

June 7, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff in the Argyle Family of Schools:

Re: Argyle Secondary School Capital Project Update

As you may know, April 5, 2018 was the closing date for the public bid tender for the Argyle Secondary School replacement project. Unfortunately due to escalating construction industry costs, there was a gap between the lowest bid and the provided funding which resulted in a delay in awarding the construction contract. Over the past two months, school district staff have been working closely with the Ministry of Education and the low-bidding contractor to align project scope with budget. The Argyle project can now move forward with construction.

I am pleased to announce that DGS Construction and the North Vancouver School District have reached an agreement to build the new Argyle Secondary School. DGS has 36 years of experience in large scale construction projects and we are excited to work with them to build a seismically safe, 21st Century learning environment for the students and staff in the Lynn Valley community. DGS is a family-owned company with their primary work focused on the construction of new schools. They currently have several projects under construction for the Vancouver School Board and have worked previously on projects within the North Vancouver School District.

With the delay in awarding the construction contract, the expected completion date for the Argyle replacement school is now scheduled for Fall 2020, with demolition of the existing school and construction of a new sports field to follow. Our staff will work with DGS to find any possible efficiencies within the construction schedule to push forward the construction timeline.

As we move into Phase 1 of the construction you will begin to see some changes to field use and site access. The South grass field and part of the gravel field will be 'off limits' for non-construction personnel as it becomes an active construction and staging site. Further, there will be increased activity of heavy machinery on the site and along community streets. Access to areas that are designated construction zones will be restricted. We ask that in the interest of safety you respect the active construction zone and remind your children not to trespass into the secure, fenced-off areas.

Should you have specific questions/comments about the construction phase of the project please contact Mark Thomson (mthomson@sd44.ca), project manager for the Argyle Secondary School replacement project. If you have questions regarding field use, student safety or education programs during the construction process please contact Argyle Principal, Michael Kee.

We acknowledge the increasing construction noise and disruption at the Argyle site over the next two years. We are all very excited to have a new Argyle Secondary School and appreciate your continued patience and understanding as we invest in the community.

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Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Pearmain".

Mark Pearmain
Superintendent of Schools

cc: North Vancouver Board of Education
Pius Ryan, Assistant Superintendent – Argyle Family of Schools
Adam Baumann, Director of Instruction – Argyle Family of Schools
Michael Kee, Principal, Argyle Secondary School
Mark Thomson, Capital Projects Manager
Jim MacKenzie, Director of Facilities