

# **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.