



FAQs - Get in the Know About Mary Bergeron Elementary!

We are so excited with the opening of our new elementary school in Edson and we know that you are too! However, we also know that just as your child may have questions about starting their new learning journey with us, we realize that our families and community members may have some as well. It has been a very fast-paced construction project to get the school safely ready for school to begin on September 5th and although the majority of the work will be completed, there is definitely still some more to be done. Below are some of the **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT MBE** that families have been asking and if you still have some concerns, we welcome you to contact the school directly at 780-723-5300 or 780-723-3908 – we are here to help!

Will the school really be ready for kids to start school on the 5th?

You bet! School staff are unpacking their classrooms this week and the office staff have started taking last minute registrations. Because this is a super busy time, we ask for everyone's patience and understanding by not coming to the school this week unless you are registering your child. The school office is open but the rest of the school is not accessible to the public for safety reasons as the construction crews continue last minute details.

It still looks like a construction site – how can the school be ready?

You are right - we are not quite done. The classrooms and administration areas are finished but the learning commons (library) will be completed over the next few weeks, and our beautiful new gymnasium towards the end of October.

If there is still work to be done, how will the school ensure kids are safe?

We have taken extra measures to ensure that all work areas are blocked/ fenced off so that all our little ones do not have access to these restricted areas. Some of the work will also be done outside of school hours to minimize the disruption to their learning.

What about the big dirt pile on the property – when is that going away?

This pile is needed to back fill the area after we demolish A.H. Dakin School. Now that all the furniture has been moved over to the new school, we will start to do the prep work to demolish the facility which will be completed before the year end. But don't worry – we will have construction fencing restricting this area as well.

What is happening with Evergreen School?

As it was not cost-effective to modernize the school, it will also be demolished. Grande Yellowhead Public School Division is the owner of the property and our board of trustees will be making a decision regarding the vacant land at a future date.

Where and when is the playground going to be installed?

We actually have two playgrounds designed for the school property: one will be installed behind the east wing and the other behind the west once the dirt pile is removed. Landscaping work and the installation of the east play area is scheduled to begin before the start of school. For the first couple of weeks, students will be supervised by staff in the field at the back of the school while the fresh sod has a chance to settle.

Where are parents and visitors supposed to park?

Our parking lot should be completed before school begins. As our new bus lane will not be constructed until after Dakin is demolished, we will have buses temporarily offload to the east side of the front of the school. This will be a very busy time so we will have extra supervision to help the flow of traffic and assist students safely into school. Our peak time for buses to be at the school is during 8am and 8:20am so we ask families to be extra careful during these periods. All the construction work vehicles and equipment will be removed from the front of the school and located to the work areas off to the back lane. In addition, we have posted a map on our website outlines where people should park and the drop-off area will be.

When do we find out what classes our children are in?

Class lists will be posted on the first day of school. We understand that this will be a busy time as students come in but we promise we will have extra help to supervise the excitement! We have posted the names of our teachers and the grades they will be teaching on our website at www.mbelementary.ca Just click on Explore and look under school contacts.

What is the bell schedule – will it be the same as Dakin's or Evergreen's?

School will start at 8:35am and end at 3:15pm. Please visit their website at www.mbelementary.ca to learn more.

Will there be an assembly the first day?

Until our gymnasium is completed, we will not have a public assembly in the school but Principal Reynolds and his staff will be visiting each classroom and holding mini-assemblies with each grade in the front reception area.

Will there be an open house and tour for the public as well as the school community?

We will be definitely holding a public open house and tour to proudly show off our new school once all the work is completed so stay tuned for the announcement! We are hoping this will be towards the end of October/ early November.

