



# *dialogue*)))

## **CBE Area V - Schools Impacted by New Schools Openings**

**Open House**

**Notes and Evaluation**

**Jan. 18, 2017**

This summary of the feedback on the Area V Impacted Schools Open House was compiled and summarized by the Calgary Board of Education.

January 31, 2017



**Number of Attendees:** 278

<b><u>Affected Schools:</u></b>	Maple Ridge	Robert Warren School
	R.T. Alderman	Canyon Meadows
	Louis Riel	Eugene Coste
	Acadia	Woodman
	David Thompson	John Ware
	Fairview	Harold Panabaker
	Le Roi Daniels	Lake Bonavista
	Sam Livingston	Andrew Sibbald

### Facilitated Comments

- Asking for single track French at RT Alderman, or having French with science.
  - Concern about bullying of small regular program group by larger French group.
  - Science & French (or alternatives generally) better combo – similar learning styles. Regular program is a quite different approach, less suited to being part of dual-track.
  - Parent and school culture is also more similar between various alternatives vs regular.
- Lack of single-track
- Program could be strengthened with a single-track school.
- Need single-track regular program and a single-track French program.
- Concern with competition between programs.
- Will administration move with the program with a dual-track program?
- Concern for viability of regular program
- Concern with social issues with dual-track, because of current issues at Fairview.
- Having a single-track strengthens the overall experience at school.
- More worried about regular program students being overwhelmed by French program.
- Example – there is a “them against us” attitude during gym classes.
- Perception at Fairview that teachers treated programs differently – one group is better than another.
- All school events – will they be in English or French? Important to have total immersion experience.
- Worried about minority group at David Thompson.
- No real room for growth at David Thompson if dual-track.
- If have a single-track school would offer options in French.
- Want David Thompson start time to remain as it is right now. Aligns with Sam Livingston, hoping bus stops can be aligned.

### Lake Bonavista School

- Could Andrew Sibbald and Lake Bonavista flip programs? – More space.
- Montessori might work better at Lake Bonavista – smaller spaces and smaller classes.
- We’re glad to see that the Montessori program will stay at Lake Bonavista. Please keep it this way. Great job with the communication and open house.



- Thank you for keeping Montessori at Lake Bonavista's school and do not reopen change discussion. Great job with the open house, the communication with the process, and information complied.
- Given the popularity at Montessori and the projected growth/over allocation of space, why hasn't more weight been placed on the data?
- It was explained to us that there was no switch to increase Montessori by moving to Andrew Sibbald because of the new playground. Has any consideration been given to the fact that these kids will be gone in 5 years?
- Very disappointed at the effort of CBE to reach out to new parents that will be impacted for Kindergarten programs. This age/decision sets learning trajectory for life and yet were marginalized throughout process.

### Harold Panabaker

- This is very positive for the Mandarin program to be included and recognized in the Area V scenarios. The location of Panabaker is very centrally and conveniently located. Parents feel like voice has been heard Principal seems very enthusiastic about the program.
- Panabaker needs students to keep its school viable for 2017. Mandarin program should be allowed to grow regardless of meeting the 20 Grade 7, 40 Grade 6, 40 – Grade 5 requirements for 2017-18 for 2017-18. As long as one class each grade can be met.
- CBE needs to rethink the numbers because bigger numbers are coming up and thinking about the future viability of the program is important. Identifying a site is sending a stable message to parents; the next step is to open the Jr. High program.
- If Silverado 7-9 was moved out of Harold Panabaker, then the larger French Immersion program could stay at Harold Panabaker until at least 2021. Current plan shown has H.P. at one-third capacity for 5 years – not efficient.
- We were informed that status quo was not an option. Why is it an option if you live in Lake Bonavista?
- Very encouraged to see Panabaker identified for Mandarin middle/Jr. program. Centrally located, enthusiastic Principal very forward thinking.
- Looking forward to seeing a Mandarin Bilingual Program here.
- I am very pleased to hear this site will be reserved for Mandarin even if we do not have the number for 2017-2018.
- I am really glad to hear there is a school holding for Grade 5-9 Mandarin Bilingual program. And nice change to talk with Harold Panabaker principal. I am looking forward to see the future developing for the Mandarin Bilingual program.
- Sad to see Panabaker with such low numbers, difficult transition for them.
- Thrilled for our south students to have a place in the south to continue their Mandarin education. Will continue to advocate for more students to join this great program.
- Thank you for listening to parents. Nothing is perfect, but our voices were heard and we are very happy that compromises were reached.
- I'm very happy to see that CBE made progress on sustaining Chinese bilingual program. I look forward on the future progress. We will fully support CBE.
- Happy to hear CBE has identified a site for Mandarin program. Does this reservation go beyond 2017-18 school year if it does not open right away?



