


Dalhousie Community Student Accommodation

Focus Group Meeting
September 22, 2009



Calgary Board of Education



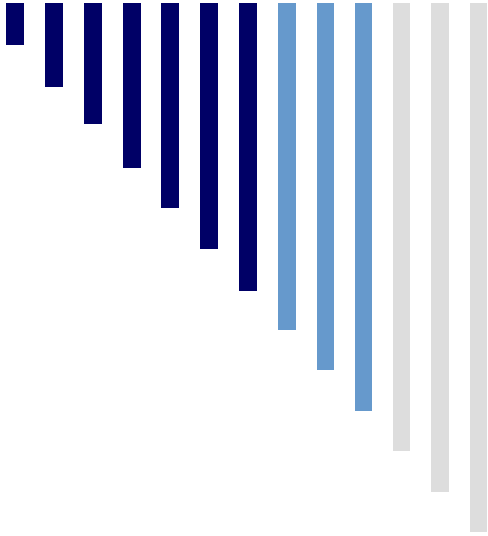
Welcome

- Who's here from the CBE?
 - School principals
 - David Dyck, Dalhousie School
 - Gordon Choate, West Dalhousie School
 - Area Office
 - Margaret McBride, Director, Area I
 - Flora Altieri, System Principal, Area I
 - Community Engagement & Operational Planning (CEOP)
 - Angie Schulz, System Assistant Principal
 - Nicole Genereux, Planning Analyst
 - Darcia Pullan, Secretary
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Agenda

- Introduction
 - Purpose of this meeting
 - Issue
 - Parameters
 - Values
 - Community Engagement
 - What is Public Participation
 - Decision Making
 - Level of Engagement
 - Student Accommodation
 - Current Status
 - Community Information
 - School Information
 - Student Accommodation Proposal
 - Next Steps
 - Proposed Community Engagement Process
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Introduction





Purpose of this meeting

- ❑ To seek common ground and identify shared values
 - ❑ To develop an understanding of the issues
 - ❑ To present the student accommodation plan and the community engagement plan
 - ❑ To provide information to focus group members to take back to their schools/communities.
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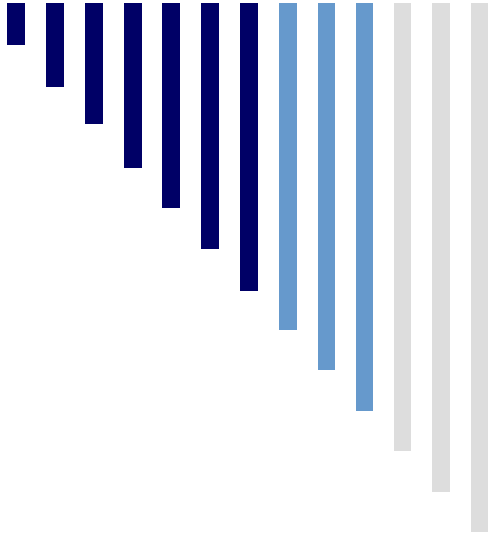
Issue

- The Dalhousie community does not have enough regular program students to support programs at both Dalhousie School and West Dalhousie School.
 - Because of low enrolment numbers, all kindergarten and grade 1 students are designated to West Dalhousie School for the 2009-2010 school year.
 - When three or more grades are moved or redirected a closure process is required. This will be the case at Dalhousie School in 2011 if no changes are made.
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Parameters

- Sustainable kindergarten to grade 6 regular programming for the Dalhousie community.
 - Effective use of space and resources.
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Values



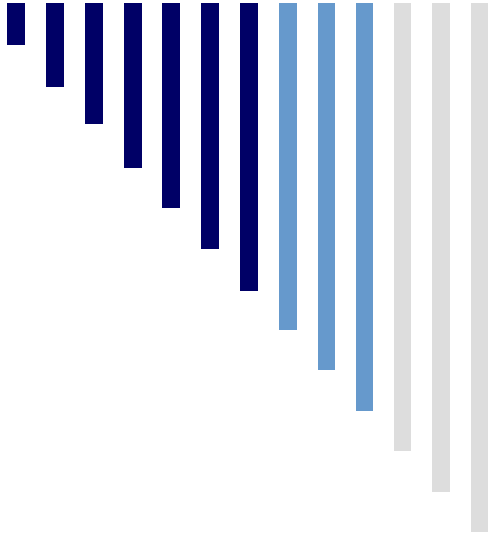


Values

- CBE Values

1. Students come first.
2. Learning is our central purpose.
3. Public education serves the common good.

- Public Participation Values



Community Engagement





What is Public Participation?

- **P2:** any process that involves the public in problem-solving or decision-making (or developing recommendations) & that uses public input to make better decisions
 - **IAP2's Public Participation Spectrum** assists in identifying the level of participation & in defining the goal that will drive the engagement process
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IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum

Developed by the International Association for Public Participation

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT

INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:	Public Participation Goal:
To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.
Promise to the Public:	Promise to the Public:	Promise to the Public:	Promise to the Public:	Promise to the Public:
We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for direct advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.
Example Techniques to Consider:	Example Techniques to Consider:	Example Techniques to Consider:	Example Techniques to Consider:	Example Techniques to Consider:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fact sheets ● Web sites ● Open houses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Public comment ● Focus groups ● Surveys ● Public meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Workshops ● Deliberate polling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Citizen Advisory Committees ● Consensus-building ● Participatory decision-making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Citizen juries ● Ballots ● Delegated decisions



Why do Public Participation?

