



March 4, 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Area IV Office and the Department of Planning & Transportation have been working to address the accommodation of the French Immersion and Spanish Bilingual programs at Westgate School.

On January 9, 2014 a decision letter was issued indicating the Spanish Bilingual program would be relocated to Eugene Coste School for September, 2014. An appeal of this decision was upheld and an Open House took place at Westgate School on February 11, 2014 to gather feedback on the following three options.

- **Option 1** – Relocate Spanish Bilingual program from Westgate School to Eugene Coste School all at once effective September, 2014. Bishop Pinkham School will become Grade 7-9 for both programs over time.
- **Option 2** – Relocate Spanish Bilingual program from Westgate to Eugene Coste School over time. To allow space at Westgate for current Grade 1-4 Spanish Bilingual students to phase out over the next few years, it may be necessary to cap kindergarten and Grade 1 registration for French Immersion. If necessary the lottery process would be used to determine eligibility. Bishop Pinkham School will become Grade 7-9 for both programs over time.
- **Option 3** – Keep K-4 French Immersion and Spanish Bilingual programs at Westgate School by capping new kindergarten enrolment at approximately 50 students per program each year. If necessary the lottery process would be used to determine eligibility. Effective September 2016, Spanish Bilingual students in Grades 5 and 6 will attend a new Spanish Bilingual middle school at A.E. Cross School. Current Spanish Bilingual students will phase out of Bishop Pinkham School.

Feedback on these options was also collected through an online survey, Yourvoice email and other emails to administration. The information collected became a part of all data considered when evaluating possibilities for this accommodation issue.

We would like to acknowledge the participation and input of interested stakeholders throughout this student accommodation planning process. Feedback from stakeholders is valued and was seriously considered when making the final decision. Due to the limited availability of schools in Area IV, we know that we are unable to implement a solution that meets the preferences of all affected stakeholders. With this in mind, the following administrative decision was chosen to maintain the two programs in Area IV:

Administrative Decision |

School	Effective September 2014	Effective September 2015	Effective September 2016
Westgate School	K-4 French Immersion K-4 Spanish Bilingual Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>there will likely be no capping of enrolment at Westgate School for September 2014</i> 	K-5 French Immersion	K-6 French Immersion
Glenmeadows School	N/A	K-5 Spanish Bilingual Program	Spanish Bilingual Program (grade configuration to be determined)
		<i>Temporary location at Viscount Bennett Centre may be required</i>	
Bishop Pinkham School	Regular Program Grades 7-9 French Immersion Grades 5-9 Spanish Bilingual Grades 5-9	Regular Program Grades 7-9 French Immersion Grades 6-9 Spanish Bilingual Program Grades 6-9	Regular Program Grades 7-9 French Immersion Grades 7-9 Spanish Bilingual Program Grades 7-9
A. E. Cross School	N/A	N/A	To be determined if required for Spanish Bilingual

Shortly after the open house on February 11th 2014, CBE administration was provided with new information regarding the availability of Glenmeadows School for CBE use in the future. This information significantly contributed to the administrative decision.

Glenmeadows School currently accommodates the Calgary Arts Academy charter school. This charter school received provincial funding to renovate a facility on the Stampede grounds. The charter school will relocate once the renovations have been completed. Once Glenmeadows has been vacated, the space will be available to accommodate the Area IV Spanish Bilingual program. In the event that Glenmeadows School is not available for September 2015, the CBE will look at a temporary accommodation plan for the Spanish Program at Viscount Bennett Centre.

Glenmeadows School has 10 classrooms in the core and six modular classrooms. The instructional space available at Glenmeadows is 400 spaces including the modular classrooms. Enrolment in the Spanish Bilingual program will be monitored over the next two years to determine the future grade configuration at Glenmeadows School. In the event that enrolment is too high for a kindergarten to Grade 6 grade configuration, a new middle school program will be opened at A.E. Cross School.

Please contact your school or the Area IV office at 403-777-8750 ext. 0 if you have any questions. You may choose to appeal the accommodation plan presented in this letter to the Area IV Director by email to AreaIV@cbe.ab.ca within five business days of the date on this notice.

Sincerely,



Calvin Davies
Director, Area IV



Darlene Unruh
Director, Planning & Transportation