- Panabaker is losing half their current population. Mandarin bilingual should be a go with “required numbers” lowered to fill one class.
- Worry about small school with many complex learners at HP. Not sure Mandarin is best fit. Looking at leaving school now.
- Interesting to see the CBE once again offering an “illusion” of parent involvement – while doing what they planned to do in the first place in many cases.

## Woodman

- We appreciate the revised plan/compromise for Woodman.
- Maintaining the regular program in the community of Haysboro is essential. We moved to Haysboro because of the abundance of local schools.
- We are very excited, as a family in Haysboro, that going to Woodman will allow our children more freedom and opportunities to grow responsibly as the school is walking distance. This will help us maintain family time while having one child at Chinook Park and the older sibling at Woodman.
- Great Compromise. Awesome that Chinook Park kids will stay together. Also like ability for more kids to walk to school.
- Would have preferred the French program at Robert Warren school as Woodman quite far and adds travel time for French students in south portion of Area V (travel time was an early concern and anyone south of Canyon Meadows has now at least doubled their commute).
- Very pleased with the proposed plan for Woodman Junior High
- Very happy to see local English language program remaining at Woodman Junior High. Great to have kids in community staying together.
- Thrilled to hear maintaining our community school is possible. With Chinook Park being English/French, that option at Woodman makes sense. Giving Woodland/Woodbine students currently enrolled at Woodman an option to stay really should be considered and go with a phased out approach.
- Really happy to see the community English program stay at Woodman and the addition of French allows for more program options. Thanks.
- I think the French Immersion program for 5-9 is too far North for kids living in the South. One of the planning principles is to allow students to attend school as close to home as possible. My son is now travelling further. Your first planning principle is to minimize disruption and this is the second time in 4 years he is moved due to CBE planning. You need to practice what you preach.
- I’m very pleased that the decision makers placed a priority on keeping students in or close to their community.
- Concerned re: Grade 9’s from Evergreen these kids should either stay at Woodman or go to their home school.
- Love the work that is being done at Haysboro School. Amazing Teaching and Learning.
- Haysboro is a growing community for families. The program switch to Woodman will foster and enhance neighbourhood friendships and relationships.
- Very pleased that you took into considered the “community” element, thank you. We hope that you consider the kids from Woodbine/Woodlands kids to stay for their last year (Grade 9) with their established routine with friends and teachers. Grade 9 is hard enough without adding the stress of having to make new friends and adjust to new schools.



## Canyon Meadows

- K - 5 options is fantastic. Great to see the CBE listening to and acting on community feedback. Very impressed with the engagement process. Bravo.
- I love you Canyon Meadows.
- We are so relieved to hear Canyon Meadows will start adding Grade 5 this September 2017. We are ready to go.
- I am from Canyon Meadows and I hope we stay at our school and I also like the plan (K-5) and hope it stays that way because K-6 would be too many people.
- I like the program and think the school should not add Grade 6 but should add Grade 5.
- I love the plan to keep Canyon Meadows K-5 and hopefully keep Robert Warren 6-9 because education at Canyon Meadows is really good and I am excited to stay one more year at the great Canyon Meadows School. I also am glad I am able to go to Robert Warren. I also live in Canyon Meadows so it's easy and great that I can walk to school.
- Thank you for listening. The members of our community (and our family) truly appreciate this decision. We love our Spanish program and we love being able to walk to school.
- Thank you for listening. Keeping the Spanish program in one area will maintain the linkages between the High School kids. Mentoring/interacting with the Junior High/Elementary kids. Thrilled that CM is moving to K-5. We understand and appreciate that difficult decision had to be made.
- Very glad to see K-5 at CM. 6-9 at Robert Warren. Keep up the good work.
- Thank you for listening to the community. It is so important to build and maintain a strong community of families and peers, and the Spanish program helps that so much. I love that my children will be able to walk to school in our community.
- Bussing Concerns for 2017-2018 – Will sibling of older children still have access to bussing when the older child moves onto middle school?
- Thank you for taking all our feedback into account. I believe this is the best solution for the Spanish community and the most sustainable. Thank you again CBE for looking out for the best for our children.
- We live in Canyon Meadows and love the plan to keep the program in our community.
- Thank you for valuing our community and working with us to maintain what has developed into a fabulous environment for students. The K-5 model for Canyon Meadows makes a lot of sense as well in the context of keeping the Spanish program in Canyon Meadows K-12.
- Proposed Plan is great. Implementation Sept 2017 is great too. Thank you for listening.
- Hoping Canyon Meadows will go to Grade 5. Thanks for listening CBE. So glad the Spanish program is staying in the neighbourhood.
- We are so pleased that CM will become K-5 and RW will become 6-9. We have children in both schools, and we live in the community. So happy that the continuity of the program can remain in place and there is no disruption to our children. Thank you for listening.
- Thank you for responding to our voice – we have felt heard and the CBE has been responsive.
- We are very grateful that feedback was encouraged and are supportive of the proposed plan. Believe it ensure quality of the program, fantastic synergies between the 3 Spanish programs due to proximity (K-12) to each other.
- Proposed plan is awesome. Living in Canyon Meadows it is very important to us our daughter can walk to all 3 schools. Please keep our community schools and programs together.