- Effective P2 facilitates understanding
 - Effective P2 improves decisions
 - Effective P2 acknowledges the desire of the public to participate in decisions which affect them
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Why do Public Participation?

- Creates a channel through which accurate & timely information can be disseminated
 - Helps increase understanding & support for the organization's goals
 - Encourages appropriate modification of policies & procedures
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Public Participation at the CBE

- Involvement in a student accommodation project involves a series of increasingly broad meetings to provide information and gather feedback from impacted stakeholders
 - Meetings may include:
 - Focus groups
 - Focused Conversation/World Cafe
 - Open House
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The role of a parent representative

- Commitment to attend 3-5 meetings
 - Provide information to the greater school community
 - To gather feedback
 - To be open to other voices and perspectives
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Level of Engagement: **Consult**

Goal

- To obtain public feedback on the student accommodation proposal, the implementation of the proposal and the proposed administrative recommendation.

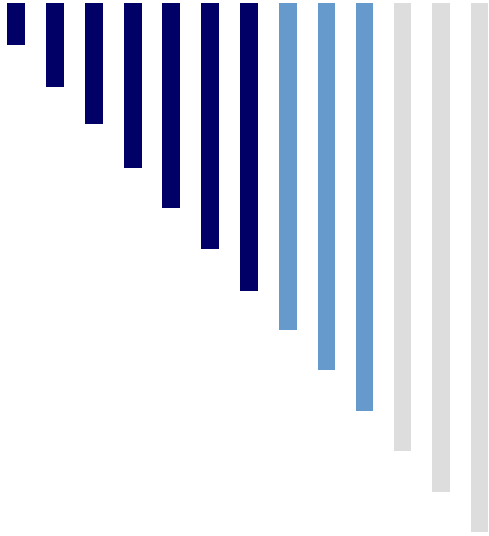
Promise

- We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public feedback was incorporated into the student accommodation proposal, the implementation of the proposal and the proposed administrative recommendation.
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Decision Making

- Any decisions regarding attendance area changes will be made by the Area Director in conjunction with the Director of Community Engagement and Operational Planning.
 - Any decisions regarding consideration of closure will be made by the Board of Trustees upon a recommendation from administration.
 - Any decisions regarding the implementation of student accommodation plans resulting from attendance area changes or closures of programs and/or schools will be made by the Area Director and the Director of Community Engagement and Operational Planning.
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Student Accommodation





Current Status

□ **West Dalhousie School**

■ Regular program

- Kindergarten to grade 6 students residing in the Dalhousie community west of 53rd Street N.W..
 - Kindergarten and grade 1 students residing in the Dalhousie community east of 53rd Street N.W. (2009-2010 school year).
 - Kindergarten to grade 6 students residing in Sherwood and Nolan Hill.
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Current Status

