Glenbrook Elementary School Newsletter

Valerie Smith: Principal
Kaye Martin: Vice Principal
Sandi Mitchell: Office Coordinator

September 2016

Administrator's Message:

Welcome back!

We hope that everyone had a fun and safe summer! We are excited to be part of this great community and look forward to the wonderful things that will be happening throughout this school year.
The teachers have been working very hard to plan and prepare their classrooms for the students' arrival. They look wonderful and very inviting! A huge thanks goes out to our custodial staff who have worked hard over the summer months cleaning the school and giving it that 'new' shine!
As we start the school year, please be aware of changes to our parking lot and the drop off-pick up areas. Further information can be found in this newsletter and on our website.
We are looking forward to working with the students, staff and families of GES and would like to extend a welcome to all the families who are new to the school.

Yours in education,
Valerie Smith and Kaye Martin

Life Threatening Allergies

While many children have allergies, some children have life-threatening food allergies. Many parents are becoming increasingly concerned about foods that can cause severe, adverse, allergic reactions and rely on your support to ensure the safety of all students. **Please help us to maintain a safe and healthy environment for all students, by *not* sending any snacks or lunches that contain nuts or nut products.**
We appreciate that it is difficult at times to find a variety of items for student lunches, however, we ask for your understanding and support in this situation.

Student Accident Insurance:

The Upper Grand District School Board is empowered under the Education Act to offer Accident and Life Insurance for students.

Information will be sent home with respect to Student Accident Insurance offered by the Reliable Life Insurance Company. You will receive a letter from our School Board's Director, **an Acknowledgment to be signed by parents (and returned to the school)** and an "***InsureMyKids***" Insurance application form (to be mailed directly to Reliable Life). Reliable Life Insurance Company offers a variety of options, including family rates and multi-year plans, at affordable prices. The cost must be paid by parents or guardians.

Subscription is directly through Reliable Life by mail or on line. Questions should be directed to Reliable Life at 1-800-463-5437 or www.insuremykids.com

Parent are required to sign the Acknowledgement Form and return it to their (children)'s teachers indicating whether accident insurance has been purchased. We thank parents in advance for the speedy return of these forms to the school. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation.

New Staff at Glenbrook:

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome staff members new to Glenbrook.

We welcome back to JK/SK, Ms. Squirrell, who has returned to us from last year. Also returning, is Ms. Thompson who is filling in for Ms. McGillvary in grade 4 and Mr. Henry in grade 7/8. We are excited to have them join our team once again.

We also welcome Ms. Muscat to grade 1 and Ms. Milne to grade 2 who will help complete our primary division. Make sure to give them both a warm welcome!

Also joining our GES staff, is Ms. Ingram who is filling in for Ms. Schafer in grade 5, Mr. Kennedy who will be teaching grade 7/8, Mr. Bonter and Ms. O'Connorwho will be planning time teachers, Ms. Steinberg who will be teaching French, and Ms. Moore who will join our educational assistant team.

Mrs. Martin is joining us as our new Vice-Principal. She comes to us from Parkinson Centennial P.S. and has taught in the Upper Grand for the past 19 years. She is very excited to become a Glenbrook Grizzly!

Finally, we would like to give a big welcome to Mr. Harvey and Ms. Andrew who will be part of our custodial team.

We look forward to learning from these bright, talented and enthusiastic educators. Glenbrook is fortunate to have such outstanding additions to our staff.

Glenbrook Elementary School Phone # (519)925-0580

2016—2017 "Tentative" School Organization:

Our current and "tentative" school organization for Glenbrook Elementary School for the 2016—2017 school year is as indicated below.

