



Area V Impacted Schools January 2017 Survey – Woodlands, Woodbine, Woodman, John Ware and Harold Panabaker Schools

Below you will find all comments provided in the survey as they were written. Comments have been edited to ensure anonymity. We also edited or omitted abusive, discriminatory and otherwise inappropriate comments.

- I don't have a comments for now
- Siblings being guaranteed to go to the same school is of great importance to us. Keeping our kids close to home is important to us. We strongly support Woodbine being associated with John Ware. Thank you for your many efforts to find the best solution. All of your work and efforts on our communities and surrounding communities is much appreciated.
- We would only be interested in John Ware for logistic reasons and the aid of close relatives who live near to John Ware and can provide free child care
- Please send Woodbine kids to John Ware. It's important they are close to home and I would like the school to stay together.
- Harold Panabaker is an amazing school. Please send Woodlands cohorts there. It's important to keep the kids together
- Our daughter votes for option 1 as wants opportunity to get into John Ware. She wants easy access to Southland Leisure Centre (SLC) and has other friends within SW community that attend there. We were very happy with this as only option in October. I vote for option 2 as having designated schools without a lottery and with group of cohorts would be easier mentally and emotionally on students.
- There should be an option of both Woodbine / Woodlands to go to Harold Panabaker as that would keep the close communities together. There will be a divide between 2 communities that need not be there. Consider that option
- My son attends John Ware and we want our daughter to attend as well. It is a fantastic option for our children to take the public bus straight to John Ware. For a student not tho know which school will be his designate and would cause students (and therefore parents) considerable stress. We 100% feel that Woodbine students should be designated to John Ware.
- I would like the Woodlands kids to go to Harold Panabaker. I think the school will be less crowded and they will have more individual attention.
- I appreciate the transparency of this process. Kids are kids and they will be resilient. Parents are the problem.
- Feedback was provided to the large group after the breakout sessions on January 10. The presenter from did not mention in the large group feedback that the participants in Group 1 strongly voiced their preference to have all of Woodbine and Woodlands attend John Ware together over the next five years. Overcrowding may not be a concern in three years due to the expansion of alternative programs.
- I would like to stay in a group and go to school with all of my friends
- Strongly opposed to the risk of a lottery.
- Woodman needs to be an option for the regular stream kids too. As for John Ware versus Harold Panabaker, people are making decision on John Ware based upon rumours in neighbourhood. They need to be given facts about all options so they can make an informed decision (GATE isn't at John Ware) and it offers equivalent program to other schools.
- Woodbine kids must be kept together

- I do not want to see our children separated from their friends. We need a solution that allows for ALL of the Woodbine students to attend the same school.
- I would like to encourage the CBE staff in Area V to change their decisions it would be much rather better than students having to move schools. I say this because my child has many friends which will stay at the same school next year, as well as the fact of more Paperwork, Filling out forms etc.)
- It makes complete sense that Woodbine would be designated to John Ware. It's a great school and close to home. The CBE needs to be clear on what action its going to take. Harold Panabaker is a lot further away, is located in a rougher area, and quite frankly not the choice I would want for my daughter.
- Do what you need to do--we will respect the decisions you make. Thanks for the input. Good luck!
- Resources distribution is key in my opinion - I have special kid who may not perform well in crowded environment
- Please allow my child to stay where she is currently, Woodman School.
- I am sending an email as I have concerns with both options.
- I honestly think that the CBE needs to choose a designated school and assign it to each community. Perhaps the closest school to each community to reduce busing times.
- Ensure children from one community are kept together even at the lottery stage. Kids should be kept together with their core group of friends.
- As a Woodbine resident, I would prefer my children attend John Ware. It's close and the partnership with SLC provides the students with many options for sports. I want my children as close to our community as possible.
- I don't mind the option of John Ware or Harold Panabaker as long as I have a choice to apply for my daughter to attend John Ware based on grades not lottery. Her sister attended John Ware and I would like her to attend John Ware as well.
- The lottery would create uncertainty for school assignments which is stressful for students and parents and creates the risk that younger sibling may not be able to go to same school when they enter Gr 7. As a parents of a Woodbine student we hope to see Woodbine assigned to John Ware as it is closer to our neighbourhood than Harold Panabaker.
- Schools close to family where I live is very important. I don't want my kids has trouble to go to school in cold winter.
- In relation to option 2 when will we know which elementary school goes to which junior high school? Not really happy to answer questions about this option without that information.
- One of the big attractions of John Ware is proximity to the leisure centre. Perhaps kids who end up at Harold Panabaker could have the option of the bus dropping off at Southland Leisure Centre on Fridays?
- I don't like the idea of a lottery system at all. Who wants their child the only one not to get into the most desired school because they happened to not make the cut off.
- Although I appreciate being given the opportunity to have input, I feel like the decision should have been made by CBE. You gave us best option scenario first, then took it away. Dangled the carrot, so to speak.
- I definitely do not like the unpredictability of a lottery system. I would strongly prefer that each community have a designated school for continuity and planning purposes.
- Harold Panabaker is not on a city bus route for either community, siblings need to stay together. If one community gets John Ware then the other one is going to be irritated as Harold Panabaker is not convenient. I am upset that the original option is not still available.
- none
- As my child is already attending Harold Panabaker I would hope she can continue her junior high there and graduate
- My daughter requires extra educational support. Removing her from her core peer group and putting her in a transitioning school with program and staff turnovers would greatly affect my child and create further delays in her academics.
- My daughter is a Grade 8 French Immersion student and are the teachers and resources

