



February 2, 2016

Dear W.H. Cushing Workplace School Parents/Guardians:

Re: Next steps for the closure of W.H. Cushing Workplace School

As you are aware, the current lease for the W.H. Cushing Workplace School expires on July 31, 2016 and no further lease extensions or renewals are available due to the building redevelopment and TELUS's own need for space. Despite best efforts, the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) has been unable to secure a suitable school location in the downtown core to relocate the school.

In September 2015 we informed you that CBE Administration was recommending to the Board of Trustees that necessary steps be taken to effect the closure of the school effective June 30, 2016. Given the unique circumstances, the Board of Trustees asked the Minister of Education for an exemption to formal closure process. The Minister has granted the exemption.

At the February 9, 2016 public Board of Trustees meeting the Board will discuss and confirm proceeding with the closure of W.H. Cushing Workplace School. Parents are invited to attend the meeting that will begin at noon at the Education Centre –1221-8 Street S.W. or to stream the meeting online at <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/about-us/board-of-trustees/Pages/Board-Meetings.aspx>.

The Board of Trustees has a procedure in place to allow for public comment at their meetings. If you wish to address the Board at the February 9 meeting, please refer to the following that outlines the process to apply to speak at the meeting. A maximum of five presenters are allowed at each meeting and each presenter will be allowed a maximum of three minutes to speak. More information about the process to provide a public comment can be found on our website: <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/GovernancePolicies/Board-Meeting-Procedures-with-Public-Comment-Excerpt.pdf>.

Starting in the 2016-17 school year, students currently attending W.H. Cushing Workplace School will be redirected to their designated school. Parents may also consider an alternative program. More information can be found on our website: <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/programs/program-options/Pages/default.aspx>

Please note that some alternative programs have a lottery. Please be aware of the lottery draws for the 2016-17 school year:

- **Non-language-based programs** | Wednesday, February 10, 2016. All registrations for the lottery must be submitted to the designated school by 12:00 noon on Tuesday, February 9 2016.
- **Language-based programs** | March 1.

More information about lotteries can be found on our website:
<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/registration/registration/Pages/Lottery-Information-for-Parents.aspx>

We want to reassure parents that all students will have a school to attend next year. We are committed to continuing to keep you informed about the next steps in the process and will provide another communication after the February 9 meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact the Area IV Office at 403-777-8750 ext. 0.

Sincerely,



Calvin Davies
Director, Area IV



Carrie Edwards
Director, Planning & Transportation

Ec Superintendents' Team
Principal

