

## **Questions from Parents**

**(Submitted after Public Meeting held on Thursday, January 7, 2010)**

- 1. I am confused about the walk zones and I don't understand why Diamond Cove would be considered out of the walk zone for Queensland Downs School if Haultain Memorial School was recommended for closure, even though it is in the walk zone for Queensland Downs School now?**

Currently Queensland Downs School and Haultain Memorial School share the same attendance area. Because of this shared attendance area, Queensland Downs School and Haultain Memorial School also currently share one walk zone enabling students the opportunity to attend a school within walking distance of their residence. This walk zone is larger than it would be if there were only one school in the attendance area.

If one of the schools in the attendance area were to close, the walk zone to the other school would be reduced accordingly. For example, if Haultain Memorial School were closed the walk zone for Queensland Downs School would be adjusted and we would anticipate that a portion of Diamond Cove and Queensland would be outside of the walk zone because they would no longer have the option to attend a school within walking distance of their residence.

- 2. Why was the fact that there are six portable classrooms located at Deer Run School never mentioned during the entire CEOP process?**

Enrolment and capacity information (including the number of portables and relocatables at each school) was shared at the Open House on October 26, 2009 and is currently available on the CBE website.

The capacity of Deer Run School could be reduced by removing some or all of the portable units attached to the school. Administration did not pursue this option because it does not address the need to reduce plant operation and maintenance costs given the fact that there would still be three underutilized schools and six new schools opening in Calgary this fall.

There are two vacant school sites (one in Deer Run and one in Deer Ridge) that have been returned to the City of Calgary. The City of Calgary is currently undergoing a community consultation process to address re-zoning of these sites. The possibility exists that a housing development could have an impact on Deer Run School. At this time we are unsure of what, if any, impact this will have on enrolment at Deer Run School and as a result are not planning to remove portables from the school.

**3. How many routes are set up for busing the Deer Ridge students? Adding more buses will add to the congestion in the community.**

We anticipate that one morning/afternoon bus route and one mid day bus would be required to transport Deer Ridge and Deer Run students to Deer Run School.

**4. Who has approached the CBE for the building and land that Queensland Downs school sits on? What are we getting to replace Queensland Downs School?**

Schools are situated on either reserve or non-reserve sites. If a school is on a non-reserve site it means the CBE can, if they have no other future plans for the school, declare it surplus to need and sell the school building. If the school is on a reserve site and the CBE declares it surplus to need it reverts to the City of Calgary and/or Alberta Education. Queensland Downs School is on a reserve site. At this time the CBE has no future plans to use the school for CBE educational purposes; so it would be declared surplus to need and provided to the City of Calgary or Alberta Education. To date neither the City of Calgary nor Alberta Education has approached the CBE regarding the future use of the school. Should the Board of Trustees support administration's recommendation to consider the closure of Queensland Downs School and all programs contained therein, administration would follow our process to meet the requirement to declare the site surplus to need.