



December 19, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Re: Accommodation Plan for Kindergarten to Grade 9 Students Living in Rocky Ridge and Royal Oak

The Calgary Board of Education would like to thank parents for attending the November 22 meeting at Royal Oak School and for taking the time to provide feedback on accommodation options regarding enrolment pressure at both Royal Oak School and Simon Fraser School.

As a result of feedback received, the following accommodation plan for kindergarten to Grade 9 students will be implemented effective September 2012:

Royal Oak School will continue to accommodate kindergarten to Grade 4 students from both Rocky Ridge and Royal Oak and the enrolment will be capped at 100 students per grade. Simon Fraser School will continue to accommodate Grade 5 to Grade 9 students from Rocky Ridge and Royal Oak who complete Grade 4 at Royal Oak School.

Students who cannot be accommodated at Royal Oak School and/or Simon Fraser School will be designated to Belvedere Parkway School for kindergarten to Grade 6 and Thomas B. Riley School for Grade 7 to Grade 9. Belvedere Parkway School is located in the community of Bowness at 4631 85th Street N.W. Phone: 403-777-6010. Thomas B. Riley School is also located in the community of Bowness at 3915 69th Street N.W. Phone: 403-777-7260.

Current Students

Currently kindergarten and Grade 1 enrolment exceeds 100 students per grade. In order to minimize disruption for students already attending Royal Oak School, all kindergarten to Grade 3 students registered at the school as of December 19, 2011 will be able to continue to attend the school until the end of Grade 4.

Notice to Parents: Student Designation – Rocky Ridge and Royal Oak

Kindergarten Registration for September 2012 and Onward

Kindergarten registration for the 2012-2013 school year begins on Monday January 16, 2012. The priority for acceptance into the kindergarten program at Royal Oak School will be:

1. Kindergarten students who will have a sibling in Grade 1 to Grade 4 at Royal Oak School or a sibling in Grade 5 to Grade 9 at Simon Fraser School.
2. For students who do not have a sibling as described above, a lottery will be held on February 15, 2012 to determine acceptance at Royal Oak School. Parents will be notified by the end of February regarding acceptance in the kindergarten program.

New Registrations for the Remainder of the 2011-2012 School Year

Students who register at Royal Oak School after December 19, 2011 are able to attend Royal Oak School until June 30, 2012 but may be designated to Belvedere Parkway School effective the 2012-2013 school year. Parents of students who register at Royal Oak School after December 19, 2011, will be informed in writing in June 2012 regarding school designation for the 2012-2013 school year.

Students are eligible for subsidized transportation to their designated school if they live beyond the walk zone. Information regarding transportation services and fees is available on the CBE website www.cbe.ab.ca and at the schools. All students accessing subsidized transportation are required to pay Board approved transportation fees.

If you have questions that are not addressed in the attached Q&A document or require additional information, please contact the Royal Oak School at 403-777-6279 or the Area I office at 403-777-8710 (extension 0).



Jeannie Everett, Director, Area I



Karen Barry, System Principal
Planning & Transportation Service

cc: CBE Trustees
Superintendents' Team
Principals





Questions and Answers – Rocky Ridge and Royal Oak Kindergarten to Grade 9 Accommodation Plan

December 19, 2011

- 1. Do I still need to register my child for kindergarten if he/she has an older sibling at Royal Oak School or Simon Fraser School?** Yes. We ask that parents of kindergarten students who have a sibling at either Royal Oak School or Simon Fraser School register their child by February 14, 2012 to assist with planning for the lottery draw on February 15, 2012.
- 2. If the child I am registering for kindergarten does not have a sibling at either Royal Oak School or Simon Fraser School, do I need to line up at Royal Oak School on January 16th to register?** No, we ask that parents do not line-up at the school on the first day of kindergarten registration. The process that will be used to determine acceptance in kindergarten at Royal Oak School is a lottery rather than first-come first-serve. The lottery will be held on February 15, 2012. Parents are asked to register their child(ren) for kindergarten anytime between January 16, 2012 and February 14, 2012 to be eligible for inclusion in the lottery. Please note that kindergarten registration is ongoing throughout the spring and students who register after February 14, 2012 will be placed on a wait list based on the date of registration.
- 3. How will the lottery take place?** Each kindergarten registration will be given a number when it is received at the school. The school council chair for Royal Oak School, under the supervision of the school principal, will randomly draw numbers to assign priority for acceptance in kindergarten at Royal Oak School. Each number that is drawn will correspond to a kindergarten registration. The order in which the numbers are drawn will be recorded and each kindergarten registration will be matched with the numbers that are drawn to determine placement on the priority list. The principal and the school council chair will not know the names of students while the draw is occurring. Parents will be notified of acceptance in the kindergarten program or placement on the wait list by the end of February.
- 4. Will all 100 spaces available for kindergarten next year be filled by students who have a sibling at either Royal Oak School or Simon Fraser School?** It is anticipated that there will be approximately 60 spaces available in the lottery for kindergarten students. There were 133 students registered in the kindergarten program at Royal Oak School on September 30, 2011. There were 49 who had a sibling at Royal Oak School (37%) and 3 who only had a sibling Simon Fraser School (2%).



5. **Why not bus all students from Rocky Ridge to Belvedere Parkway School and only allow students living in Royal Oak to attend Royal Oak School?** The communities of Rocky Ridge and Royal Oak have been combined by the CBE for ranking new school construction and accommodation students for many years. Since Royal Oak School opened both communities have been included in the boundary for the school. Keeping the 2 communities together was supported in the majority of feedback received during this process.
6. **Why is “closest to the school” not one of the priorities for acceptance in kindergarten?** As noted in question #5 above, both Rocky Ridge and Royal Oak will continue to be designated to Royal Oak School. Using “closest to the school” as a criteria for establishing priority would effectively exclude Rocky Ridge students from attending the school as all students living in Rocky Ridge are outside the walk zone for the school.
7. **Will children who are overflowed to Belvedere Parkway School ever have an opportunity to attend Royal Oak School? Will a wait list of students be kept? How will families be notified?** It is anticipated that there will be opportunities for students at Belvedere Parkway School to be called back to Royal Oak School because families may move out of the community throughout each school year. A priority wait list of students will be maintained at Royal Oak School. In order to minimize disruption for students, families who are on the wait list will be notified by June 15th of each year if there will be space available at Royal Oak School for the coming year. Because there may be further changes over the summer months, families may also be notified up to September 15th of each year if the opportunity to transfer to Royal Oak School becomes available. If a family on the wait list is offered a placement at Royal Oak School and chooses not to take the spot(s), they will be placed at the bottom of the wait list.
8. **Can I choose to transfer my child(ren) from Royal Oak School to Belvedere Parkway School if I want to?** Yes, families wishing to transfer their child(ren) to Belvedere Parkway School are able to do so. Please contact Royal Oak School to initiate the transfer process. To assist in planning for the next school year, we ask that families planning transfer to Belvedere Parkway School contact the principal of Royal Oak School by February 14, 2012.
9. **Can I go directly to Belvedere Parkway School to register my child(ren)?** Students can be registered directly at Belvedere Parkway School. If you register your child directly at Belvedere Parkway School, you will need to contact Royal Oak School if you want your child(ren) placed on the wait list. Students registered directly at Belvedere Parkway School will not automatically be placed on the wait list for recall to Royal Oak School when space becomes available.