



Baccalieu Collegiate

Washroom Climate Improvement: Findings & Recommendations Report

Dear Baccalieu Collegiate Stakeholders,

At Baccalieu Collegiate, we are committed to cultivating a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment where every student is supported in their academic, social, and emotional development. In response to feedback gathered through our recent *Student Washroom Use & School Climate Survey*, we convened a group of student volunteers to review the results and provide input into how we can collaboratively improve the climate surrounding washroom use.

Based on student voice and current research-informed practices in student development, school wellness, and leadership, we are pleased to present the following recommendations:

1. Address Vaping and Inappropriate Washroom Use Proactively

Recommendation:

Install vape detectors, increase staff supervision during high-traffic periods, and introduce a graduated response plan for repeated infractions—progressing from education to warnings to consequences.

Rationale:

- Over 60% of students identified vaping as a primary concern.
- Students described misuse of washrooms for vaping, skipping, and drug use, often leading to feelings of discomfort and unsafe conditions.
- Vandalism and misbehavior reinforce the need for consistent deterrents and follow-up.

Student Committee Input:

- Supervision should be increased during high-traffic periods (before class, recess, lunch).
 - Repeated vaping offenses should lead to a 3-day suspension and temporary exclusion from upcoming events (e.g., 5-week space restriction and extracurricular eligibility).
 - Students misusing the public washroom space will be banned from this space for five weeks with no exceptions. Student accomplices should face the same penalty.
 - Extracurricular contracts should include behavior expectations related to washroom use.
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2. Implement Junior/Senior Washroom Designation

Recommendation:

Designate separate washroom facilities for junior high (upstairs) and senior high (downstairs) students, with clear signage and guidelines.

Rationale:

- Seniors expressed concern over crowding and misuse by younger students.
- Junior students benefit from structured spaces and adult guidance.
- Separation increases accountability and supports age-appropriate supervision.

Student Committee Input:

- Seniors will only use the downstairs public washroom and Juniors will only use the upstairs washroom as per their respective program floor designation.
 - During lunch, when the top floor is closed, junior students may use private washrooms. Overflow access can be provided through the office washroom as needed.
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3. Improve Cleanliness, Maintenance, and Supplies

Recommendation:

Increase cleaning frequency, ensure washrooms are consistently stocked with supplies, and introduce a student-led cleanliness program (e.g., “Bathroom Buddies”).

Rationale:

- Cleanliness was a top concern, with repeated reports of missing supplies and unsanitary conditions.
- Student leadership fosters ownership and promotes shared responsibility.
- Investments in infrastructure will contribute to improved pride in shared spaces.

Student Committee Input:

- Emphasized concerns: no soap, paper towels, hand dryers, and dirty locker rooms.
 - Plans will be put in motion to fix hand dryers, install paper towel dispensers, and beautify the space.
 - Explore the installation of dividers between boys' urinals for added privacy.
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4. Regulate Washroom Traffic with Usage Protocols

Recommendation:

Implement a structured sign-out or pass system and limit occupancy to 2–3 students at a time.

Rationale:

- Crowding undermines safety and appropriate use.
- Smaller groups promote accountability without stigmatizing students needing breaks.
- Supervision supports positive social behavior and helps prevent misuse.

Student Committee Input:

- Washrooms have had up to 15–20 students gathering at once.
- Propose a cap of 3 students per washroom, with a clear queuing process outside.
- Teachers will supervise during breaks to ensure compliance.

- Students not in compliance will be regarded as misusing the public washroom space.
- Private washrooms will be provided on the basis that students sign-out a key at the office and sign it back in after use. They should report vandalism or misuse of the washroom immediately and before they use the space.

New Morning Routine:

- Minimum teachers available for robust supervision requirements.
 - Students arriving early are to report to the cafeteria or Student Centre until 8:30 a.m., when corridor supervision begins.
 - Classroom and corridor access will remain locked until that time.
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5. Launch a Student-Led Washroom Culture Campaign

Recommendation:

Form a student leadership team to lead a culture-building campaign focused on respect, cleanliness, and appropriate washroom use, potentially linked to co-curricular credits.

Rationale:

- Many students expressed a desire to be part of the solution.
- Campaigns support relationship-first leadership and community norms.
- Peer modeling and social responsibility reinforce shared expectations.

Student Committee Input:

- Design and post signage: maximum occupancy, how to wait respectfully, reporting procedures.
 - Promote “social policing”—students respectfully holding each other accountable.
 - Include vaping education in upcoming assemblies (e.g., presentations like “*U Turns*”).
 - Create infographics and share with our community.
 - Create a QR Code to provide washroom feedback and to anonymously report misuse.
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6. Support Student Wellness with Alternative Reset Spaces

Recommendation:

Recognize that some students seek refuge in washrooms and offer/promote supervised alternatives such as the calming space.

Rationale:

- Students noted using washrooms to regulate stress or manage social anxiety.
- Trauma-informed approaches prioritize student mental health while maintaining accountability.
- Designated wellness spaces reduce pressure on washroom areas and improve student self-regulation.

Student Committee Input:

- Encourage use of the existing Calming Room as an alternative.
- Ensure more than one student can access supervised calming space as needed.
- Update signage and procedures for the Calming Space.

Next Steps

- **Student Assembly & Staff Meeting:** Present survey findings and new protocols, including educational components on vaping, accountability, and respectful use.
- **Anonymous Reporting Tool:** Develop and share a QR code for confidential reports of vandalism, drug use, and other concerns.
- **Student Washroom Advisory Group:** Collaborate with student leaders on signage, monitoring, and peer-led education.
- **Facility Review:** Evaluate budgetary options to support stall improvements, privacy upgrades, and beautification efforts.
- **Family & School Council Engagement:** Share this report through school bulletins and council discussions to gather feedback and encourage community buy-in.

We are proud of the maturity, thoughtfulness, and care shown by our student volunteers in identifying these issues and working toward real, sustainable solutions. As a school community, we remain committed to fostering an environment grounded in safety, inclusion, responsibility, and growth.

Thank you for your continued support in strengthening our school climate—together.

Sincerely,
Mr. Jeff Saxby
Principal, Baccalieu Collegiate

References:

Student Survey:  Student Washroom Use & School Climate Survey - Google Forms.pdf

Level 1 & 2 Survey Choice Responses:

 Student Washroom Use & School Climate Survey_G10-11 Responses.pdf

Junior High Survey Choice Responses:

 Student Washroom Use & School Climate Survey_Junior High Survey Results.pdf