□ Dalhousie School

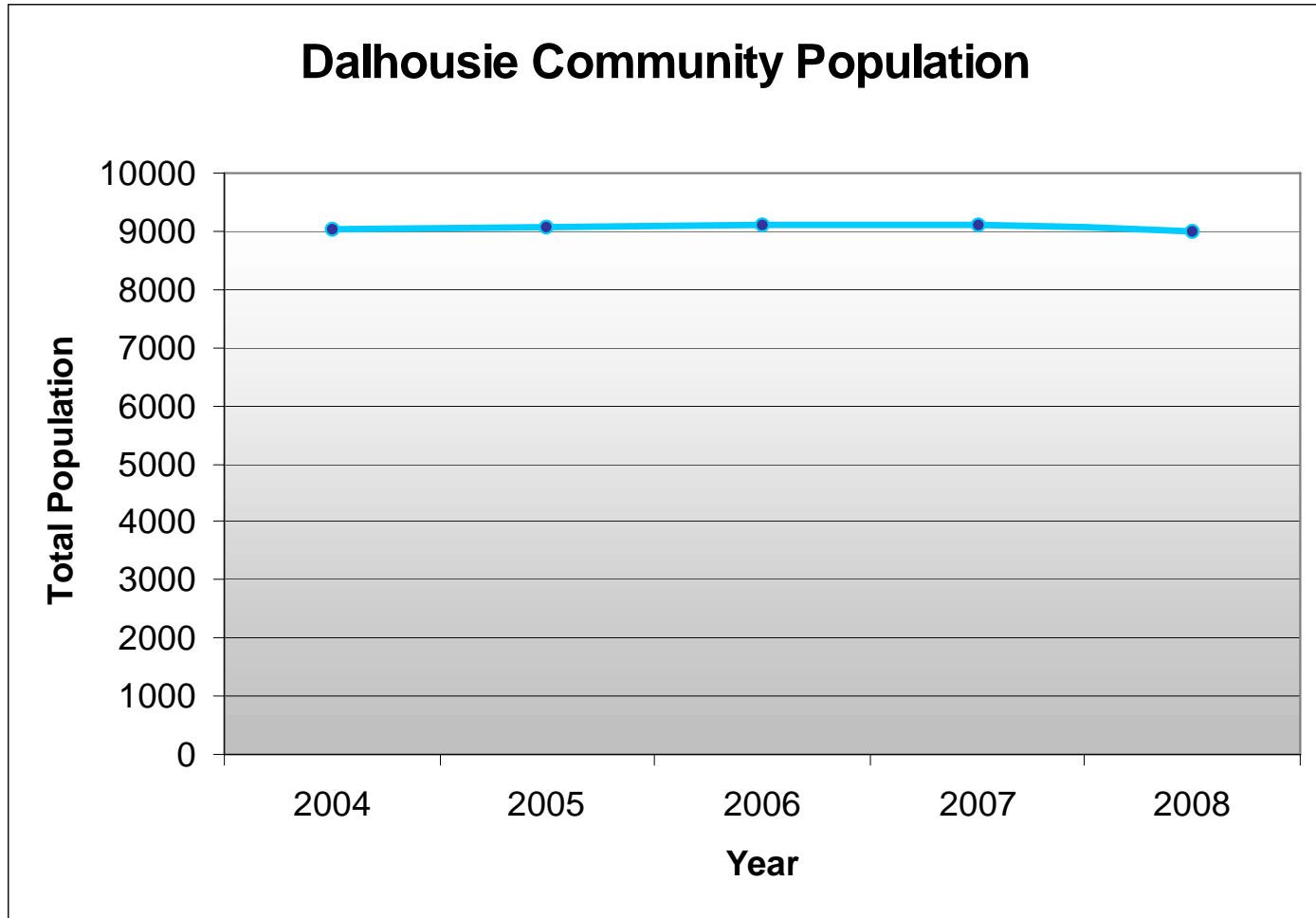
■ Regular Program

- Grade 2 to grade 6 regular program students residing in the Dalhousie community east of 53rd Street N.W.
 - Kindergarten and grade 1 students residing east of 53rd Street N.W. have been designated to West Dalhousie School for the 2009-2010 school year due to low enrolment numbers.

