



Feb. 14, 2017

Decision Regarding Junior High School for Students in the Woodbine Community

Dear Parents/Guardians,

After thorough review and feedback received from parents, students, staff and community members January 2016 to January 2017, we have made a decision about where Woodbine students will attend junior high school.

In January, you had the opportunity to provide feedback on two options under consideration for students in your community. Consideration of that feedback and other important factors led us to decide that:

- Students from Woodbine will be designated to John Ware School for Grades 7-9 instead of Woodman School.

This decision was made to address concerns with the potential for overcrowding at John Ware School with having both Woodbine and Woodlands communities designated there. The decision allows for a strong regular program in the community as well as keeps students closer to home and cohorts together. The decision also reflects feedback to designate each school to a community rather than having a lottery option. More details of what we heard from the community and how this plan responds to that feedback is detailed in the attached [chart](#).

We believe this plan provides the best use of learning space for our students, schools and communities as a whole. It also balances our values and planning principles with what we heard from our students, staff, parents and community.

We know you may have questions about implementing this plan, and we are providing answers to the most frequently asked questions here.

Thank you to everyone who participated at in-person sessions, open houses and through online surveys throughout the engagement process. Your thoughtful contributions have made a meaningful difference in decision-making.

How will changes be phased in?

Woodbine students entering Grade 9 next year can remain at Woodman School, if they choose. Woodbine students in other grades will move to John Ware School next year.

How will students get to school?

School walk zones and attendance areas can be found using the CBE's [Find a School](#) tool. As part of the CBE transportation strategy announced in June 2016, more middle school routes are being moved to Calgary Transit when possible. Some John Ware students will continue to use Calgary Transit to get to and from school, and others may be added. Visit [Busing & Transportation](#) for more information.

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Thông báo quan trọng. xin quý vị vui lòng hãy tìm người phiên dịch văn kiện này.

ਜਰੂਰੀ ਸੂਚਨਾ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੇ ਲਈ ਕਿਸੇ ਤੋਂ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰਵਾ ਲਵੋ

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जरूरी सूचना। किरपा करके इसे अपने लिए किसी से अनुवाद करवा लें।

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중요한 공지: 다른 사람이 이것을 당신을 위해 번역하게 해 주십시오.

Важное замечание: Пожалуйста, попросите кого-то чтобы Вам это перевел.

ملاحظة هامة: الرجاء ترجمة هذه المعلومات.

Will students need to register at the new school location?

Students attending the regular program at their designated school are automatically enrolled at the new school location. All other students will need to register (new to CBE) or request a transfer from their current school.

Will teachers and other staff at the school be changing?

In cases where students enrolled in a regular program move from one school to another, staff movement will depend on requirements at the current and new school locations as well as individual career choices.

What support will families and students receive during the transition?

Each school may provide support in different ways, such as hosting an information session, offering a school tour or other means of communication. Your school will advise of these opportunities once they are determined.

When a student with complex learning needs moves from one school to another, the supports required to fulfill the IPP requirements move with them. Teachers and staff at the former and new school will collaborate to ensure the student's needs are met.

What about bell times, school calendars, transfer of resources and fundraising dollars, and other decisions?

School administration will communicate with staff, students and parents on implementing processes that work best for the CBE and the school community. CBE Administrative Regulations and other requirements and efficiencies will also be considered in these decisions. Check your school website and newsletter regularly for updates.

What if I have more questions?

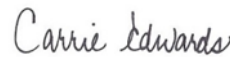
We have posted an [implementation FAQ](#) and other information on our website. If you have a question that is not answered here or on our website, contact the school's principal. If you still have questions, please contact the Area V office at AreaV@cbe.ab.ca or 403-777-8780.

This is a time of excitement and, understandably, some apprehension as well. We look forward to working with staff, students and parents to help make a smooth transition.

Sincerely,



Sydney Smith
Director, Area V



Carrie Edwards
Director, Planning and Transportation



Decision: Woodlands students to Harold Panabaker School, Woodbine students to John Ware School

Current:	Key factors and what we heard	Response related to key factors and what we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Woodlands and Woodbine students currently attend Woodman School for junior high school 	Attending school close to home is important	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both Harold Panabaker School and John Ware School are closer to home than Woodman School.
	Concerns about increased distance and time on bus and potential to increase overall carbon footprint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Driving and walking distance would be greater for Woodbine students to Harold Panabaker than for Woodlands students.
	Providing a variety of options and extra-curricular activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases the student population at both John Ware School and Harold Panabaker School. Greater opportunity for growth of the regular and Mandarin programs at Harold Panabaker, with smaller Woodlands student population compared to Woodbine.
	Keeping groups of students together as they move schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern from many parents regarding the uncertainty created through an option area and lottery process at John Ware School and/or Harold Panabaker School. Woodlands School students move together to Harold Panabaker School. Woodbine School students move together to John Ware School. Students who are entering Grade 9 at Woodman School in 2017-18 can remain at the school if they choose.
	Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong learning programs are provided at both schools