



January 13, 2012

Dear Parents,

We are writing to inform you that the Edgemont Preschool Association Board voted to relocate the preschool to Mother Mary Greene Elementary School effective for the 2012-2013 school year. Mother Mary Greene is located at 115 Edenwold Drive in Edgemont. The Board has given this decision serious consideration over the past several months and we would like to share our reasons for the decision to relocate the preschool.

What are the reasons the board decided to relocate?

- *Financial*
- *Educational*

What are the financial benefits of relocation?

- *Substantial decrease in our monthly rent.*
- *Ability to use the space for board meetings, AGM and craft nights, without incurring additional rent charges.*

How will a substantial decrease in rent provide an immediate benefit to the Edgemont Preschool Association?

- *Class size in the four- year-old program will be reduced in size from 20 children to 18 children without raising the upcoming year's fees.*
- *Fewer fundraising efforts will be needed to run the preschool.*
- *In future years, the EPA Board may be able to consider revising our fee structure, depending on enrolment levels.*

What are the educational benefits of relocation?

- *Permanent classroom*
- *Regular access to library, gym, computer lab, outdoor playground, & office*
- *Being in a school setting will assist the children with preparedness for kindergarten.*

What are the benefits of a permanent classroom?

- *Teachers would not have to set up and take down the classroom on a daily basis, which they have to do in our current space, as the Edgemont Community Association rents that room to other users in the evenings.*
- *This will allow students to work on projects spanning longer time frames, as there will be adequate storage and space to house these projects.*
- *Teachers will be able to set up the room for the class to better enhance learning experiences.*

Will the preschool's philosophy change?

- *No. Edgemont Preschool will continue to be a **non-denominational** school that engages with children using a "learn through play" philosophy.*
- *The preschool will be able to turn off the intercom in the classroom so as not to hear Mother Mary Greene School announcements.*

Will the times and days of preschool change?

- *3-year-old program will continue to run on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The 4-year-old program will continue to run on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.*
- *Start and end times for classes will be determined as usual, taking into consideration the bell times at both Mother Mary Greene School and Edgemont Elementary School. We will ensure that you will have enough time to get your older children to school, regardless of which school they attend.*

In the next few months, we will be hosting an open house at Mother Mary Greene School to allow you to visit our new classroom, tour the school, and ask any additional questions you may have about the relocation. Dates and times for this event have yet to be determined, but watch for an invitation in the coming months!

On behalf of the Board of the Edgemont Preschool Association, I wish to thank the Edgemont Community Association for providing the Edgemont Preschool Association with the classroom and its services for more than 25 years. We are grateful for having had the opportunity to start and develop our preschool at ECA and we are looking forward to an exciting upcoming year in our new location!

Sincerely,

Rachelle Hardin
Vice-Chair
Edgemont Preschool Association

Christa Todd-Savoia
Secretary
Edgemont Preschool Association