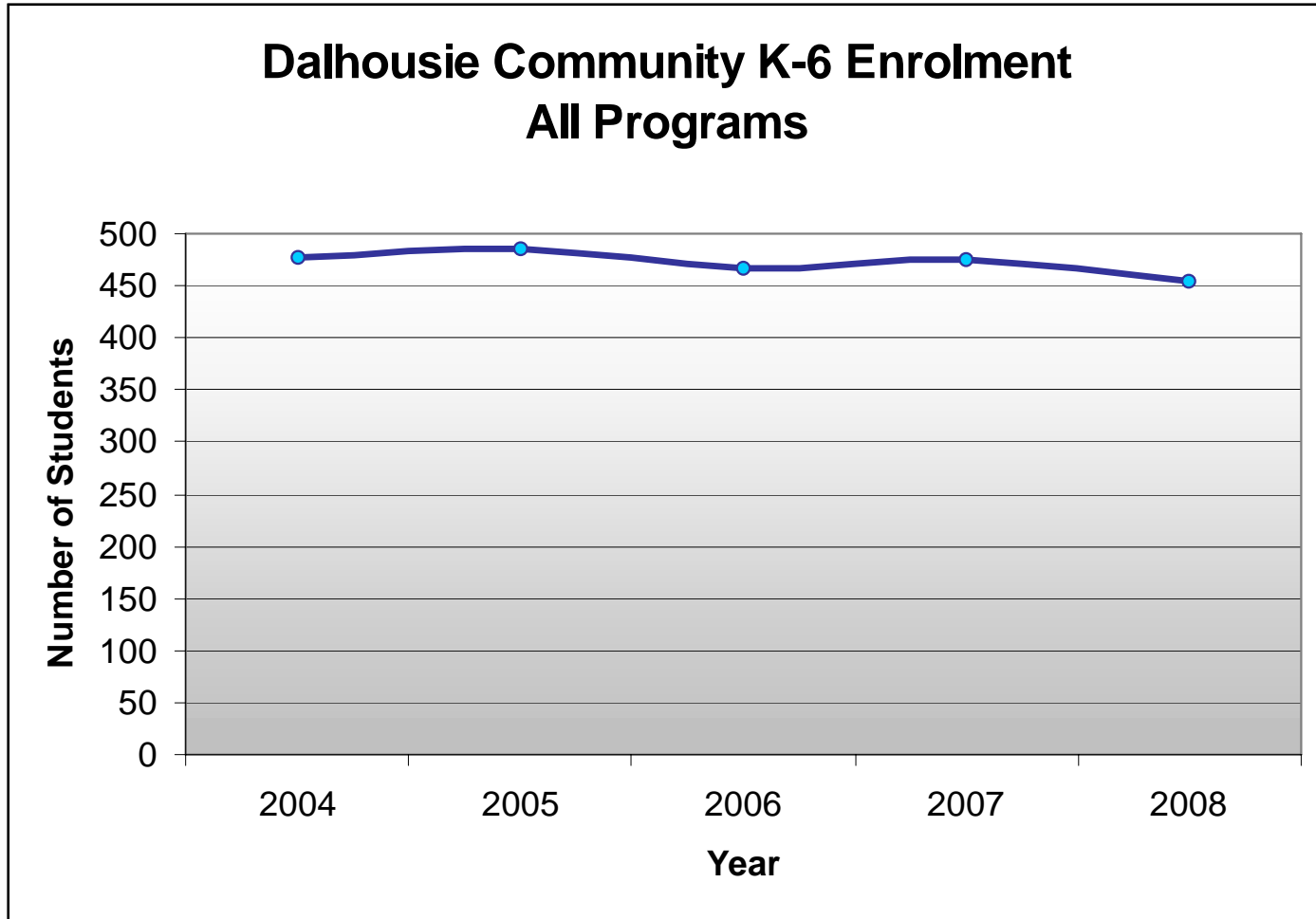
■ Spanish Bilingual Program

- Kindergarten to grade 4 students residing in Area I
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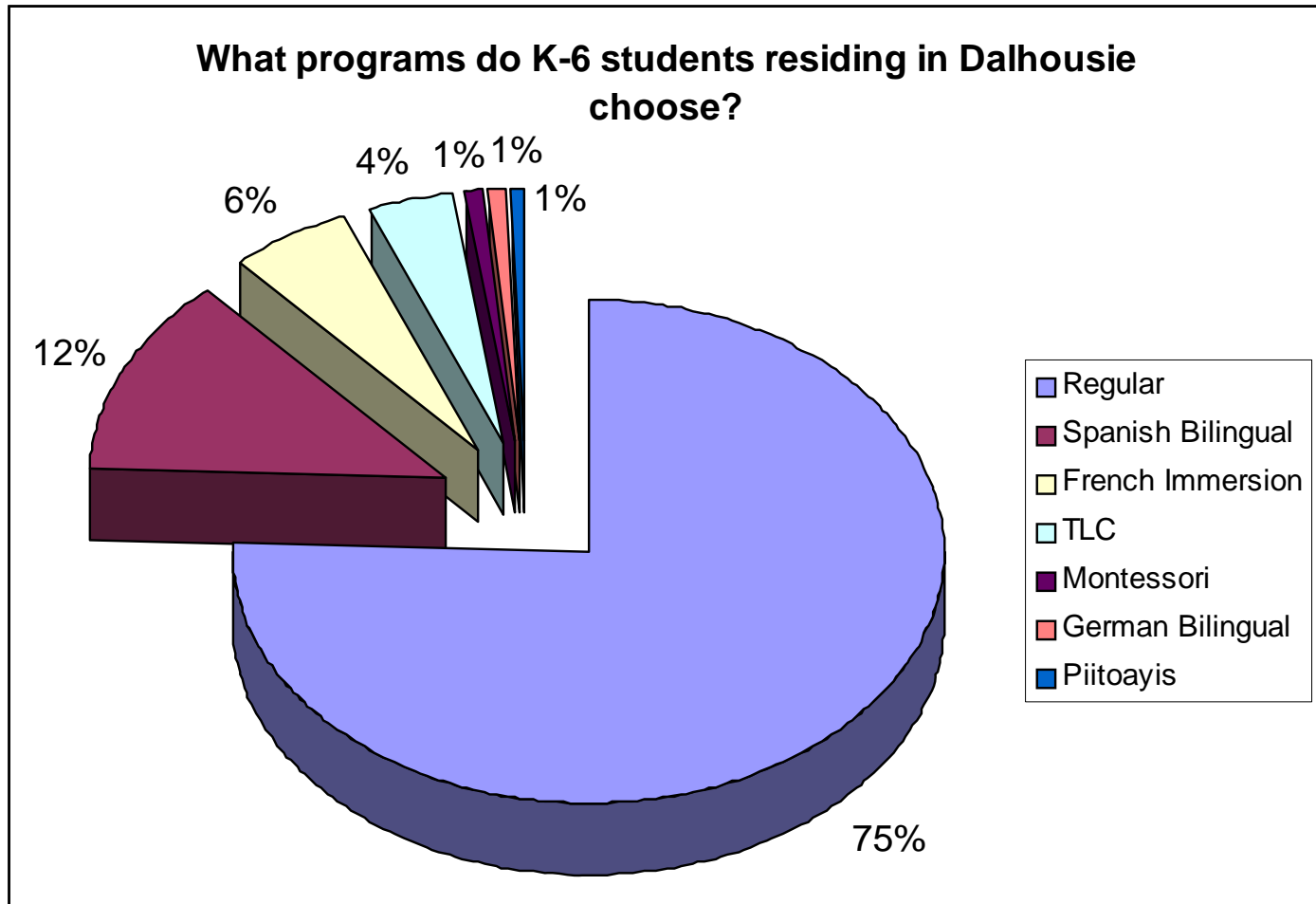
Community Population