- I would love to stay at Canyon Meadows and I am very glad I can. I do live quite close to the school so it is very important that I am able to walk to school. I also want to go to Robert Warren for 6-9.
- We are so happy with the new proposal. Thank you so much for listening to our feedback and making changes.
- Thank you for listening.
- We are so happy that CBE has listened to our community and truly hear our concerns. You have helped protect the Spanish culture that has been created in Canyon Meadows. This has built trust between our families and the CBE. Thank you.
- I am looking forward to going to Robert Warren in Grade 5
- Thank you for the new option. K-5, 6-9 for our Spanish bilingual is perfect. For the community and our children it keeps us close to home and each other... what matters most.
- Happy with the proposed plan of K-5 @ Canyon Meadows. Would have preferred K-6, however, K-5 is better than K-4. Bussing from outside Canyon Meadows will remain as status quo?
- If Canyon Meadows extends to Grade 5, will bussing be extended to the outside boundaries for the extra year? Originally it was to go to the end of June 2018 but I hope that will now change to June 2019
- Keep the Spanish bilingual program together.
- Hoping that the transition to K-5 for Canyon Meadows will happen for the 2017-18 school year. (I.e. Current Grade 4's stay there for Grade 5).
- Thank you for listening. I think that the K-5 / 6-9 decision is a great way to compromise and to keep the program together in the community.
- Our child is in Gr 2 Canyon Meadows, but we live in McKenzie Towne, outside the catchment area. Will she continue to have bussing until Grade 5 (2019-2020). She went to CM because her sibling was already in CM, but now in Robert Warren.
- I would really like to see Grade 5 added to Canyon Meadows in Sept 2017. If this is the plan, why would we wait to implement in 2018???? The current Grade 4's deserve to have an additional year in Canyon Meadows too.
- We would like the Grade 4's in Canyon Meadows to be grandfathered into Robert Warren for September 2017.
- Thank you for listening to our concerns about moving the Spanish Bilingual out of Canyon Meadows area. I love the program in one community and are very happy it is staying.
- Thank you. Spanish Bilingual program should stay together thanks for listening.
- K-5 at Canyon Meadows is a great option. It keeps the Spanish program in the community, reduces bussing times and shows that CBE listened to our concerns and suggestions. Make it Happen for 2017.
- We are very happy with the compromise and the process.
- We are grateful to keep the program in the community.
- I would like to see the current Grade 4 class at CM go to Robert Warren for another year as there is more room available at Robert Warren currently.
- Love the proposed plan for Canyon Meadows. Thank you for listening. This plan should be implemented September, 2017 – my child is looking forward to another year at CMS.

Sam Livingston



- Overall I'm happy that Sam is staying K-4 because of space. I would love to see a boundary change that would allow Sam to be a K-6. I'm concerned Sam may lose enrolment because Andrew Sibbald is now K-6.
- K-4 at Sam and maintaining class sizes is great to see.

## Le Roi Daniels

- I would love to see Acadia residence be included in the Fairview lottery for spots at the school. If Fairview students are coming to Acadia for English regular school, Acadia residence should be able to attend Fairview TLC. I live in Acadia and I would love my kids when they are school aged to attend Fairview TLC.

