

update

Date: January 29, 2014

Area IV Accommodation Challenges West Springs and Wildwood Schools

On Monday, January 27, 2014 the Area IV Office and Planning & Transportation met with parents from the focus group of parents from the six schools that have been part of an ongoing accommodation process.

Purpose of the Focus Group:

- To provide information and an opportunity to ask questions to a representative number of stakeholders
- Establish the different values or perspectives within a community on an issue
- Generate dialogue about an issue in a small forum
- To act as a barometer for issues and concerns raised by the larger school communities

By working with a focus group of parents CBE administration is able to hear a broad range of opinions in a setting that is conducive to open conversation. Information shared with this group included:

- Summary of the yourvoice and Thoughtstream feedback
- Review of recommended scenarios
- Feedback on scenarios
- Questions and answers submitted by parents from the focus group prior to the meeting
- Revised Scenario based on feedback received to-date
- Scenario received from parents

Revised Scenario

The scenario below is a revision of Scenario 2, from the engagement process, that has been adapted to reflect parent input indicating a strong preference for a solution which disrupts the least amount of students in all schools and communities:

West Springs

- Remain K to 6
 - Enrolment capped at approximately 80 new kindergarten students each year using lottery process.
- *Existing students attending West Springs School would not be asked to leave.*
- New K to 6 students that are overflowed from West Springs would be designated to Rosscarrock School effective September 2014.

Wildwood School

- New Cougar Ridge students would be designated to Rosscarrock School effective September 2014.
 - Current Cougar Ridge students and any new siblings of Cougar Ridge students currently attending Wildwood School could remain at Wildwood School.
**Existing Cougar Ridge students attending Wildwood School would not be asked to leave.*
 - New Aspen Woods (West of 85th Street) students would be designated to Jennie Elliott School starting September 2014.
**Existing Aspen Woods (West of 85th Street) students and any new siblings would not be asked to leave Wildwood School.*

Olympic Heights School

Status Quo, continue to monitor enrolment

Additional Scenario – this scenario was provided by parents from West Springs School and only addresses the accommodation challenge at West Springs School.

- As of September 2014, cap kindergarten registration at 85 – 100 students and announce that these kindergarten students will be the first group that may only attend until Grade Four. All students currently at West Springs School will complete Grade Six. Over flow students will go to Rosscarrock.

This information is available on the CBE website at

http://www.cbe.ab.ca/Schools/ceop/pp13-14/area_iv_accommodation_challenges.asp

Next Steps

Open House

- Thursday, February 6, 2014
- 5-7 p.m.
- Rosscarrock School 1406 - 40 Street SW

At this drop-in open house parents will be able to provide feedback on this revised scenario and the parent scenario and learn how parent input throughout the process influenced this recommendation.

If you have new information that you have not already submitted to administration for review, feedback will only be accepted via yourvoice@cbe.ab.ca at this time.

The CBE recognizes that parents are anxious for a decision involving these schools and we are hopeful that a decision will be reached prior to Spring Break.

Yours truly,



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Director
Area IV



Darlene Unruh
Director
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