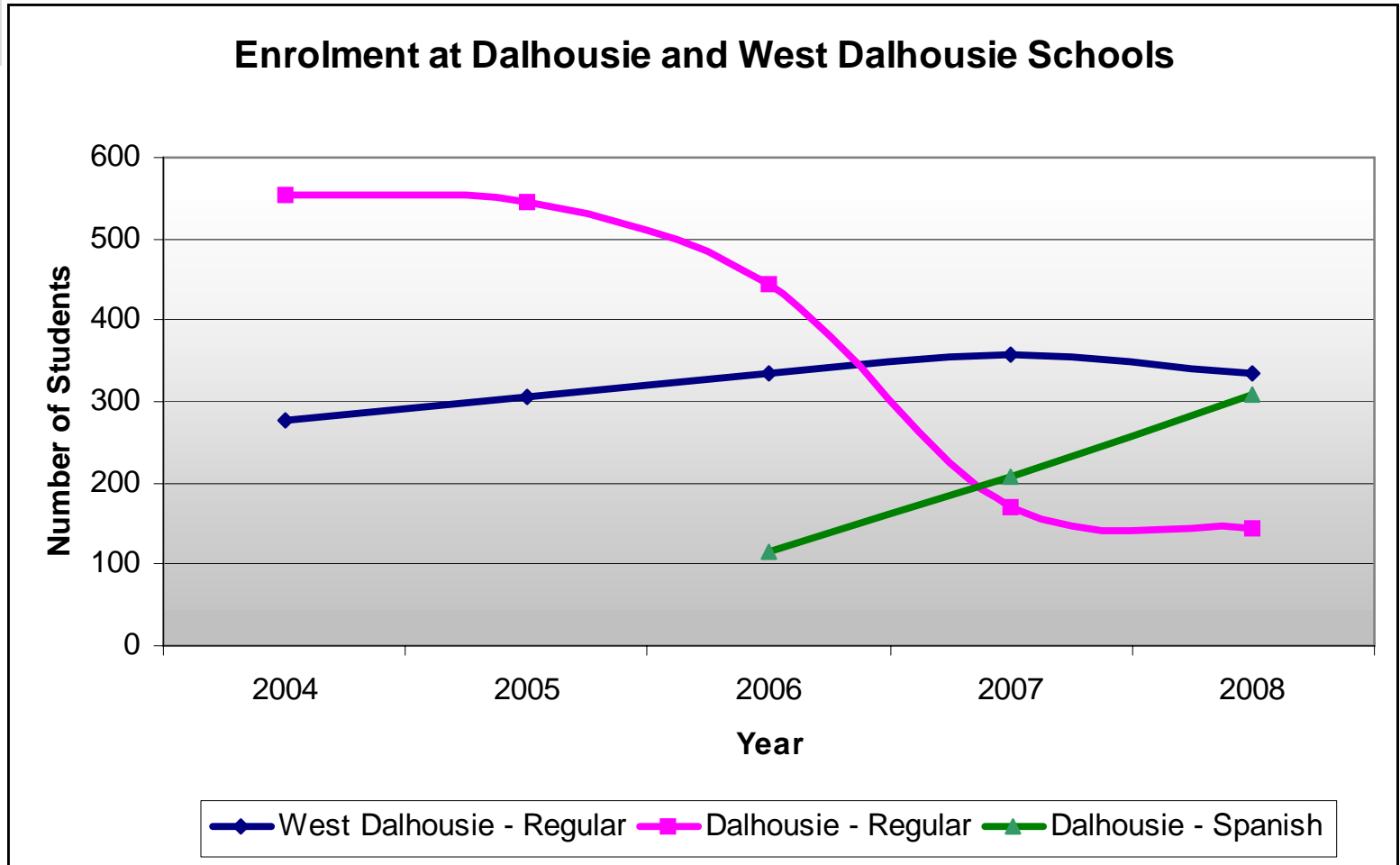
Community Enrolment



Community Program Choices



School Information





2008 Enrolment Dalhousie School

Instructional space available: 600

Enrolment as at September 30, 2008

	K	GR1	GR2	GR3	GR4	GR5	GR6	Total
Dalhousie		14	13	25	30	29	28	139
Other Regular		1	0	1	0	0	3	5
Sub-Total Regular	0	15	13	26	30	29	31	144
Spanish Bilingual	105	92	54	57				308
Total	105	107	67	83	30	29	31	452



2008 Enrolment West Dalhousie School

Instructional space available: 375

Enrolment as of September 30, 2008

	K	GR1	GR2	GR3	GR4	GR5	GR6	Total
Dalhousie	26	24	25	23	23	25	24	170
Sherwood	12	11	4	13	8	18	11	77
Other	4	6	19	12	15	16	16	88
Total	42	41	48	48	46	59	51	335



Student Accommodation Proposal

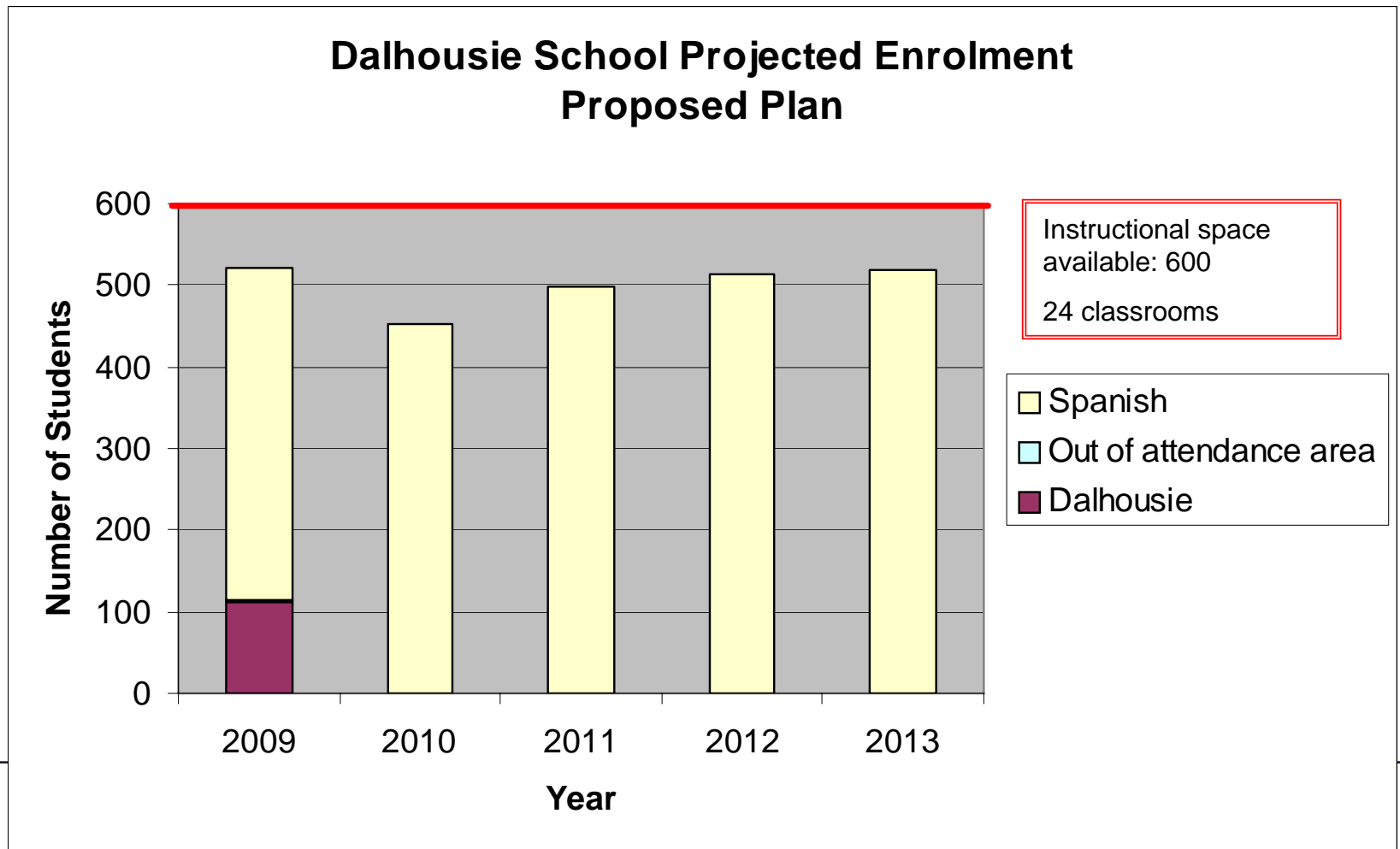
- Designate all kindergarten to grade 6 regular program students residing in Dalhousie to West Dalhousie School.