## Fairview

- I would like the CBE to consider a holistic K-6/K-9 plan for French immersion. I believe kids would benefit from staying in the same school from K-6
- Manage transition of resources appropriately, especially given language based programs and resources purchased through parent fundraising. This will be a large effort given the number of program moves for Area V
- Having elementary school plan for grade 4-6 or 4-5. Separate elementary wing. Home room concept and home room teachers can be followed.

## David Thompson

- The projections for attendance at David Thompson look like the FI program has virtually no room to grow. With Area V being the area growing the quickest in population it would make sense to have ample room for the most popular alternative programs' growth. The French Immersion program should have its own middle school to encourage the French culture as well as not singling out the small population left who will not be part of the larger group at the school.
- Later start time if possible. We are 9 a.m. now.
- The proposed French Immersion dual-track at David Thompson leaves little room to grow for either program. There is lots of room at the R.T. Alderman and Acadia Schools. Why not move those regular programs 100 – 200 kids to those schools? Give both groups the advantages they deserve. The minority group in any dual-track suffers both academically and socially.
- Please keep high student numbers in Grades 7 – 9 at DT so kids (French or regular) have lots of options.
- Appears to leave little or no room for FI to grow.
- Please ensure resources (i.e. band instruments) are allocated from Fairview (FI) to David Thompson (FI). Resources should move with students. Will a band program even be offered? Concerned with class sizes.
- The ideal is 80% for DT. How does this allow FI room to grow?
- Concerned about busing and school start times at David Thompson. Also, staff, teachers, band program and options.
- Please maintain the level of band program, resources, to support band program – teachers and equipment that were given at Fairview.



- Where will kids currently in the Late Immersion at Harold Panabaker go if they live in the walk-zone for David Thompson?
- Be aware that somehow with the kids at Fairview French Immersion – DT was seen very much as the less desirable choice (as opposed to RTA). What can admin. / CBE do to sell the students on the great move to DT?
- Does 80% capacity mean large class sizes? 30 – 40 kids per? Concerned about the equal opportunity for dual-tracks and children being moved from Fairview.
- Tour / Open House of David Thompson for students / parents prior to decision being made.
- Hoping the move of French Immersion into DT enables the school to run a non-shared bus route. Seven sets of buses dedicated to DT students.
- Be aware that there will sometimes be fights over who the better program is.
- Concerned about busing and school schedules. When will we know times, etcetera?
- Please provide the same level of teaching, support, admin., council and options that were given at Fairview for French Immersion, Science Fair, Debate, etcetera.
- Pity single-track French Immersion was not chosen (over TLC).
- David Thompson – French Immersion:
  - 1 | Could we have single-track? Community program to join Science at RT Alderman.
  - 2 | Keep 5's and 6's separate from Grade 9 for social differences.
  - 3 | Maintain the culture of Sam Livingston. Looking forward to the open house.
  - 4 | Does the staff changing include Student Service staff to help kids with difficult transitions? I.e. Mme Plante.
- Will my regular-track program son be able to attend DT along with his two French Immersion brothers?
- Pleased to see room for growth and not placing French and Science together to fill school to begin with.
- Will the start times at Sam Livingston and DT be the same? If so, how will busing work for parents that have kids at both schools? E.g. I have one bus stop in my community for middle school and four for elementary. If bus times are different I can't be at two stops at once, or will the buses piggy back each other so we can put our kids on their own bus to take them to each school?
- Consider expanding option choices. E.g. Drama, photography, etcetera.

## Acadia School

- Students who are currently in David Thompson (Grades 5 and 6), would they be able to continue to have access to programs? E.g. Band / music, Construction, team sports.
- Thrilled to see a strong community school remain in Acadia. We're looking forward to years of great teaching for our kids at Acadia.
- Why not have Acadia a full K – 9 regular program and have David Thompson full 5 – 9 French Immersion program?
- **[agreements with previous statement]:**
  - Exactly.
  - Ditto.
  - Totally Agree.
  - Ditto.



- I am so happy this school will stay open. Please keep before and after school program. I see new families moving into Acadia and I'm excited about student population growth.
- **[agreement with previous statement]:**
  - I agree.
- Couldn't have been any better for Acadia.
- **[agreement with previous statement]:**
  - I agree.
- Spoke to principal of Acadia School. I'm so happy with plans to keep this school open. A wonderful neighborhood school.
- **[agreement with previous statement]:**
  - I agree.

