

## Willingdon Expansion Consultation

Dear Willingdon Parents,

Willingdon is a special school, one that helps grow the community and develop tomorrow's leaders. It is our love and admiration of all that is Willingdon that has propelled us to develop this proposal.

In order to protect and enhance both our school and access more generally to English schools in NDG, we want to expand our school starting in September 2019. Having two campuses will help guarantee that Willingdon retain its present resources as well as grow its program. School is about more than location although that is understandably high on the list for all of us. As the school becomes too crowded and resources too stretched, we need to be able to look beyond our narrow geography and imagine the potential of another campus.

The fact that this initiative has been motivated by teachers and parent governing board members and is backed by our principal provides the necessary grassroots energy and insight to make this a success. We need you, our parents to get informed, to add your concerns and share your ideas so that we can develop a proposal that works for everyone. If we cannot develop a proposal that our parents can get behind and support then we will not move forward. Or if our school commissioners cannot provide us with the necessary guarantees regarding resources (a full complement of support staff plus the necessary tech equipment and classroom supplies to support the new site) and transportation (shuttle plus regular bussing, expanded boundaries) we will not move forward.

The most important part of this consultation process is that we become stronger and more united as a community. In this way, regardless of the outcome, we will be able to face tomorrow's challenges together.

We invite you to reflect on the proposal and to provide us with your questions, your concerns and your ideas on how to make this work. We will compile your feedback and have an FAQ document ready for you on February 11<sup>th</sup> at the site visit, this document will also be made available on our website.