



Gloucester High School
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From the Principal's Desk – Changes Coming to Gloucester High School

I wanted to share some important information about changes coming to Gloucester High School beginning September 2017. These changes are the result of decisions from the recent Eastern Secondary Accommodation Review. More information about the review and the decisions is available on the [district website](#).

Rideau High School Closes and Students Move to Gloucester High School

Effective September 2017, **Gloucester High School will welcome current students from Rideau High School** which will close. Grade 9 to 12 Immersion program students residing within the Rideau High School attendance area will also be welcomed at Gloucester High School. Students residing within the Rideau High School attendance area and currently enrolled (2016-2017) in schools other than Gloucester High School for French Immersion will be permitted to remain at those schools.

Renovations at Gloucester High School

In order to support these changes and welcome Rideau students to our school, new investments are scheduled for both the site and the school building. Over \$3M of improvements are planned, including: science lab upgrades, the establishment of a culturally friendly space comparable to the Lodge, new Learning Commons areas, upgrades to the entrance/lobby area, improvements to the cafeteria acoustics, ceiling/lighting replacements, a new PA system, and paving of the parking lot and tennis courts.

Additional Supports for Transition

A number of additional supports have been approved to help with this transition. This includes:

- additional staffing a two-year period;
- work with community partners to create a room which is culturally friendly and comparable to the Lodge at Rideau High;
- annual monitoring of student achievement and well-being at the school (with some of this data disaggregated by the current attendance boundaries of the two schools); and
- the transition team will be asked to consider is a possible name change for the school.

The accommodation review process has been challenging for our community and I would like to thank you for your participation in support of our school. I appreciate that there will be questions relating to the implementation of these changes. In the weeks ahead, we will be establishing a transition planning committee. We will continue to provide you with more detailed information as it becomes available.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Jennifer Perry
Principal
Gloucester High School