



Update: New Bedford High School

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Dear Friends:

I want to share with you my continuing concerns about the lack of program space at the new Bedford High School, slated to open in September 2013. For several months, I have been urging the Department of Education to make changes to the design of the school.

I wrote last month to the Minister of Education (and the month before to the previous minister) and to the Superintendent of HRSB outlining my concerns with the size of the school and the lack of appropriate program space (letters attached).

I have received no answers.

I do not understand why the Department of Education would build a school that will open with more students than the number for which it was built. Nor do I understand why it would build a facility without enough labs and classrooms, without adequate teacher preparation space, and with a lack of Learning Centre Program space.

I will continue to urge the Department and HRSB to build this school properly, and request that you write to them as well:

Minister of Education Ramona Jennex (EDUCMIN@gov.ns.ca),

HRSB Superintendent Carole Olsen (colsen@hrsb.ns.ca),

and HRSB representative David Finlayson (david@davidfinlayson.ca).

(If you do write to them, please copy me. You can find more information on the deficiencies as identified by the School Advisory Council in my letters or at <http://www.cpa.ednet.ns.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/Update-CPA-Feb-3-2011.pdf>)

Suggesting our children should do without appropriate facilities today because we might -- *might* -- see another high school at some point in the future is not a good plan for our students' education.

Sincerely,

Kelly