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220 Portsmouth Ave., Kingston, ON K7M 0G2

P: 613-544-6920 | F: 613-544-6804

TF: 1-800-267-0935 | TTY: 613-548-0279

www.limestone.on.ca

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Kingston Secondary School Mascot Update

Based on additional student, staff and community feedback, the mascot for the new Kingston Secondary School will be the Black Bears.

Students from KCVI and students from elementary feeder schools who will eventually attend the new school advocated strongly for a mascot that would bring together the KCVI and Queen Elizabeth Collegiate & Vocational Institute communities. Many students felt Black Bears seemed like a natural fit as it blends KCVI's Blue Bear/Blues mascot with the black from the former QECVI logo/mascot.

Students also spoke to the Black Bear being an important animal to local Indigenous cultures. The new school, and the Limestone District School Board, is located on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee. The Black Bears fits nicely with the new school's colours: black, blue and white.

Initially, earlier consultation around the new school mascot/nickname suggested the "Royals." Concerns, however, came forward from students and community members during the consultation process regarding the name and how it would be visually represented. The term "Royals" has many negative connotations for some given its reinforcement of colonial history particularly when combined with Kingston which was originally known as King's Town.

As a result, the Integration Committee, made up of students, staff and families of the consolidated schools, decided to not move forward with the "Royals." Revisiting input provided during the previous consultation process, the Integration Committee reviewed three additional mascot suggestions: Black Bears, Coyotes and Lions. Following a voting process, the committee decided on Black Bears – the Kingston Secondary School Black Bears, or Kingston Black Bears – as its new mascot.

After investigation to ensure there are no concerns or other considerations that may prevent the use of that nickname, the Board will continue the process of developing a school logo and visual representation of the mascot based on committee, student and staff input.

Sincerely,

Krishna Burra
Superintendent of Education
KCVI/KSS Family of Schools

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Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe & Haudenosaunee.

Suzanne Ruttan (Chair) | Debra Rantz (Director of Education and Secretary) | Paul Babin (Treasurer)