## Robert Warren

- Thank you for listening. Very pleased with the decision to keep Spanish at Robert Warren.
- Thank you for listening and keeping our vibrant school community together. Our relationship with and respect for the CBE are forever strengthened.
- This is a great compromise. Thanks for listening. My main concern now is to keep our amazing Spanish Bilingual teachers. I don't want to see any of them displaced as the grade 5's shift from RW to CM.
- You do not have to live in the community to have one. When will the parents realize this within the school? Not the address? EC has a community too. We come from all over the city. We want the best options for our kids – not an outdated elementary school like Robert Warren. If this is the choice - CBE must upgrade this sad school.
- Would have preferred the French program at Robert Warren School. Woodman is quite far for kids in the south to attend.
- Very happy to have the Spanish program remain in Canyon Meadows. I grew up in Canyon Meadows and attended all three schools. I am very happy my son will do the same. We live in Canyon Meadows and love the sense of belonging.
- Thank you for listening to parent feedback and developing a new proposal. So glad to keep the Spanish program in the community.
- Thank you for offering the opportunity to provide feedback and an option which solved the main issues facing our schools. We appreciate the effort.
- We are happy the Spanish Bilingual program is proposed to stay in the community. The transition for our children from the elementary in the community to junior high and high school supports our children's learning and causes less disruption for the children. It also allows the partnership to continue between the three levels of Spanish Bilingual schools in the community. Thank you for listening.
- The plan states the Robert Warren is nearing capacity. So they are going to remove Grade 5 and add Eugene Coste students from Grades 6 – 9. How will they possibly fit all of those students into Robert Warren? I'm very disappointed that the Spanish program will not be going to Woodman.
- I would like the Grade 4's to come to Robert Warren next year. Then the Grade 4's can get more freedom in Robert Warren. I know some of the Grade 4's and they all want to go to Robert Warren. And I personally want the Grade 4's to come to Robert Warren.



- I really like to keep the program together in the community for Canyon Meadows and Robert Warren School.
- Thank you for listening to us.
- The consultation / engagement process that CBE has done for school allocations has been flexible and adaptable. As a result, trust has increased with families and the community.

### Louis Riel

- Thank you so much for all the hard work and listening to parent voices.
- We would like to see our son who is currently at Louis Riel be grandfathered in. The adjustment / change will be hard on him and his peers.
- Expected information concerning student population in Science program currently to understand impact of undisclosed / proposed boundary. (Grandfathering is very important as is relationships).
- We would like to see our Grade 1 child grandfathered and stay at Louis. We don't want to be forced to move schools.
- Science Program – I need to know a.s.a.p. regarding new boundaries as this will affect my family greatly. I may have to sell my home and move to accommodate this change.
- When the Science School opens for SE Calgary area the children in GATE in SE Calgary will have significantly fewer students on their buses. Presumably this will trigger a combining of bus routes. As these students already spend 45 plus minutes each way on the bus, how will the realignment of the Science School affect the GATE busing times from the deep SE (I.e. McKenzie Towne)?

### R.T. Alderman

- I would like to have Grades 5 – 9 all be able to do the Lego Club in RTA.
- How will current options be supported with lower student numbers?
- Growth of Science program. Yes please. Currently, my kids have very little chance of attending Science School despite their desire to.
- School resourcing for dual-track programs is a concern when a minority but principal must weigh the education of all students equally.
- I would still really like to see French Immersion and Science go into RT Alderman.
- I like the new school locations. Good job. My only concern would be continuity – resources availability the first year. I like the RT Alderman principal.
- This is the very best option for RT Alderman. Thanks for listening.
- Proximity seems to be the single over-riding factor in make a decision on if a child gets into a program. School lottery for alternative programs should not take proximity into account.
- I am very happy with the decision to keep current RT Alderman programming at RT Alderman and move the Science School in to increase the student populations.
- Designated schools should not necessarily be the “walk-zone” school.

### Maple Ridge

- Do all CBE Science schools share the same curriculum? Would Maple Ridge have the same classes / course material as Louis Riel or Langevin?



