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September 23, 2025

Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides  
Minister of Education and Childcare  
228 Legislature Building  
10800 – 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Nicolaides,

The Calgary Board of Education (CBE) is seeking Ministerial approval to increase the school capacities of four (4) schools that were approved for Design Funding on March 14, 2025. These are Sage Hill elementary school (ES), Nolan Hill ES, Sherwood/Nolan Hill middle school (MS), and Aspen Woods MS.

As per the March 14, 2025 provincial announcement, the schools referenced above were approved with the following capacities and grade configurations, based on the CBE’s Three-Year School Capital Plan 2025-2028:

- **Sage Hill ES** – Grade Configuration: K-4, Capacity: 590 students
- **Nolan Hill ES** - Grade Configuration: K-4, Capacity: 590 students
- **Sherwood/Nolan Hill MS** - Grade Configuration: 5-9, Capacity: 885 students
- **Aspen Woods MS** - Grade Configuration: 5-9, Capacity: 885 students

The CBE is continuing to experience record enrolment growth that has led to an internal review of both future school capacities and the ability to add future modular classrooms to ensure a flexible and resilient school portfolio.

As part of the analysis conducted in support of the CBE’s 2026-2029 Three-Year School Capital Plan, additional information was provided to allow future modular capacity to be added to a core facility to account for ongoing City densification and unanticipated enrolment spikes. This practice was adopted based on key learnings from the submission of previous Modular Classroom Programs (MCP) where the addition of modulars to existing schools has caused stresses upon common areas such as corridors, washrooms and learning commons.

Moreover, the adoption of the Public Private Partnership (P3) procurement model places additional constraints on modular additions. Specifically, section 14.1.1 of the [School Capital Manual for the 2024/25 school year](#) states that modular classrooms cannot be requested as part of the MCP for P3 schools that have achieved their full build-out capacity. As a result, this highlights the importance of incorporating future modular capacity at the design and construction stage of a new school.

The CBE has carefully reviewed projections for the communities of Sage Hill, Nolan Hill, Sherwood and Aspen Woods and determined that while projections show that in the near-to-short term (i.e. within 10 years of opening) standard school capacity sizes should be able to accommodate future students, there is very little flexibility to accommodate additional students. Based on an opening date of 2029 and a 2034 enrolment projection, Sage Hill ES would be utilized at approximately 95-100%, Nolan

Hill ES at approximately 98-100%, Sherwood/Nolan Hill MS at 95%, and Aspen Woods MS at 88%. These utilization rates are all above the targeted 85% utilization rate and leave no flexibility to accommodate future students if the CBE continues to experience record enrolment growth, if the City of Calgary grows its jurisdictional boundary and the CBE is required to accommodate students from new and developing communities, or if future densification continues to occur within communities in close proximity to the four schools.

Therefore, in alignment with the 2026-2029 Three-Year School Capital Plan - New School Capital Project Request procedure and table format, and for the reasons outlined above, the CBE is requesting the revised school capacities and grade configurations for the four schools:

**Table 1: New School Capacities Including Request for Future Modular Capacity**

School	Grades	Opening Permanent Capacity	Opening Modular Capacity	Total Opening Capacity	Future Modular Capacity	Total Future School Capacity
<b>Sage Hill ES</b>	K-5	590		590	150	740
<b>Nolan Hill ES</b>	K-4	590		590	150	740
<b>Sherwood/Nolan Hill MS</b>	5-9	885		885	150	1035
<b>Aspen Woods MS</b>	6-9	885		885	150	1035

On September 23, 2025, the CBE Board of Trustees passed the following motions:

- THAT the Board of Trustees approves a request for “future modular capacity” of four schools approved for design funding on March 14, 2025, in the communities of Sage Hill, Nolan Hill, Sherwood and Aspen Woods; and
- THAT the Board authorizes the Chair to correspond with the Minister of Education and Childcare pertaining to this change request, as provided in Attachment I to this report.

In alignment with the above, the CBE hereby requests Ministerial approval to increase the capacity of the future elementary and middle schools as outlined in Table 1 of this letter.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia Bolger, Chair  
Board of Trustees

c.c. Joanne Pitman, Chief Superintendent of Schools  
Dany Breton, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services



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Minister Nicolaidis:

In accordance with Section 195 of the *Education Act*, the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) hereby provides notification of the move of six (6) modular units between CBE schools. These modular relocations were funded by a CBE Capital Reserve Fund allocation to address projected enrolment growth.

The modular relocations completed by CBE are as follows:

- Relocation of four (4) modulars from Somerset School to Prairie Sky School
- Relocation of two (2) modulars from Banting & Best School to Connaught School

The relocation of existing modulars to Connaught School and Prairie Sky School was included in the CBE 2024-25 Modular Classroom Program submission but did not receive approval. As the need was deemed a high priority, the Board of Trustees opted to approve the use of capital reserve funds to proceed with their relocations. The modular moves were completed in August 2025.

Regards,

Patricia Bolger, Board Chair  
CBE Board of Trustees

c.c. Joanne Pitman, Chief Superintendent of Schools  
Dany Breton, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services