



Eastern School District

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Media Advisory

District Announces Plan for Brother Rice Junior High

(April 23, 2009) Mr. Darrin Pike, C.E.O./Director of Education, today announced the plan to temporarily accommodate students and teachers of Brother Rice Junior High following the recent fire at their school. Brother Rice will be closed for approximately one month to allow for a thorough cleaning of the building and to ensure all necessary inspections are carried out.

In reviewing various options, and in consultation with school councils, the District plans to temporarily accommodate the approximately 400 Brother Rice Junior High students by sharing a split shift system with Macdonald Drive Junior High beginning on Tuesday, April 28, 2009. This plan allows all students and teachers to stay together on one site. The Macdonald Drive Junior High building allows for the smoothest transition for students and teachers during the temporary placement and will also help to avoid any further lost instructional time as there are very few, if any, preparations required to get the building ready.

Parents of both schools were notified this afternoon of the plan and class schedule changes.

MacDonald Drive Junior High students will begin classes one half hour early at 8:00 a.m. and end at 12:55 p.m. Brother Rice Junior High students will begin classes at 1:30 p.m. and end at 5:45 p.m. Bus route information and class schedules will be available on both school websites as well as on the District website: www.esdnl.ca. Brother Rice Junior High students can also pick up a copy of the revised class schedule and bus route information at the Holy Heart of Mary general office or District Office, 6th floor Atlantic Place.

“We are most appreciative of the tremendous support we have received from the school councils and staff of both schools during this difficult time.” says Pike. “We’ve found in the past our school communities really come together in times of emergency and once again we were not disappointed.”