going to be available for her to learn if the French program is moved? She has friends in the English program that she would not see anymore and we don't live in that community.

- I am an English student, and I don't believe that my designated school should be French, and Mandarin immersion.
- As a family we were very happy that our child was potentially going to be going to John Ware which is our preference - now we are in a wait and see game with another community :(
- I favor Option 2. But both communities & school locations should be based on distance to be fair. Woodbine students to attend John Ware and Woodlands students to attend Harold Panabaker. How unfair is it of CBE to take that freedom of choice away from families that intentionally started a life in a community so their children could attend schools closest to home?
- None
- I'm concerned about splitting up our communities. It's seem parents from both schools prefer the familiarity of John Ware, therefore the other half of the community that doesn't go there will have hard feelings. Could both community's go to Harold Panabaker and the Mandarin program to John Ware?
- I would like my children to attend a junior high that is close to Woodbine. This is why we moved to an older established neighbourhood so that their schools would be close by. Having to take a bus down Anderson and Elbow isn't close at all and makes no sense when there is a junior high even closer. I like option 2 if it means Woodbine gets to attend John Ware.
- This process has been really hard on my son because he wanted to attend John Ware and was refused entry. Now he is excited at the thought he will be with his friends again. But that still may not happen. Starting grade 7 is hard enough without having to start at a new school again next year.
- John Ware is the only school I want my children to attend. Harold Panabaker is still too far away.
- My kids live in Woodlands but attend Woodbine. I'm worried that splitting the communities between the schools will split the community feel and create animosity. Could the Mandarin program go to John Ware and both schools go to Harold Panabaker?
- I attend Woodbine but live in Woodlands. I'm worried I will be separated from my friends in option 2. Could both communities go to Harold Panabaker?
- My children attend Woodbine school but live in Woodlands. My son is worried that he will be separated from everyone he knows if option 2 is implemented.
- It's important to us that our girl's are placed in a smaller school that cater more to their special needs, we feel that John Ware would be the better school to fit their needs, it's also closer to home, closer to our business which is easier for us as I'm also leaving work to pick up or drop things off at the school, or having to be close by just in case!!!
- I would prefer my children to go to Harold Panabaker for Jr. High
- I would like to see Woodlands School go to Harold Panabaker. It feels like their principal really cares.
- I like the idea of adding some more students to the school, just not so many that it becomes overcrowded and hard to manage.
- Most people at the meeting on Jan 19 had a preference to John Ware School as it's next to Southland Leisure Centre. SLC offers a great (free) after school program - especially for Friday afternoons. Could Harold Panabaker students be dropped off at the SLC on Friday afternoons (on the way back to the community) to be equitable to the John Ware families from Woodlands/Woodbine?
- I have one child at finishing Grade 6 at Woodbine and another child in Grade 7 at Woodman. The most important aspect for me is for my children to be together at the new school option. I want to also have the option to choose which school they attend and not be forced to have them attend a certain school.
- Option 1: Deciding, best suits the needs students. Grandfathering is very important and

minimizes travel. Choice breaks up some cohorts which is good. John Ware is closest to us and has best travel distance and no Anderson Rd in the am. I have many close neighbours that I want my kids to stick with and go to John Ware (as some of their oldest are already attending).

