the school and the manager of the Adult ESL program. The Adult ESL program is a day program.

**15. Are there any plans to eventually dispose of the Pape Ave school site?**

There are no plans to dispose of the Pape Avenue building. The Pape site is considered a core holding site where the TDSB wishes to maintain an operating neighbourhood school.