2016-2017 Organization

Principal:	Mrs. Valerie Smith	Office Coordinator:	Ms. Sandi Mitchell
Vice-Principal	Mrs. Kaye Martin	Office Assistant:	Ms. Teresa Lloyd
Kindergarten:	Mrs. Brenda Bowler-MacKenzie & Mrs. Rhonda Bond		
	Ms. Ainsley Squirell & Ms. Claire Johnson		
	Mrs. Stacey Neil & Ms. Nicole Dale		
	Ms. Aimee Ward		
Grade 1	Mrs. Kim Crago	French:	Mr. Todd Schooley
Grade 1	Ms. Becky Neinhuis		Ms. Sydney Steinberg
Grade 1	Ms. Jordanna Muscat		
Grade 2	Mrs. Amy Whitford		
Grade 2	Ms. Pam Milne		
Grade 2/3	Mrs. Linda Eisen	Librarian:	Ms. M. J. Stewart
Grade 3	Ms. Heather Mavins		
Grade 3	Ms. Mary Lynne Wagner		
Grade 3/4	Mr. Brett Long		
Grade 4	Ms. Ruth Thompson	Educational Assistants:	Ms. Kate Horsley
Grade 4/5	Mr. Cedric Grin		Mrs. Tami Bye
Grade 5	Ms. Lauren Ingram		Ms. Colleen Moore
Grade 5/6	Ms. Rebecca Calder		
Grade 6	Ms. Pippa Gammage		
Grade 6	Ms. Aynsley Whitehouse		
Grade 7/8	TBA	Child & Youth Counsellor:	Mrs. Tara Bernard-McCabe
Grade 7/8	Mr. Joe Kennedy		
Grade 7/8	Mr. Rob Henry	Lunch Room Supervisors:	Mrs. Marylynn Leggat
			Mrs. Pam Braiden-Parr
Planning:	Ms. M. J. Stewart Ms. Faye O'Connor		Mrs. Kit Stewart
	Mr. Andrew Bonter		
	Ms. Tobyn Londos	Custodians:	Ms. Pat Chafe
			Mrs. Susan Andrew
Special Education: Mrs. Karen Fernandes, Ms. Maureen McFarlane, Mrs. Kaye Martin			Mr. Wayne Harvey

School Organization:

Schools have built class lists based on their tentative organizations. **Changes may be necessary** at your child(ren)'s school in order that our Board remain compliant with Ministry parameters. Any changes would be implemented by Monday, September 21st. Principals do not have the option of changing the school organization that is set by the District Staffing Committee of the Board. If changes affect your child(ren), you will be informed by the school.

Win a Glenbrook Grizzly Bear:

After your family has read this newsletter, please sign and detach this coupon. "Our family" must include at least one parent/guardian who has read the newsletter. This coupon must be placed in the draw box in the front foyer at the school. A ballot will be drawn from the yellow mailbox each month indicating the winning family for the month. This month's draw will be held on Friday, September 23rd, 2016. If you read the newsletter by email, please send a fax or hand written note to the school indicating your have read the newsletter and this will be entered into the draw.

Our family has read the newsletter corresponding to this draw.

Family Name: _____ **Parent's Signature:** _____

Attendance and Safe Arrival Policy:

Parents and guardians are asked to call the school (519) 925-0580 (ext. 100) **before 8:30 a.m.** if your child is going to be absent or late for school. If for any reason you need to pick your child up before the end of the regular school day, it is very important that you contact the office to let us know of this arrangement.

We do have a "Safe Arrival Policy." When students are absent and we have not been informed as to the reason, we attempt to contact parents / guardians to determine the reason for the absence. If we are unsuccessful in reaching a parent, guardian or an emergency contact, we contact the police to report missing students if we believe a child could be at risk. We thank you for helping us keep our students safe.

Back To School Blues:

Although for many there is excitement and anticipation about going back to school, for some children transitioning back in September can be tough. Moving into a new classroom, having new teachers, new friends and classmates, and new schedules can all bring about a feeling of stress. The angst children feel, questions they ask, and worries they express about these changes are normal. Sometimes it can be the smallest detail that can be the most worrisome for children. As a parent, you may not know what to do about these butterflies, stomach aches or tears. For some of us, it may intensify our own stress. Here are a few things you might try the first few weeks into the new school year.

1. Listen carefully to your children and hear their concerns.
2. Remind them of previous times when they felt anxious, and discuss the strategies they used that helped make the situation better.
3. Review the daily routines they are experiencing at school, and what after school time and weekends look like.
4. Make a list of the things they like about school.
5. Remind them of all the things they are good at..
6. Ask about their friends.
7. Be patient and positive. You may need to have these conversations daily.

As a parent in our school, please know that you can always contact us if your child's worries persist. We are here to support your child's wellbeing and achievement, and getting off to a great start in September will help us all achieve just that!

Bring Your Own Device: Personal Technology Use:

The Upper Grand D.S.B. welcomes and supports the responsible use of personal technology in all classrooms. We recognize the increasingly important role technology plays in the daily lives of our staff and students. By providing access to reliable Wifi in all classrooms, we support teachers and students to realize the potential of digital devices to transform instructional practice and engage in learning.
The use of technology in classrooms is always at the discretion of the teacher and school administration. All users of technology are required to follow the Board Acceptable Use Policy 318, and the School Code of Conduct.

