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Area 6 and 7 Impacted Schools Engagement Group B Schools – Questions and Answers

Timing

Why implement the decision for September 2018 when none of these schools are at capacity?

The decision has not yet been made. Implementation may be for the 2018-19 school year or beyond.

School Choice

What is so bad about Alexander Ferguson School having more applications than capacity?

Option areas can result in uncertainty for parents and schools. Defined boundaries can lead to more equitable access for students to their designated school, and provide longer-term sustainability and more effective use of space and resources for schools. Option areas are being phased out across the CBE to support more predictable enrolment.

Are there standardized criteria for out-of-boundary admissions? How is this monitored?

[AR 6090: Student Registration and Admissions](#) outlines the process and guidelines for out of designated attendance admission requests.

Sustainability

Is Richmond School on the 10 year closure plan?

The CBE does not have a 10 year closure list. The CBE has a *10 Year Student Accommodation and Facilities Strategy* which is updated every two or three years. The most recent version of this strategic document is available on the CBE website: <https://www.cbe.ab.ca/FormsManuals/Ten-Year-System-Student-Accommodation-and-Facilities-Strategy.pdf>

What is the sustainability of having four schools at approximately 60 per cent capacity when the numbers settle in a few years?

The proposed scenario supports long term sustainability through boundary changes targeted to achieve more balanced enrolment between the schools.

Current rated room utilization as reported to the Board of Trustees in the *2017-2018 School Enrolment Report* is as follows:

Alexander Ferguson School – 97 per cent
Glendale School – 72 per cent
Richmond School – 58 per cent
Glenbrook School – 64 per cent

Removing the option area is projected to result in utilization at Alexander Ferguson School decreasing over time and increasing at Glendale and Richmond schools.



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By reducing the catchment area, does Alexander Ferguson School risk funding with reduced numbers?

Alexander Ferguson School would continue to receive funding on a per student basis. The projection for Alexander Ferguson School over the next five years is expected to continue to remain above 200 students at the school.

Boundaries

Why does the proposed boundary designate some people to Richmond or Glendale school when they are closer to Alexander Ferguson School? The “walk zone” isn’t really walkable and will cause more traffic.

The proposed boundaries were created with the goal of balancing enrolment between the schools. All new boundaries are within the existing walk zones for each school. There should be no impact to traffic as there is already no busing from the option area and students currently walk or find other ways to school.

School Reputation

Why is Alexander Ferguson School “the choice” in the previous optional boundary?

Alexander Ferguson School and its school community have been able to market the school as a school with a fine arts focus. This has attracted new families from the option area as well as students from outside the attendance area.

What is being done to improve the reputation of Richmond School?

As shared by the Area Director and Richmond parents in attendance at the meeting – Richmond is a rich vibrant school with an excellent teaching staff. Provincial Achievement results for students who wrote the exam are very high e.g. In 2017 100% of the students who wrote the Grade 6 Language Arts exam reached the acceptable standard.

Safety

What is being done to improve the safety of the students crossing busy roads to get to school?

Student safety is a joint responsibility. Parents are responsible for the safety of their children while walking to and from school. Schools are responsible to ensure supervision for student safety once students arrive on school grounds.

Some schools with students in Grade 5 and/or 6 have chosen to participate in the AMA School Safety Patrol program. Roads, crosswalks and traffic around schools are a concern to many parents. School Councils are urged to work with their respective schools to develop safety measures which support students at each site.

Junior High and High School Designations

Are the boundaries separately drawn for junior high schools or is junior high designation based on these proposed boundaries?

Junior high attendance areas include a number of feeder schools and are therefore different from feeder school boundaries. Junior high attendance areas can be found using the [Find a School](#) application at cbe.ab.ca

What are the designated high schools for these areas?

High school designations can be found using the [Find a School](#) application at cbe.ab.ca



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Are out-of-boundary students designated to junior high based on the school they are attending or the student's home address?

Junior high designation is based on the primary address of the student.

What is address of Vincent Massey School?

The address is 939 - 45 St. S.W. Locations of all CBE schools can be found in the [School Directory](http://cbe.ab.ca/schools/school-directory) at cbe.ab.ca/schools/school-directory.