



Feb. 14, 2017

Important Changes to Student Population at Simon Fraser 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:

- MacEwan/Sandstone* 7-9 students will attend Sir John A. Macdonald School
- Evanston 5-9 students will be added to current school population

This means that next year, the student population will include:

- Home Area 7-9, Evanston 5-9

This decision was made to address the fact that the school is under capacity as it was impacted by the opening of William D. Pratt School. The decision provides space for Evanston Grade 5 and 6 students, which reflects feedback from the Evanston community regarding fewer transitions for their students. In accommodating Evanston students, there is not enough space for MacEwan/Sandstone students as well; these students will move to Sir John A. Macdonald School. 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?

MacEwan/Sandstone students entering Grade 9 next year can remain at Simon Fraser School, if they choose, and will continue to be eligible for yellow school bus transportation to Simon Fraser School.

For MacEwan/Sandstone students currently in Grade 7 who wish to remain at Simon Fraser School as an out-of-boundary student, please contact the principal.

If accepted as an out-of-boundary student, you may apply for conditional ridership. Conditional ridership is not guaranteed and is dependent upon whether there is an existing bus stop and space available on the bus. Written approval is required and may take until mid-October to obtain. Families must have alternate transportation arrangements in place until approval is received, and in case the application is not approved.

Yellow school bus transportation from MacEwan/Sandstone to Simon Fraser School will end June 2018.

How will students get to school?

School walk zones and attendance areas can be found using the CBE's [Find a School](#)

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Avis Important: Veuillez s'il vous plaît demander à quelqu'un de traduire ce document pour vous.

重要通知: 请找人为您翻译这篇文件。

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

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

Aviso Importante: Por Favor entregar a alguien para traducirla para usted.

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

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

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tool. Students designated to Simon Fraser School who live beyond the walk zone are eligible for yellow school bus transportation. As part of the CBE transportation strategy announced in June 2016, more middle school routes are being moved to Calgary Transit (CT) when possible, so this may change in the future.

As part of the June 2016 CBE transportation strategy to move Grade 6-9 students to CT when possible, students designated to Sir John A. Macdonald School use CT and other personal means to travel to and from school. CT determines the number of buses and the routes based on ridership and available resources. Some communities have dedicated routes. Visit the [Calgary Transit website](#) 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.

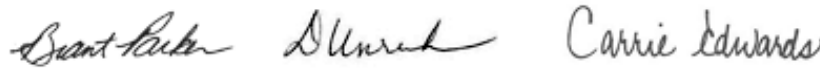
What about bell times, school calendars, transfer of resources and fundraising dollars, and other decisions?

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](#) on our website. If you have still have a question not answered there, contact the school's principal. If you still have questions, please contact the Area I office at AreaI@cbe.ab.ca or 403-777-8710.

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,

Brant Parker
Director, Area I

Darlene Unruh
Director, Area II

Carrie Edwards
Director, Planning and Transportation



Decision: Home Area 7-9 and Evanston 5-9

MacEwan/Sandstone 7-9 students move to Sir John A. Macdonald School and Evanston 5-9 students added

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 ▪ Enrolment: Home Area = 112 MacEwan/Sandstone = 155 Rocky Ridge/Royal Oak = 74 Other = 38 Total = 379 ▪ Available instructional space: 690 Issue: Impacted by opening William D. Pratt School – under capacity 	<p>Keep students close to home</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintains regular program in the community ▪ Moves Evanston students closer to their community 5-9
	<p>Concerns about increased distance and time on bus and potential to increase overall carbon footprint</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimizes travel time to school ▪ Minimizes the need for bus transportation by transporting Evanston 5-9 students to one school rather than one for 5-6 and another for 7-9
	<p>Minimize number of moves students make</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evanston community now has two schools for K-9, Kenneth D. Taylor School and Simon Fraser School ▪ One less transition for Evanston community students
	<p>Keeping groups of students together</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Allows Evanston students to go to school together for 5-9
	<p>Sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Robust regular program at the school