Personal technology **will** be confiscated should students not adhere to these expectations. This equipment will be returned to students by having students pick these items up in the office at the end of the day. Use of cell phones, and cameras, is not allowed on the yard, in washrooms or in change rooms. Photographs at school are only to be taken under the direct supervision of school staff. We appreciate your support regarding this matter.

Student Information Sheets:

Your child will be bringing home a Student Information Sheet. This sheet contains information about your current address, phone number, work numbers and emergency contact information. We ask that you carefully review the information contained on this form and update information that is no longer correct. It is extremely important that addresses, and phone numbers are accurate so that school staff may contact parents in the case of an emergency.

After revising this form, please sign and date the form at the bottom (indicating that you have seen it and have made the appropriate revisions) and have your child return the Student Information Sheet to Glenbrook. We appreciate your efforts to return them to the school as quickly as possible.

Medication at School:

If a child must take medication at school, parents are required to complete a form and submit all medication to the main office where it will be administered under the supervision of school personnel. Medication must be in it's original labeled container with the dosage authorized by the doctor clearly visible. Please inform the office should you require a medication administration form.

Please contact the school if your child suffers from a condition that may be life-threatening unless medication is administered immediately. A plan will be developed with school staff to best meet the needs of these students.

Partnering For Change:

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We want you to know about the model of service delivery that our school is receiving in partnership with the Central West Community Care Access Centre (CW CCAC). This model was developed and studied by *CanChild,* a research centre at McMaster University. This model provides educational opportunities for our teachers. Teachers will learn more about how children develop motor skills and how they can help promote motor development using activities in the classroom. An occupational therapist (OT) will work in our school to help teachers learn more about motor development in all children and about how to help children who may be having difficulty with some motor skills.

OTs are health professionals who work with children in many different settings and who know a lot about fine and gross motor skill development. Fine motor skills are things like printing and writing, cutting with scissors, opening juice boxes and doing up zippers. Gross motor skills include things like jumping, getting onto the school bus, climbing stairs and running.
The OT will spend time in our classrooms, gym, and playground. She will observe children and then suggest different materials, tools and instructional methods that make it easier for children to learn and do motor-based activities. The OT will also help teachers to understand how they can use centres and other activities in their classroom to help children develop their motor skills. If the OT feels that your child is having more difficulty learning new motor skills than is typical for his/her age, the OT will contact you.

Starting in September**,** the OT will be in our school *one day every three weeks*. The OT will be working at our school and available so that all the teachers in the school will be able to ask her questions. She will work with teachers to share useful information and ideas that support teacher and student learning. Educational sessions will be offered for parents as well – watch our school newsletter for details.

We hope that you will introduce yourself to the OT when you are in the school to attend a parent function or to visit your child's classroom. If you have concerns about your child's ability to do motor-based activities at home, feel free to let her know. If you have any questions about this service, please feel free to talk with your child's principal. For more information contact CCAC by phone 905-796-0040 or Toll Free: 1-888-733-1177, ext. 7328

FSLAC:

The UGDSB is establishing a French Second Language Advisory Committee (FSLAC). The Committee will serve in an advisory role and make recommendations with respect to the FSL Action Plan and the French Immersion JK Registration Process for 2017 and beyond.
Eleven Committee members will be selected from all areas of the Board, and will be parents of current elementary or secondary FSL students in either French Immersion or Core French programs. Interested parents may forward an application to Superintendent Tracey Lindsay which includes the following:

1. A statement explaining why they are interested in serving on the FSLAC.
2. The current grade their children are in, in what FSL programs, and attending which school.
3. A brief outline of your school and/or community volunteer experiences.

Applications may be emailed to Tracey Lindsay at tracey.lindsay@ugdsb.on.ca.

Talking About Mental Health:

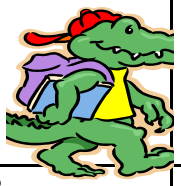
Keeping Your Cool as You Head Back to School

Hope that you had a good summer and enjoyed some fun, relaxation and down time. As the children and youth get ready to head back to school, it is important to plan a mentally healthy school year. Some simple steps will help to make this year more positive and less stressful.