 - *Recommend consideration of closure of the regular program at Dalhousie School:*
 1. *Kindergarten to grade 6 effective June 30, 2010 or,*
 2. *Staged closure, kindergarten to grade 4 effective June 30, 2010 and phase out of grades 5 and 6.*

 - Dalhousie School will continue to accommodate kindergarten to grade 4 Spanish Bilingual program students residing in Area I.
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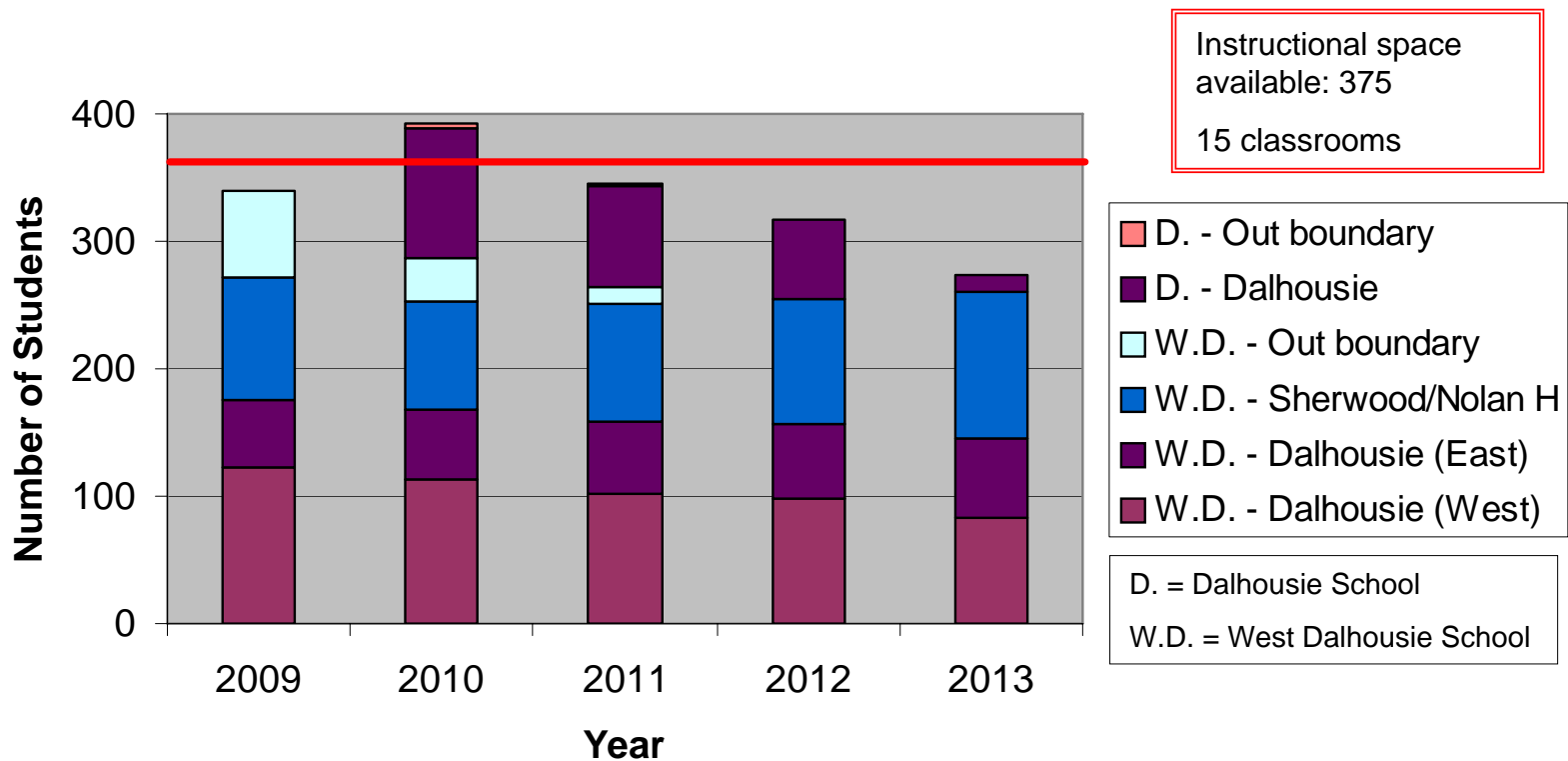
Implementation Scenario 1

