



**GEORGE STREET MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
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**Principal**  
Mr. Pierre Plourde

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**Vice Principal**  
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August, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We wanted to inform you about George Street Middle School Home-base structure.

George Street Middle School celebrates diversity and goes to great lengths to ensure all students feel a sense of belonging. Our school goal for the past few years has revolved around engagement and to that end, we have spent a great deal of time working on a variety of initiatives and collecting data. From that work, we realized many students, despite spending the past few years in the same school, still do not know each other and are missing opportunities to grow their knowledge, experience and connections. With this in mind, we have implemented a ‘diversified’ home-base structure.

George Street Middle School’s diversified home-base structure reflects research that speaks to the important educational benefits for all students to interact with classmates from different backgrounds, cultures, and experiences. In addition to the connection between student diversity and academic outcomes, we have also witnessed students develop understanding, empathy, and the ability to support and learn from people of diverse backgrounds.

What this means for your child, is that they will be assigned to a home-base group and an academic group. For example, if they are in the English Prime program, they will have an English Prime academic group for science, math, etc. just as they had in earlier grades. If they are in the French Immersion program, they will have an immersion academic group just as they had in earlier grades. The change will be during home-base time and does not impact the minutes of instruction in French – nor violate Policy 309. They will be in a diversified home-base with students from Prime, Late French Immersion and Early French Immersion, allowing students an opportunity to meet and interact with students from all three programs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact an administrator and will be happy to speak with you.

See you next week.

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