1. **Start Each Day With A Positive Thought**
2. **Practice Relaxation**
3. **Take Breaks Before You Are Stressed**
4. **Seek Support**
   - *Talk to your family or friends.
   - *At elementary school, talk to a teacher, principal, or child & youth counsellor (CYC).
   - *Call KidsHelpPhone 1 800 668 6868. http://www.kidshelpphone.ca/
   - *Talk to your family doctor.
   - *Contact community mental health services:
     Dufferin Child and Family Services (DCAFS):
     Tuesday Talk In – 1:00-7:00 pm, 655 Riddell Road, Orangeville. To access services for Children and Youth in Dufferin: 519 941 1530. http://dcafs.on.ca/

Have a wonderful and mentally healthy school year!
Dr. Lynn Woodford is the Mental Health Lead for Upper Grand District School Board
Follow me on twitter: @drlynnwoodford

September 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4	5 Labour Day (No School)	6 First Day of School 	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Grade 3 &4s visit Shelburne Fall Fair	15	16 Grade 8 Outdoor Ed Trip	17
18	19	20	21 Meet the Teacher (6:00-7:30 	22 	23 Newsletter Draw 	24
25	26	27	28	29 Terry Fox Run	30 P.A.DAY!	

Agendas:

Our school promotes the use of a student agenda. This is an important organizational tool and ensures that regular communication between home and school is maintained. Students in Grade 1 to 8 are asked to purchase an agenda from the school as staff will be using them this year. **Agendas cost $6.00**. Please forward the payment to the school..

Parent Volunteers:

The staff at Glenbrook acknowledges the value of volunteers in our school in improving student learning and we encourage parents to join our team. We appreciate the many hours that parents and community members provide in order to work with students and assist with many fundraising events at the school. If you wish to volunteer on a regular basis, we require parents and guardians to provide a recent Criminal Reference Check (no more than 6 months old), a confidentiality statement, and an information form. We ask that all volunteers report to the office and sign the "volunteer book," upon arrival and sign out when leaving the school. We look forward to having many parent volunteers assisting in our school again this year!

Noon Hour Supervisors:

We currently have three Nutrition Break Supervisors who come to the school during our nutrition breaks to assist in supervising students in their classrooms while they eat their snacks. These adults then supervise students on the yard for the remaining 20 minutes of the break. This is a paid position. Occasionally, we require replacement supervisors when a supervisor is unable to fulfill his/her duties due to illness or another commitment. If you are available during school hours (10:30—11:10 and 12:50—1:30) and would be willing to take on these supervision duties, please contact the school office at your earliest convenience (519) 925-0580. We will be establishing an occasional Nutrition Break Supervisor list during the month of September. A Criminal Reference Check is required for this position. We appreciate any assistance that you can provide.

Welcome to Glenbrook Elementary School!

We have made changes to the drop-off/pick-up areas over the summer! Please review the enclosed material to help plan your trip to school. Walking, cycling and scooting to and from school are all great ways to be active and healthy.

The enclosed **Routes to School Map** shows the popular walking routes to Glenbrook Elementary School and the location of crosswalks and crossing guards in the local neighbourhood. Use the map to plan your route to school and practice the journey with your family. The **Access to School Map** shows you the changes to traffic flow on our school site.

Please note the following important points:

- The front driveway is for school bus and taxi use only.

- A kiss n' ride program is available at the side of the school for student drop-off. To access the drop-off facility, use the turning loop at the head of the driveway to turn around before pulling into the drop-off lane along the school-side curb.

- If you need to accompany your child into the school, or you are picking-up by car in the afternoon, please park in the rear gravel lot or on a nearby public street where parking is permitted - do **not** use the Recreation Complex parking lot.

