



Feb. 14, 2017

Important Changes to Student Population at John Ware School

Dear Parents/Guardians,

After thorough review and feedback received from parents, students, staff and community members January 2016 to January 2017, we have decided to make the following changes to the student population at the school:

- Woodbine students are added to current school population

In January, you received a message from the CBE about the proposed plan and had an opportunity to provide feedback on two options for junior high attendance for students in Woodlands and Woodbine. Consideration of that feedback and other important factors led us to decide that the student population at John Ware School for 2017-18 and beyond would include:

- Home Area 7-9
- Woodbine 7-9

This decision was made to address the fact that the school is under capacity. 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, unless they apply to stay at Woodman as an out-of-boundary student. If accepted as an out-of-boundary student, students will be responsible for their own transportation unless they are able to apply as conditional riders.

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

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

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

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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.

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?

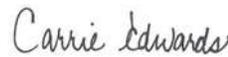
We have posted an [implementation FAQ](#) and other information on our website. If you have a question that is not answered here or on our website, contact the school's principal. If you still have questions, please contact the Area V office at AreaV@cbe.ab.ca or 403-777-8780.

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: Home Area 7-9, Woodbine 7-9

Woodbine students are added to school

Current:	Key factors and what we heard	Response related to key factors and what we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programming: Regular program 7-9 	Concern about potential overcrowding at school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adding Woodbine students only (instead of Woodbine and Woodlands) means school will not be overcrowded
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enrolment: Home Area = 260 Other = 98 Total = 358 	Keep students close to home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> John Ware School is closer for Woodbine students than Woodman School
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available instructional space: 565 	Concern about increased distance and time on bus and potential to increase overall carbon footprint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shorter travel time for Woodbine students
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue: Under capacity 	Provide a variety of options and extracurricular activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases to student population allows for broader scope of programming
	Keep groups of students together as they move schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keeps Woodbine students together for junior high school
	Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains a strong regular program in the community