- Happy with decision. Priority, who gets in to Science:
  - Already registered?
  - Local community?
- **[agreement with previous statement]:**
  - Agree. Same question.
- Very happy with Science stream decision. Living in Willow Park. Concerned about not being in the walk-zone but in designated neighborhood, will we have priority or wait list or lottery?
- I liked the two program option as it gives community choice. Wondering money and volunteer - commitment involved with Science program? Will the children wear uniforms for both programs or regular clothing? Will children in the walk-zone get preference of program or lottery? Overall I am thrilled with the decision and hard work put in to make Area V sustainable. Thank you.
- Nice to have a Science program option in Willow Park / Maple Ridge.
- Happy with Science program. Maple Ridge is our designated school but not in the walk-zone. Want to know if my child is still first priority to Maple Ridge? Need to know boundaries.

## Eugene Coste

- Shifting from K – 4 to K – 5 for Eugene Coste is a welcome compromise.
- Keeping before / after child care is critical for our family (Grade 1 student currently).
- I'm happy that Eugene Coste will be going to Grade 5 and not Grade 4.
- I am very disappointed with the decision. The selfish Canyon Meadows family group is more concerned with their commute than a far better school at Woodman. Five years at Canyon Meadows. Five years at Woodman. Five minutes down the road. What about every other family that does not live in CM? It's about our children – not you.

## Andrew Sibbald

- Current Grade 4 students at Sibbald that have older siblings at Nickle should have the option to leave Sibbald and go to Nickle for Grade 5.
- Monitoring of numbers at Andrew Sibbald should not be for at least 4 – 5 years. Changes need a chance to work, it took ten years of directing community students away from the program - I.e. to make room for Auburn Bay / Cranston) and keeping surrounding schools K – 6 (I.e. Prince of Wales, Lake Bonavista (pre 2015). Give it a chance to re-grow and have consistency and no fear of change and the population will grow. Love the K – 6. Students in Lake Bonavista should have to go to Andrew Sibbald for Grade 5. I.e. will be K – 5 in 2017 / 2018, K – 6 2018 / 2019.
- Pleased to see a K – 6 option in the community due to the high population of Nickle School and the complex issues Grade 5 kids phase entering an environment with older junior high grades.
- Thank you for listening to family and parent information instead of just basing this choice on data and numbers. The impact of the change goes far deeper than kids per square foot and I commend the CBE for recognizing and acknowledging that.
- Thrilled with the choice to let Andrew Sibbald kids stay in place – a strong community school is a significant asset to a community. Now that most (all?) of the factors which previously made ASE unappealing have been removed, I think we will see significant growth.
  - Catchment school for out of area.
  - K – 4.



- Tire chip / donated playground.

I think the growth will be seen in 5 plus years due to the unlikelihood of switching schools mid-elementary. Please give the school some time to demonstrate this growth. The volumes will come in Kindergarten and Grade 1 and will need time to filter up to the top grades.

- I am glad that our school did not move somewhere else.
- Pleased that CBE took the initiative and engaged with parents and listened to our concerns.
- Love the plan for Andrew Sibbald. Please do not re-open this discussion. Keep students where they are. We love our principal. Thank you for listening to our feedback.
  
- We like the plan as proposed and want to see this plan be implemented for many years. Please do not re-open this discussion in two or three or five years' time. Consistency is good.
- Andrew Sibbald. Thank you for listening and giving our kids an opportunity for consistency.
- Love the fact that the school isn't moving to Lake Bonavista School. It says enrolment will be monitored on an on-going basis. How frequently will that be? If enrolment stays low, what will happen? Can they move again or will more students be added from other areas?
- My kids are thrilled (all three).
- Please do not re-open the debate of moving schools in future years. Keep the students of Andrew Sibbald where they are.
- Grade 4 Sibbald should have the option to attend Nickle.

## Other

- The incredible amount of money that has gone into this "engagement process" to make parents think they have a say when it's actually already been decided could have been used buying computers, library books, resources, etcetera for all the schools involved.



## Participant Engagement Evaluation

### Area V Open House – January 18, 2017 at Nickle School

Number of participants in attendance: 278

Number of evaluations completed: 55

To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements:

**P1) I was encouraged to share my thoughts and/or feedback during this engagement.**

**40** Agree ○ **10** Somewhat Agree ○ **3** Somewhat Disagree ○ **0** Disagree ○ **0** Not Applicable ○

**P2) I was able to ask questions and learn about the opportunity for input/feedback prior to my participation in this engagement.**

**37** Agree ○ **13** Somewhat Agree ○ **3** Somewhat Disagree ○ **1** Disagree ○ **0** Not Applicable ○

**P3) I had the information I needed to participate in a meaningful way.**

**30** Agree ○ **19** Somewhat Agree ○ **2** Somewhat Disagree ○ **3** Disagree ○ **0** Not Applicable ○

- Poorly worded question
- Video was helpful!