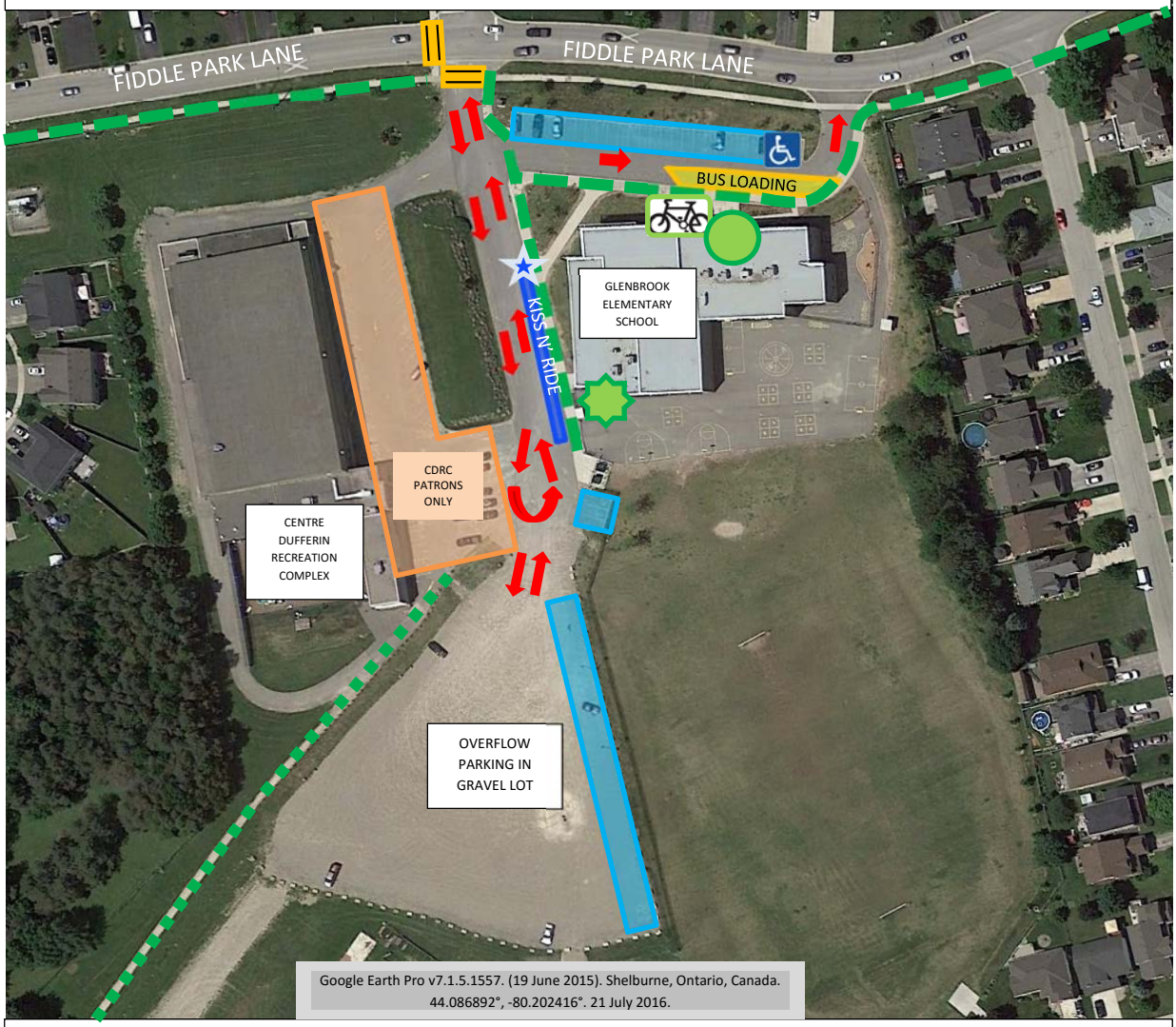
If you must travel to school by car, consider parking or dropping-off/picking-up on a nearby street and walking the remainder of the journey ('walk-a-block-or-two') to help reduce traffic and congestion around our school.

When we walk to school, even if it is just for the last few blocks, we **contribute to a happier, healthier, cleaner, and safer school neighbourhood**. You can also help to improve traffic safety at our school by:

- Driving slowly and giving pedestrians right of way at all times
- Observing the traffic rules and only parking in designated parking areas
- Avoiding stopping or parking anywhere in the driveways.

For information about the school bus service please visit www.stwdsts.ca or call Wellington-Dufferin Student Transportation Services at 519-824-4119 for assistance.

GLENBROOK ES - ACCESS TO SCHOOL MAP



KEY:

- Main entrance
- Student entrance
- Pedestrian route (paved)
- Pedestrian route (field/gravel)
- Bicycle storage racks
- Guard patrolled crossing
- Traffic flow direction
- Parking for school staff & visitors
- Accessible parking
- Kiss n' ride for student drop-off

Guidance for student drop-off:

A kiss n' ride program is available at the side of the school for student drop-off. Here's how to use it:

- Drive to the drop off point
- Driver remains in vehicle
- Children exit the vehicle through the passenger side only, onto the sidewalk and follow student guides to the yard
- Drive away promptly

If you need to accompany your child into the school, please park in the rear gravel parking lot or one of the public streets where parking is permitted.

Glenbrook ES
Routes to School Planner

300 Fiddle Park Ln
Shelburne, ON
L9V 3C9

- Popular Walking Route - Street
- Popular Walking Route - Trail
- Popular Walking Route - On School Property
- Other Trail
- Suggested Walk-a-Block Location (see below)
- School Site Property
- Guard Patrolled Crossing
- Traffic Lights
- Marked Crosswalk

Plan Your Route To School:
This map shows options for popular walking routes to your school. Plan a route to school and practice the journey with your family. Even better: find friends to walk with you!