Dalhousie School



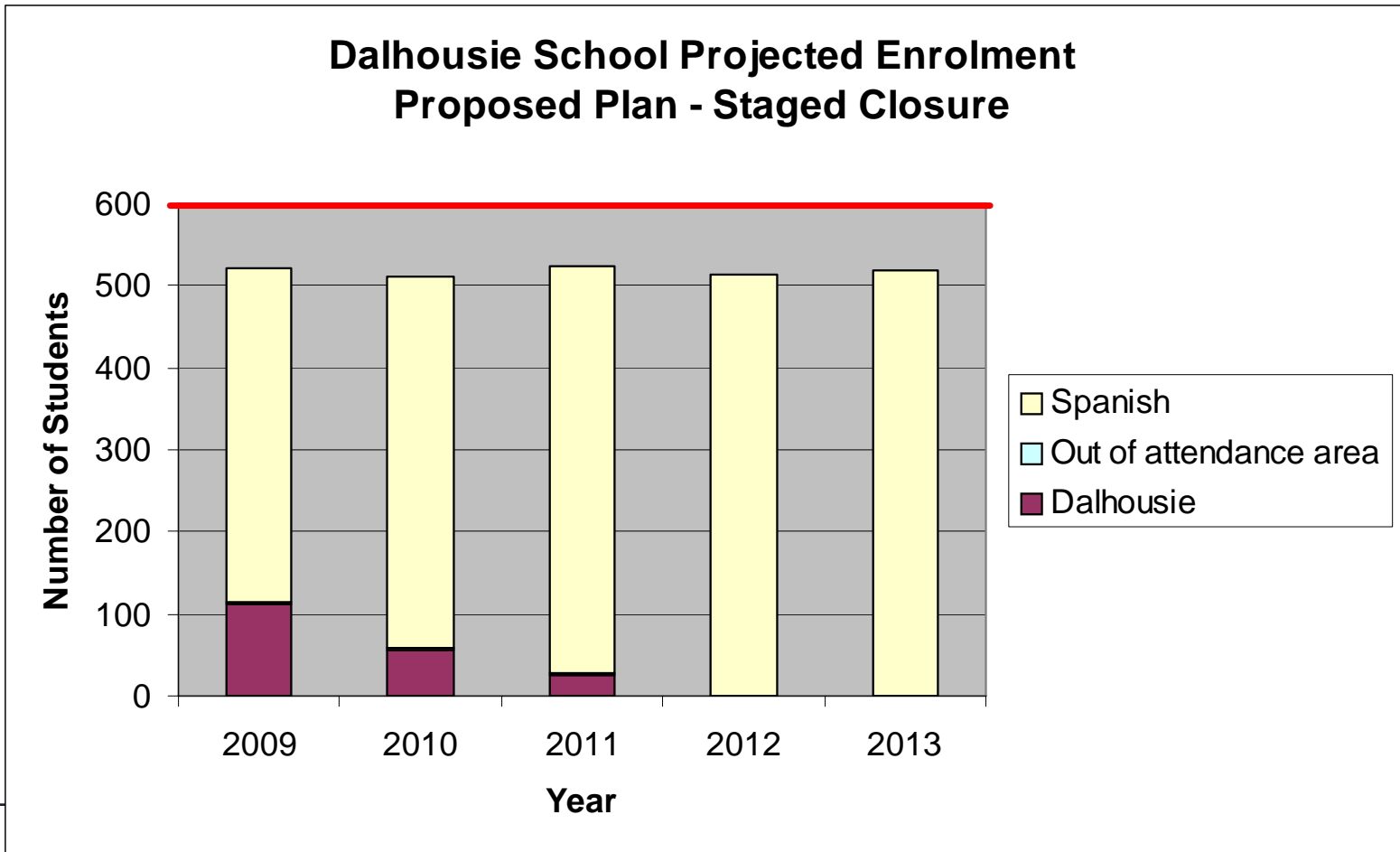
Implementation Scenario 1 West Dalhousie School