**P4) I was able to provide input on the best way for me to share my thoughts and ideas.**

**27** Agree ○ **18** Somewhat Agree ○ **2** Somewhat Disagree ○ **4** Disagree ○ **2** Not Applicable ○

- Pleased to speak with principals

**P5) I clearly understand all of the factors being considered in the decision making process and which of these factors I can and cannot influence.**

**26** Agree ○ **20** Somewhat Agree ○ **5** Somewhat Disagree ○ **3** Disagree ○ **0** Not Applicable ○

- And this is the problem. Historical “This is the way we’ve done it” seems to be an over-riding factor. If you are going to open an alternative program to make a school ‘viable’, then you aren’t doing it right. Opening an alternative school is to allow students to attend a school that meets their needs. It’s not so that kids can still walk to school. The comments I got from administration (Sid and Carrie) were very different than sentiments expressed by principals who actually have to run the schools – especially in an environment with constrained resources!

**P6) My input was documented as part of the engagement process.**

**26** Agree ○ **17** Somewhat Agree ○ **1** Somewhat Disagree ○ **4** Disagree ○ **6** Not Applicable ○



**P7) What did you like most about this engagement? What did you like least about this engagement?**

**Comment: 30      No Comment: 25**

- I like that they listened to the concerns of parents and communities and responded appropriately
- Open house session (Oct) – great, thank you
- The survey was a bit awkward as I found it wouldn't relay concerns, but with the comments section, I added my thoughts. Thank you.
- I like that parents were able to say what it was important to us.
- Most: It shows the CBE is interested in my feedback  
Least: I could have provided the same information without actually coming here.
- Able to speak with principal
- I would like a better understanding of how my responses will be taken into consideration
- I liked the fact that you can see it all out in the open and compare decisions made across the board.
- The in-person sessions were good
- Crisp and clean
- I liked the informal discussions in the fall. It was useful to share thoughts with other parents.
- Clear charts and presentation of scenarios and data. Information discussions both today and earlier in the process.
- The presentation of future use tonight was great. I did not receive notification when info was being collected and would have loved to contribute my feedback.
- Kudos – parents appear to feel that their input was heard and responded to
- Most: Face-to-face with school principals
- Most: Online survey option  
Least: not knowing much about the 2 proposed new schools (other than #s and location)
- I liked that the school will be bigger. I wish we went to RTA.
- Learning how the selfish social needs of the Canyon Meadows parents influenced the decision to stay at Robert Warren. Not the best choice for the students.
- Really appreciated the time of the principals... very helpful. Brenda Lewis is wonderful ☺
- Everyone put on a fake smile to sell the program. No one was vested and believed in it. No one could ease my mind about these changes.
- +: Multiple opportunities to provide feedback  
-: Would have liked more information on what each school would gain / lose under each scenario. Had to rely on principals doing a lot of legwork to show future state and what it would mean. This info was the most helpful.
- Was great to have many CBE members and principals / teachers to get first hand info from.
- Panel boards helpful to understand justification of decisions.
- +: Many people available to ask questions  
+: Principals from schools available  
-: Not clear how room was set up, where to start etc.
- Thanks for listening and modifying the proposal for the Spanish Bilingual Program.
- I liked that we felt listened to  
I dislike the length of time it is taking – it seems late to not have 'for sure' until March.
- Pro: Nice to have all sorts of CBE/school/Stantec people to talk with  
Con: Some of our questions regarding the importance of proximity in the lottery process for alternative programs were answered with a 'that's just the way we do things' type of response, without a lot of understanding that parents of alternative program applicants may be more interested in the program itself than its location.
- Information was clearly displayed. Enjoyed the open format.
- You listened! Thank you! ☺



Calgary Board  
of Education

*dialogue*)))

- Most: More than one opportunity  
Least: The anxiety of feeling like the decision was already made before my input. Almost changed to Catholic. Some friends did change because they were worried.
- People making themselves available in the evening – key people, principals, etc.
- Principals were present to ask questions of.