



Calgary Board of Education

FACILITIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL PLANNING

711 – 2nd Avenue N.E., Calgary, AB, T2E 7W8 Telephone: (403)294-8726 Fax: (403) 777-8769

November 3, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians;

Re: Area V Student Accommodation Plan

The Area V office, in collaboration with the Department of Community Engagement and Operational Planning, has been working to address a number of student accommodation issues in Area V. A proposed accommodation plan was developed involving three Area V schools: Deer Run, Haultain Memorial and Queensland Downs. On September 14, 2009 the proposed accommodation plan was presented to a focus group comprised of principals and two parent representatives from the affected schools. The plan was then presented at school council meetings at each school where feedback and questions were gathered. On October 5, 2009, a modified world café was held involving 10 representatives from each school to gain a better understanding of the plan and its potential impact on the school communities, and to gather additional feedback about the plan. Calgary Board of Education administration provided further information about the proposed plan and was available to discuss details and answer questions at an open house on October 26, 2009.

The proposed accommodation plan, student enrolment and projection information as well as community feedback about the plan can be viewed on the CBE web site at:
<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/Schools/ceop/pp09-10/dhq.asp>.

After considering community feedback about the proposed plan that was received throughout the community engagement process (from school council meetings, the focus groups and world café, the open house as well as by e-mail and through the online feedback forms) CBE administration will bring forward to the Board of Trustees a recommendation to consider the closure of Queensland Downs School, which can only be authorized by the Board. The administrative recommendation will be presented to the Board of Trustees on or about December 1, 2009.

The administrative recommendation can be summarized as follows:

- Designate kindergarten to grade 6 students residing in the residential districts of Deer Run and Deer Ridge (including Deer River, Meadowbrook Apartments and Sun Creek Coach Homes) to Deer Run School.
- Designate kindergarten to grade 6 students residing in the residential districts of Queensland and Diamond Cove to Haultain Memorial School.

The rationale for the Administrative Recommendation is:

- Haultain Memorial School is centrally located within the Queensland and Diamond Cove residential districts
- Proposed attendance areas provide balanced and sustainable catchment areas for Deer Run School and Haultain Memorial School
- Maintains existing learning continuum for K-GR12
- The proposed attendance areas for Deer Run School and Haultain Memorial School take community infrastructure into consideration
- Provides an opportunity for students residing in Queensland to have a larger peer group from their residential district

Should the Board of Trustees agree to proceed with the consideration of closure of this school, the regulatory process would begin. That process would include additional opportunities for stakeholder input to the Board before they make their final decision.

We would like to acknowledge the participation and input of interested stakeholders throughout this community engagement process. In particular we wish to express our appreciation to the members of the focus group for their time, effort and assistance. The feedback received will be provided to the Board of Trustees with the administrative recommendation.

If you have questions concerning this letter please feel free to contact your school or the Area V office at 777-8780, extension "0".

Sincerely,



Jane Rogerson
Director, Area V



Phil Carlton
Director, Community Engagement and
Operational Planning

Pc: Marlene Ray, Principal, Deer Run School
Trevor Barkley, Principal, Haultain Memorial School
Jean Hugill, Principal, Queensland Downs School