

An Opportunity to Strengthen the Jewish Community of Montreal

The JPPS-Bialik Board of Directors is proposing that we consider merging with UTT/Herzliah to form a new school system. We are seeking input from the school community on this proposal, as described below. We also encourage you to participate at parlour meetings that we are organizing. If you are interested or have questions, please email us at feedback@jppsbialik.ca.

The goal of this initiative is to create a new, competitive Jewish Day School System, which would be a centre of excellence, meeting the twin challenge of providing students with a pathway to Jewish life and with the foundation to thrive bilingually in Quebec and modern society. A key objective is to ensure our schools are sustainable, affordable and accessible, thus ensuring our community remains strong and vibrant for generations to come.

The Vision

This school of excellence would bring together the diverse faces of the Montreal Jewish Community, building on the best of two different school systems, to create one united school of excellence. The commitment of the new school would be to respect and honour the long and illustrious heritage and traditions of both JPPS-Bialik and UTT/Herzliah while being guided by best practices in Jewish education from around the world.

Excellence in Education

- a. The school, which would be open to all Jewish children whose families are committed to Jewish life, will maintain high academic standards, academic rigour and discipline. The building blocks of the new school system would include a new mission statement that will incorporate the main philosophies of the founding schools. The themes of pluralism, respect, understanding, collaboration and diversity will form the foundation of the curriculum.
- b. An outstanding education equipping students to compete in tomorrow's world. It will offer English and Section française streams throughout elementary and high school, with enhanced second language programs.
- c. An enriched and diverse Judaic Studies curriculum, spanning Sephardic and Ashkenazi traditions, allowing all students to choose from several tracks. This will require a dynamic Judaic Studies Department to set the core obligatory courses as well as streaming and course options (including *Ivrit b'Ivrit*, Yiddish, Talmud & Tanach – the latter two could be offered in English or Hebrew, etc.).

- d. Experiential Jewish learning that takes the student out of the classroom and into the community- locally and internationally.
- e. *Tikkun Olam*/Community Service – will be incorporated in a meaningful way as a requirement for all students of the new school.
- f. A commitment to best practices which includes state of the art equipment, investment in ongoing professional development and continually updated resources. Cutting-edge technology will be integrated into the educational regimen.
- g. Wide range of educational options designed specifically to meet the needs of diverse learners.
- h. A wide selection of extracurricular and co-curricular activities designed to meet the many varied interests of our students- ranging from sports to music, to photography, yoga, etc.

Affordability

- a. The school will offer financial assistance, with special emphasis on broadening support to middle income families.
- b. Tuition pricing will be set to ensure a financially sustainable platform, recognizing the ability to pay of the present parent body.

The Facilities



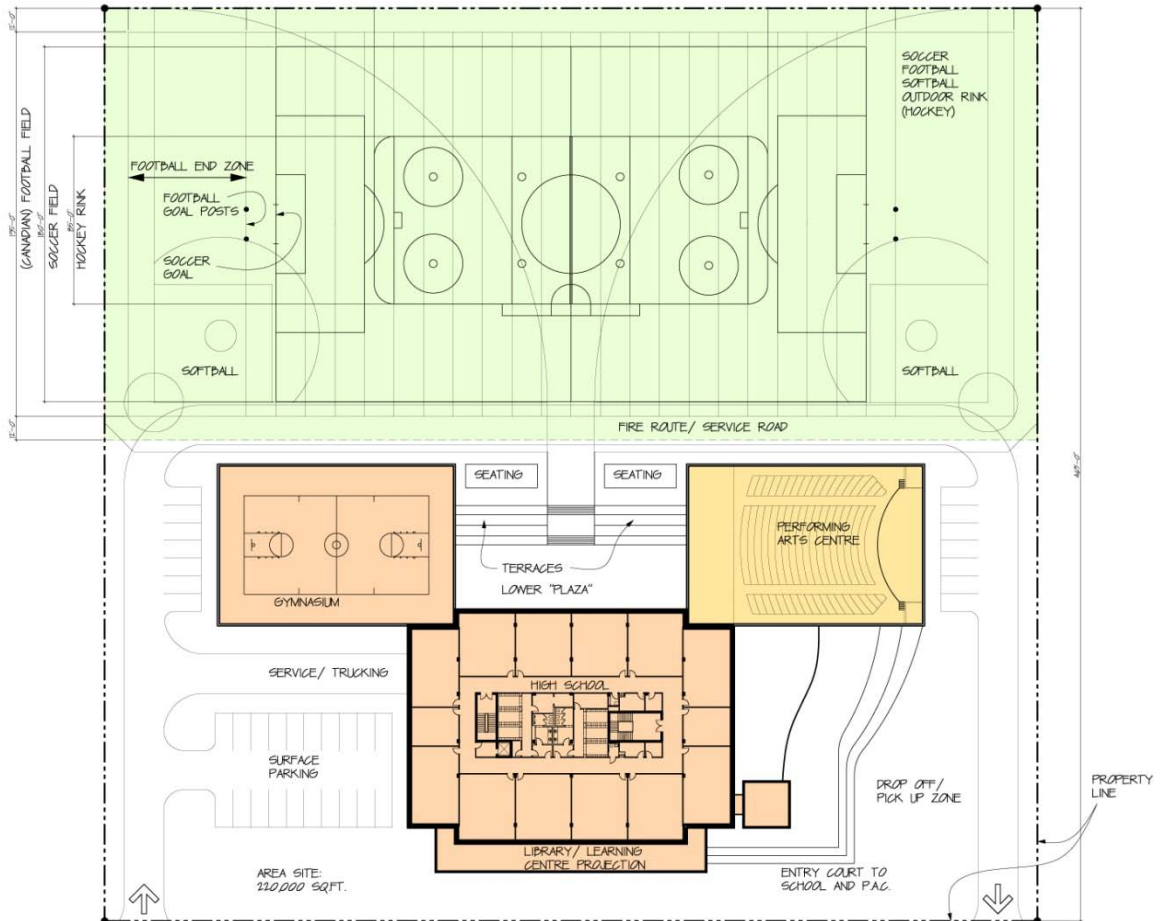
- A unified (UTT/JPPS) elementary school to be located in a newly renovated facility at the existing UTT/Herzliah School on St. Kevin for an estimated 600 students.



- A Middle School (Secondary I and II) for approximately 500 students to be located in a new facility constructed over the parking lot of the Y. It would be linked physically to the Y and the Segal Centre, enabling students to take advantage of its sports and cultural facilities.



- A Senior School (Secondary III-V) for approximately 700 students to be housed at the existing Bialik High School site. Minimal renovations will be necessary.



- A new state-of-the-art high-school (Secondary I through V) for approximately 375 students to be built at a central location in DDO (search for site is ongoing).

The Benefits

- A Jewish education is the best pathway to a Jewish life.
- A new high school to meet the needs of the West Island; a dynamic and growing centre of Montreal Jewish life and home to the largest youth demographic in Montreal.
- A broader educational experience with many options to excite current students and attract the attention of new students who may not have otherwise considered Jewish education.
- A new physical learning environment.
- Tuition support for lower income and middle class families.
- Students will be enriched by exposure to the diverse face of the Jewish community.

Funding

At this moment in time, we have commitments from forward thinking donors who are offering, together, tens of millions of dollars to enable us to build a revitalized Jewish Day School system.

Consultation

Over the coming weeks we are seeking the input of the JPPS-Bialik community. We will be holding parlour meetings, posting information on our web site and FirstClass, and responding to questions via email at feedback@jppsbialik.ca.