**West Dalhousie School Projected Enrolment
Proposed Plan**



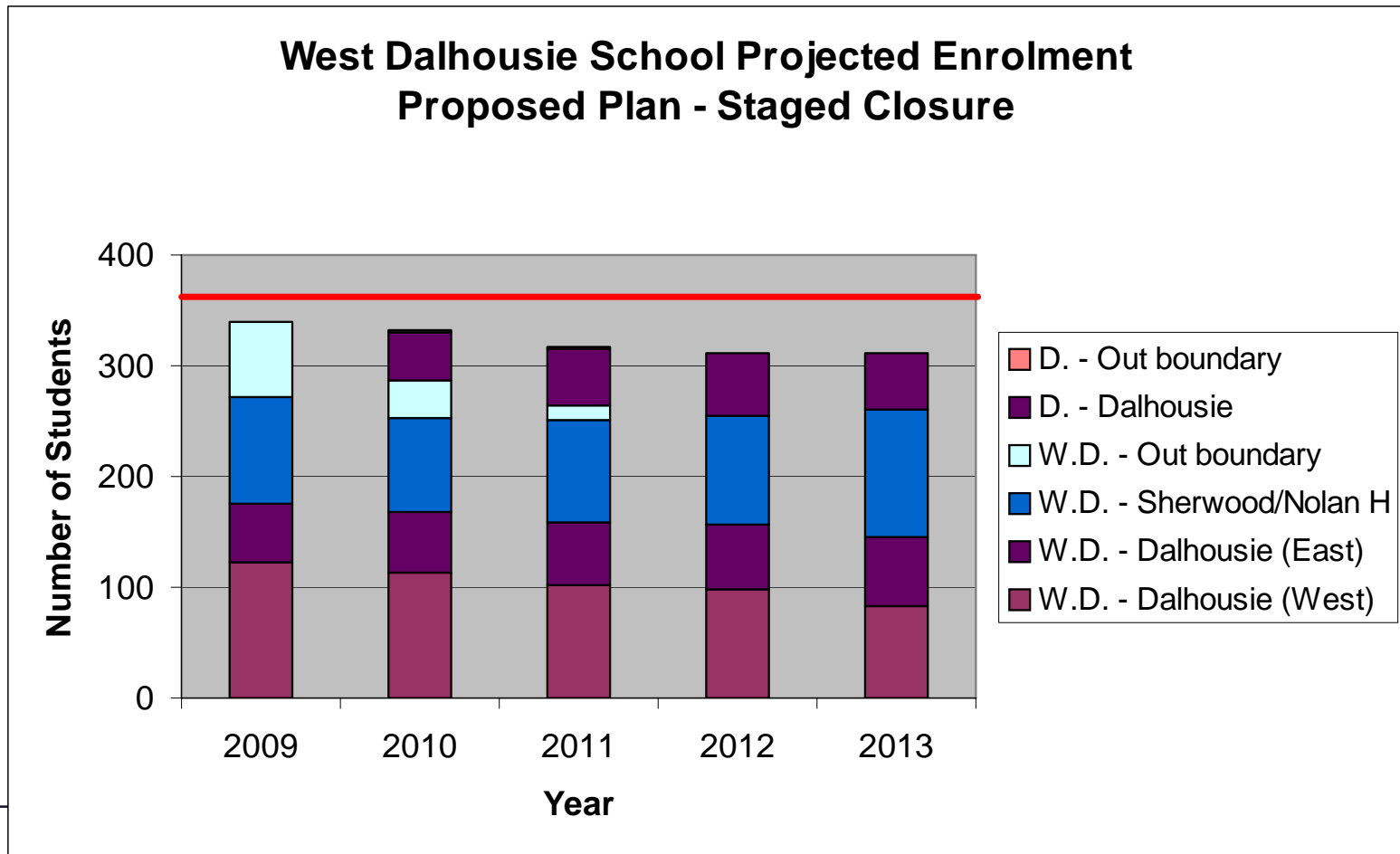
Implementation Scenario 2

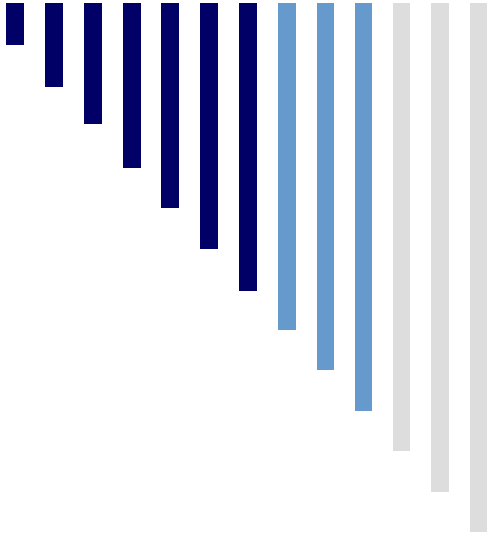
Dalhousie School



Implementation Scenario 2

West Dalhousie School





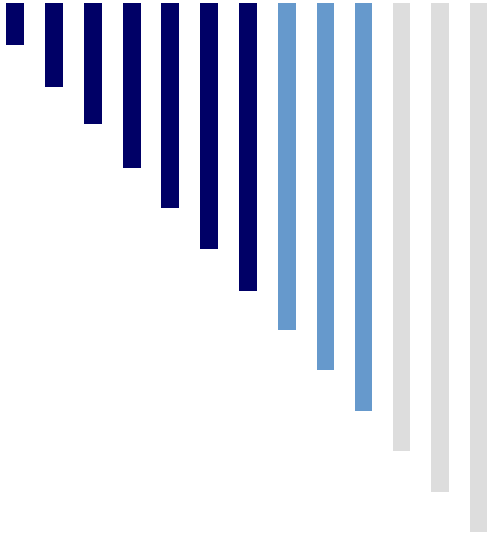
Next Steps





Next Steps

- Community Engagement Process
 - Handout
 - Focus Group meetings
 - School Council meetings
 - Open House
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Thank You

www.cbe.ab.ca

*Parents > Community Engagement > Student Accommodation Planning Process > Projects
YourVoice*
