

Highlands of Millbrook School Design Feedback Summary

A school design preview meeting was held on November 4, 2025 at Millbrook/South Cavan Public School. Approximately 50 people attended the event to learn more about the school design, and to provide feedback.

On online feedback form was also available between November 4 - November 23, 2025.

- A total of 62 responses were received through the online form.
- Thirty-six of the responses were focused on school boundaries and grade structure. Some of the in-person feedback also focused on grade structure. Those responses will be included in the summary related to that feedback process.

Overall Design Feedback

Many respondents expressed appreciation for the modern, welcoming design and learning spaces. Some people shared questions and concerns, as follows:

- Concerns about the move away from a traditional, large central library to having smaller learning commons spaces, specific to supervision, behaviour, noise and functionality of learning commons spaces.
- Questions about safety, accessibility, noise and functionality of gathering/community stairs.
- Desire for school kitchen space sufficient to support full nutrition program.
- Questions about possible distraction caused by the number of windows.
- Wonderings if there will be windows at eye level for younger students?
- Concerns about whether there are enough bathrooms.
- Questions about the staff room and staff-designated washrooms.
- Questions about cooling strategies for the school.

How can the school finishings (colours and materials) support inclusive, collaborative learning environments?

- Most expressed support for neutral, calming colours (greens, blues, earth tones)
- A few respondents expressed a desire for bright colours.
- Support for natural finishings reflective of the environment and surrounding areas.

What do you think is important when designing outdoor play areas?

- Natural playground with climbing, balancing, sitting, jumping, with natural or recycled materials.
- Spaces for active and creative play.

- Trees, vegetation, garden, raised garden beds for accessibility, local landscaping including logs, stones, etc.
- Shade and rest spaces, outdoor seating.
- Outdoor learning areas/classrooms – for example, for music, art.
- Spaces for creative and open-ended play.
- Field, play structure, soccer, baseball.
- Ensure sight lines for supervision, and proper fencing for safety.

How can we support safe and efficient traffic and pedestrian flow at the new school?

- Parking lot entrance and exits separate from bus entrance and exits.
- Intersection lights at Fallis and Flaherty, and where people will turn left off County Road 10.
- Sidewalks and crossing guards.
- Bike and walking paths
- Large ‘kiss and ride’ drop-off area to reduce congestion and support traffic flow.
- Multiple entrances and access points; maybe a path towards community centre for those who may want to pick up there.
- Separate childcare and Kindergarten drop-off
- Enough parking for all staff and visitors.

Environment and sustainability considerations and features

- Include gardens on the property – pollinator, permaculture, food garden.
- Trees, plants and shrubs native to the area.
- Solar/wind energy, composting, and recycled materials where possible.
- Outdoor learning spaces.
- Lots of shade, paths, natural elements.
- Durable, low-maintenance materials.