- 40 questions and 400 characters? This does not nearly get you the information you should be requesting. Once again, very disappointed in how you are handling this situation.
- John Ware is good for Woodbine student transport
- I would prefer my kids go to John Ware School. My kids go to Woodbine in two different grades. I do not like the lottery system because it does not mention families members attending the same school. I believe that transition is better when people are with friends. Change is difficult enough but you could increase stress and problems.
- I would prefer my children go to John Ware School. I live in Woodbine and my two children go to Woodbine School, in Grades 4 and 3. I would like a certain school designated, so that my children can go to the same school guaranteed even though they are in two different grades - a lottery could rift families.
- At the October meeting at John Ware that I went to, majority were very happy that John Ware was being listed as designated school, only 1 person there upset. Why do minority win and majority have to do all of this? There are only 45 kids Grade 6 class at Woodbine they have the room at John Ware, let them go there. It is the closest school to our community, makes the most sense.
- If all students from both communities went to John ware, why not move the immersion programs else were to decrease capacity concerns & focus on general/inclusive education.
- I think it's important for groups of kids to stay with their peers and not be potentially split up if a lottery situation should arise
- We prefer John Ware School only
- 1) Option 1 NOT working. Lottery is not a good solution. Student's choices and family's preferences are not respected, adding stress to families and kids not knowing where their friends will go. 2) Harold Panabaker School is too far from Woodbine students and transportation time is extended on Anderson Road or passing 14 Street in the morning.
- Students need to maintain supported as well as understood for their developmental and educational needs
- You should revert to the October scenarios presented, which said John Ware was under capacity. What changed? The Woodlands/Woodbine students would still put John Ware below capacity. Ridiculous.
- As a Woodlands resident, I'm quite happy to have John Ware as designated school. I'm not interested in the Harold Panabaker option. I don't like the lottery in event of oversubscription because I want the John Ware designation. The lottery means those who want John Ware may be forced elsewhere by chance. I don't think my child should have to move from cohorts/friends so Harold Panabaker can have more students.
- Keep the students together - they don't need more changes thrown at them
- I am against sending our kids to French Immersion school as an option for regular English school!
- Not sure what the lottery would do if you have two kids. I would not want them to be at different schools
- Being close to home is the MOST IMPORTANT THING. Reducing drive time. Sending kids farther away, or having a lottery to fill buildings farther away is completely unethical. Fill John Ware. Send Silverado elsewhere. Harold Panabaker should be used by surrounding communities.
- You can't lump a new community in with an old community. I bought in Woodbine to be close to schools. If I didn't care about proximity, I would have bought in Silverado and had a new house instead of an old one. Our choices are not fair. Send Silverado students to Harold Panabaker, they are far away anyways and need to be bused. Why send kids who are close to a school to one farther away?
- I like option 2. I think it is easier to build a strong school community if everyone has a

confirmed place to go. I also think it will be easier for the schools to plan and prepare for the year. If option 2 is chosen I think that John Ware School should only accept out of attendance area students from the community that is not designated there in exceptional circumstances.

