



**NEAR NORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES OF  
STUDENTS WHO WILL BE ATTENDING MCDOUGALL  
PUBLIC SCHOOL, NOBEL PUBLIC SCHOOL AND PARRY  
SOUND HIGH SCHOOL**

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August 26, 2025

We have received a number of questions about our preparations for the start of the school year. As you may have seen on our website, we have updated our Contingency Plan, which explains the path forward. We hope that you find it helpful. We have also prepared this report to provide additional information regarding some of the activities the Near North District School Board (NNDSB) has undertaken, in support of our Contingency Plan. The following information is summary in nature and not reflective of all our efforts:

1. NNDSB's Facilities and Operations Department continues to follow all health and safety measures and complete annual inspections for each of the three schools. All NNDSB's standard health and safety checks for its schools will be completed prior to each of the schools' commencement on September 2, 2025.

- a. **McDougall Public School**

- i. Annual inspection of fire safety system completed
    - ii. Annual Electrical Safety Authority inspection completed
    - iii. Annual gym, playground equipment and special education equipment inspections completed
    - iv. Annual water testing for lead completed

- b. **Nobel Public School**

- i. Annual inspection of fire safety system completed
    - ii. Annual Electrical Safety Authority inspection completed
    - iii. Annual boiler cleaning, servicing and certification completed
    - iv. Annual gym, playground equipment and special education equipment inspections completed
    - v. Annual water testing for lead to be completed during the week of August 25-29

- c. **Parry Sound High School**

- i. Annual inspection of fire safety system to be completed during the week of August 25-29 (see additional information regarding PSHS below)
    - ii. Annual boiler cleaning, servicing and certification completed
    - iii. Elevator servicing completed
    - iv. Annual gym and special education equipment inspections completed
    - v. Annual water testing for lead to be completed during the week of August 25-29
    - vi. Annual cleaning of science lab fume hoods and tech shop dust collectors to occur in September 2025

2. School administrators for McDougall PS and Nobel PS will review and revise their school specific Fire Safety Plans in September as per the annual process, with submission to their respective Fire Departments for approval. The Fire Safety Plan for Parry Sound High School has been revised and submitted to the Parry Sound

Fire Department and is currently waiting for approval (see additional information regarding PSHS below).

3. The principals of the three schools are engaged in ongoing meetings, coordinating the resources which will be required for each school.
4. Administration and NNDSB's Mental Health Lead have planned and determined the mental health supports which will be in place to ensure students and staff are supported.
5. Student timetables for Parry Sound High School were made available for students in Edsby beginning Monday, August 25, 2025. Staff continue to work hard to ensure each student has an appropriate timetable for this school year. Please note this work is ongoing and adjustments will continue to be reflected in Edsby.
6. Guidance Counselors are reviewing and completing student timetables and adjusting for any omissions and errors.
7. Nipissing Parry Sound Student Transportation Services (NPSSTS) worked with operators to develop routing for all affected students. On August 20<sup>th</sup>, the consortium re-opened the BusPlanner Web Parent Portal as part of its annual processes, and parents/guardians can now access bussing information for students. On August 21, NPSSTS released a communication specifically for students attending Nobel PS, McDougall PS, and Parry Sound High School, which can be viewed [here](#).
8. Classrooms have been cleaned and furnished and are ready to welcome students.
  - At Parry Sound High School, a lunchroom area has been prepared where students can eat and relax in a bright and welcoming environment.
  - As in past years, our school library will continue sharing space with the lunchroom and will focus on making essential learning materials, non-fiction, and high interest fiction resources available for students.
  - Our hospitality program will operate out of the former Food and Nutrition classroom, which is outfitted with 4 stoves, 3 refrigerators, washer/dryer, freezer, and all equipment needed for student learning.
  - Cosmetology, Construction and Automotive Technology classrooms remain connected and are ready to welcome students.
  - Our computer engineering technology classroom has been relocated to the tech wing and will continue to offer programming for students.
  - The Secondary Indigenous Grad Coach and the "Hive" spaces have been relocated to the second floor and continue to provide a safe, supportive space for Indigenous students.
  - All student washrooms are clean and operable, as they have been in previous years.

## **Existing Parry Sound High School (Grades 9 – 12)**

As part of the contingency planning for the new JK-12 build, the demolition of the existing Parry Sound High School (PSHS) was broken into two phases. To facilitate the construction of the temporary parking lots, bus loop and fire emergency routing for the new JK-12 school, the one-story section of PSHS was removed as phase one. Asbestos abatement was completed only in the area subject to demolition, and demolition of that section was completed in a controlled manner to maintain the functionality of the remaining portion of PSHS. This replicated the process completed in Fall of 2021 when a portion of PSHS was demolished to prepare for construction while students and staff continued to attend the school.

Following the phase one demolition, NNDSB received a structural report from a Licensed Professional Engineer. The report states that the remaining structure has not been compromised and remains safe for student occupancy. There are a small number of items to be completed so that the existing PSHS will be ready to receive staff and students. NNDSB is making every effort to work with the Town of Parry Sound Building Department and Fire Department to address these items, as well as any new concerns they may raise. As of August 22, the items identified were as follows:

1. Re-establish two exterior exits that were temporarily closed following the demolition;
2. Provide confirmation to Parry Sound Fire Department that the Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) has reviewed and approved the electrical remediation completed by licensed board electrician;
3. Provide confirmation of the final inspection of the fire safety system by a third party contractor, and provide report to the Fire Department;
4. Obtain third party indoor air quality testing report and provide this report to the Town Building Department;
5. Once the items above are complete, obtain final approval from the Fire Department of the revised PSHS Fire Safety Plan, and confirm with the Town Building Department that the outstanding items have been completed, and that staff and students can return to the building.

As announced, secondary school students (grade 9-12 students) will move to remote learning effective September 2, 2025, as the existing Parry Sound High School is not currently ready to accommodate staff and students. Every effort will be made to ensure that the existing PSHS is ready to receive staff and students as soon as possible and to limit the duration of any remote learning programs.