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Areas 6 & 7 Impacted Schools

Parent representative meeting: Nov. 28, 2017

Schools Represented:

- Alexander Ferguson School
- Glenbrook School
- Rosscarrock School
- Wildwood School
- West Ridge School
- West Springs School

Schools Absent:

- Glendale School
- Richmond School

Groups pre-organized based on common issues to participate in two group discussions:

- Discussion #1: Discuss proposed change, including why, why not and considerations.
- Discussion #2: Feedback on engagement plan
 - Do you think this plan will work for your school community?
 - Do you have suggestions for modifications to this plan?

Group A: Rosscarrock, West Ridge, West Spring and Wildwood schools

Discussion #1 – Proposed change: Accommodate K-3 students from the Cougar Ridge community closer to home

Why?

- Less transportation
- Continuity, student group kept together
- Feel of community in area for students
- Students in community stay together

Why Not?

- Rosscarrock wants to keep school in the community
- Concern about too many transitions for students, i.e. Wildwood
- Wildwood and Rosscarrock students to have a couple schools in couple years
- What will happen with Rosscarrock? Will it still be a strong program?
- For Rosscarrock – significant concerns about impact

Considerations?

- What is growth in community? Is there room at West Springs?
- Need better understanding of development in areas and #s
- French Immersion expansion in west?
- Reach out to other schools that may have Cougar Ridge students – not just impacted ones



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Considerations (continued)?

- Look back at what has happened in past/historical data in considering this
- What would adding students in mean for learning space use, library, gym, etc. at West Springs
- What about portables at West Springs? (It was explained by subject matter expert that this is not possible)
- Concerns about creating situation with lotteries again
- What about space for before & after school care for kindergarten/partner at West Springs? Can't offer now because no space; being used for Grades 1-4
- Would students in Cougar Ridge still continue on to West Ridge?
- Area people moving away from Cougar Ridge because designated school is not closer?
- Would more buses be added with this possible change? Issues with it?
- Space utilization at schools? At 80% for us now
- Us vs. them mentality a concern
- Chain reaction with one school changing affecting another
- Future for Rosscarrock? Rosscarrock will be at 110 students or so if Cougar Ridge students leave.
- Some Cougar Ridge families may want to attend school closer to home but some may be happy to stay at Rosscarrock
- Concerned about possible feuds amongst parents in community starting again

Discussion #2 – Engagement plan

- **Do you think this plan will work for your school community?**
- **Do you have suggestions for modifications to this plan?**
 - Online surveys work well
 - Open houses may be worth considering
 - Ensure people feel heard
 - Allow for genuine dialogue
 - Make sure people understand all possible impacts
 - Projected enrolment understood
 - Ensure input is informed input – provide information online with survey
 - Ensure full picture of impact on schools and communities is communicated
 - How does this help students overall?
 - Understand from stakeholders what's most important – convenience/proximity or learning opportunities?
 - What happened with other points raised in spring meeting? How exactly have they been considered in the plans?
 - Hostile environment before a concern
 - Make sure there's a balance of different communities represented



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Group B: Alexander Ferguson, Glendale, Glenbrook and Richmond schools

Discussion #1 – Proposed change: Set boundary for each school (remove option boundary)

Why?

- Bolster enrolment and culture in all the schools
- Alexander Ferguson: too much traffic because people live too far to walk
- Glenbrook: potential to boost population
- Redevelopment along 17 Ave has potential to have Alexander Ferguson burst at seams
 - Currently 234 enrolment with capacity of 250
 - Using the stage for classroom

Why not?

- Alexander Ferguson keeps high enrolment
- Takes away choice

Considerations?

- Junior high designations
- Look at zones that make sense (e.g., busy roads as boundaries)
- Siblings
- Walk zone from Alberta Education
- No one in option area is eligible for busing
- Grandfathering

Discussion #2 – Engagement plan

- **Do you think this plan will work for your school community?**
- **Do you have suggestions for modifications to this plan?**
 - Very involved and inclusive
 - Like that it gets broader over time
 - Not sure how much more you could do
 - Lots of opportunities for feedback
 - Map is important
 - How do we help people think big picture and long term?