- I love the idea of the my children going to Harold Panabaker since it is much closer and easier to access then John Ware or Woodman. Southland and Elbow Drives can get super busy.
- As a supporter of the CBE with my time, money and resources, I am very unhappy my child was denied to attend John Ware, an under capacity school only to now be disrupted and possibly separated from friends again. I do NOT want my child going to Harold Panabaker. Unacceptable and disappointing.
- I am in Woodbine and want the students to stay together. My fear with option 1 is that there is definitely a preferred school and this will create a have and have not school. That being said I would prefer John Ware for Woodbine as transit options are better and it is slightly closer as we are the further west community.
- For Option 2, my preference would be to have Woodbine go to John Ware and Woodlands go to Harold Panabaker. If this won't be the case, then Option 1 would be my preference. Harold Panabaker is too far.
- Giving the parents the option to choose the school that they want to have their student attend is very appealing to me, this option is by far the best in my opinion.
- My concern is that Harold Panabaker is under-utilized (once French Immersion leaves). If not enough students go there then it will be closed. Those that do go there (whether by choice or by order) will then be greatly disadvantaged.
- Designated school for English students should not be a French / Mandarin Immersion school.
- It seems best to just keep with the original John Ware option.
- My preference for my Woodbine student would be to attend John Ware. I don't believe in the lottery system as it means kids won't necessarily have their classmates from their Elementary school attending the same Junior High. I the transition from Elementary School to Junior High is difficult enough without the added stress of not having familiar faces with them.
- A lottery will be forced with option 1 as everyone will pick John Ware. Hope CBE chooses option 2.
- John Ware is already crowded with two students sharing a locker, crowded hallways and full classrooms. What the school does not need is more students.
- Will Woodbine be going to John Ware or Harold Panabaker school
- Info session was really helpful, knowing about the Harold Panabaker option in advance would have been helpful.
- If the Woodman kids that are from Woodbine and Woodlands can to John Ware the school would be packed of children and it would be crowded and more people would be added to classes
- Why are there more kids factored in overall for both schools in option 2? Whatever options keeps number lower for John Ware and bring Harold Panabaker up to ease the burden on other schools will be best option.
- Mandarin Immersion should not be offered in CBE!
- My issue is the high level of facilities and scholastic options available at John Ware compared to Harold Panabaker (i.e. Southland Center, John Ware option programs)
- I would like to see the Woodbine kids go to John Ware and Woodlands go to Harold Panabaker. It makes sense Woodbine would just go north and that Woodlands would just go east, instead of crisscrossing each community. It's important to keep cohorts and communities together. Transportation for Woodbine would be so much easier. Kids could ride bikes!
- My concern with option 1 would be that my children may end up at different schools depending on enrolment, as well as potential for splitting up peer groups. Is there a plan in

place for this? My concern with option 2 is that they may end up spending extra time in transit as Harold Panabaker is further from our home and further from a direct bus route.

- After looking at the graphic projections of the 2 new potential scenarios, option 2 seems the most balanced numbers wise and perhaps the best choice in the long run
- Let all parents and students satisfy the result is the most important thing. For option 1, I don't like the lottery selection to separate my kid and her good friends.
- Although I like the idea of a designated school, I think the group that is not designated to John Ware will be upset. I like the larger population (more potential to meet new friends) and the location.
- Concerned about late French immersion. Where is it going to be.
- This change long overdue. I never could understand why our students had a designated junior high school far away. Transportation was especially bad during the winter. With this change they could move around easier with Calgary Transit to John Ware School without parents' driving.
- Why not have the closest community to Harold Panabaker go there, and the closest to John Ware go there. Grandfather those that are already in the school so they can choose which one to attend with their classmates etc. Those that have not entered the school, divide by geography like every other community.
- Given that only one highly favourable option was provided in October, many parents did not feel they needed to engage. To make this decision based on the complainers is a disservice to our children and a disgrace to the CBE.
- Why not leave the "to be" Grade 9's at Woodman together for the last year. Keeping the kids together is important to our student and for our family.
- I have a strong preference for option 2. My preference would be for Harold Panabaker.
- We applied at John Ware last year, were rejected. It is a kick in the face to be rejected and then find out that possibly will be going next year anyways! If students that were rejected were allowed in instead I think it would have been a more gradual increase and therefore less stressful to current John Ware parents. Just figure this out. My next child is in Grade 4 I do NOT want to go through this again!
- I would prefer if my daughter went to John Ware, as the school's philosophy aligns more closely to our own. We are in Woodbine.
- I don't want my child to go to a school where they don't know anyone. I also am not able to drive my child to and from school, so there needs to be busing available. Don't want to end up paying 65 dollars for a bus pass every month. My child has a younger sibling at Woodlands so I am not sure if either option will affect both kids. I would like them to go to the same school.
- To be honest, the best option is to keep Woodlands and Woodbine students stay in one of their community schools. Why not? They should stay in their communities.
- Is the student allowed to remain at Woodman School?
- Keep John Ware at 350 students. Add Woodlands and Woodbine to Harold Panabaker making it also 350. Making giant class sizes doesn't work!! Keep the two schools even in numbers.
- Would like to have a choice.
- I think the community of Woodbine would be best served by having John Ware as its designated Junior High since it is the closest school to our neighbourhood. Woodlands should attend Harold Panabaker as it is relatively closer to that school. I do not agree with any kind of lottery scenario - it will break up friendship groups and lead to parental bitterness if their child is not selected. Thank you.
- My preference would be for Option 2, I believe for option 1 it would leave people up in the air and cause more students to be separated from friends. Option 2 provides more of a continuous option with their peers. I think it would also make more sense to have Woodlands students stay together at Harold Panabaker as they are closer.