Be Active and Safe:
Take care on your journey to school and obey the traffic signs along the way. Walking, cycling, scooting, and wheeling to school are all great way to be active and healthy.

Walk-a-Block:
If you travel to school by car, consider parking in a nearby street and walking a block or two to help reduce traffic and congestion in front of your school.

Active & Safe ROUTES TO SCHOOL

UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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0 50 100 150 200
Metres

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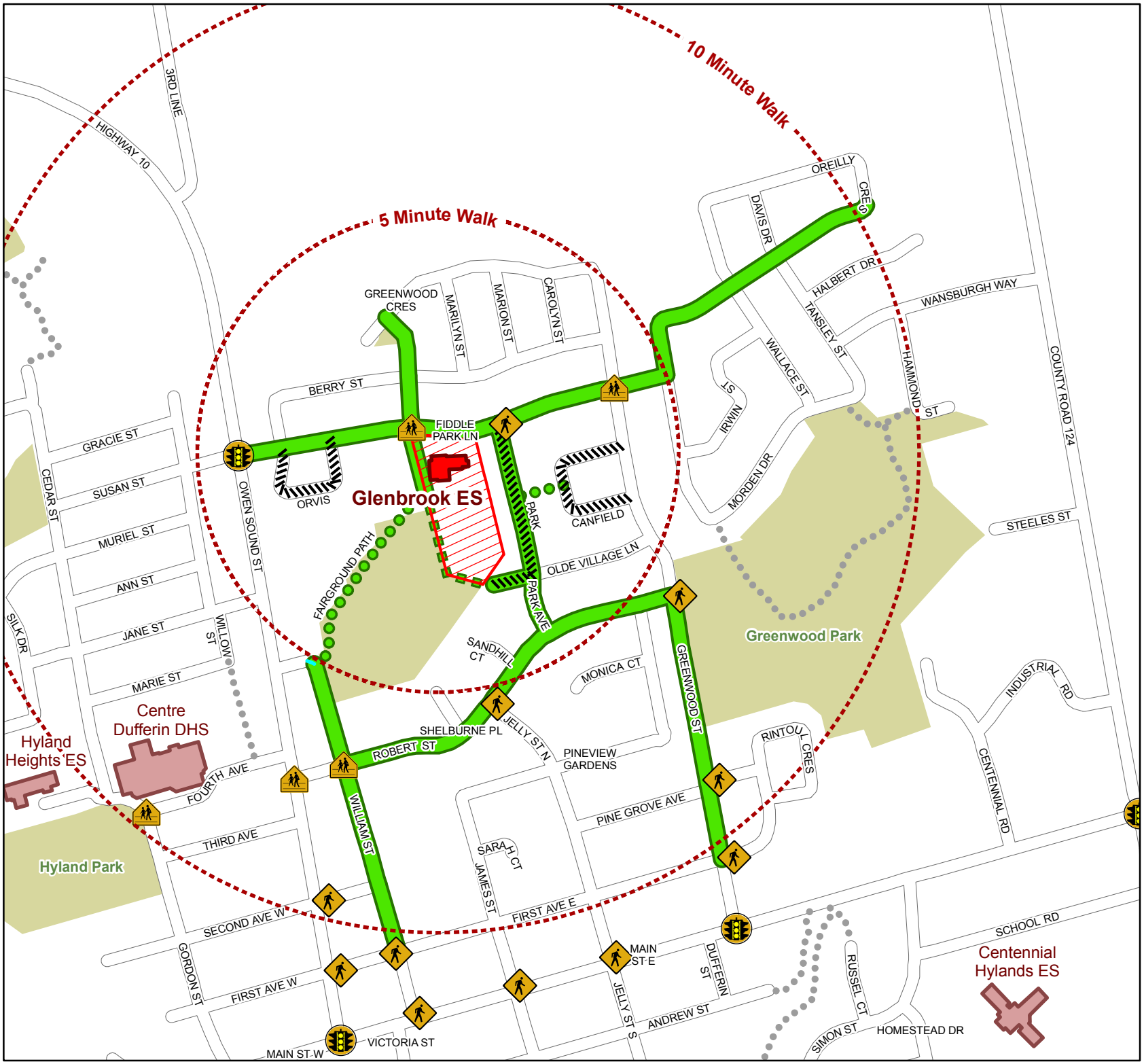

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