Calgary Board of Education

Schools Impacted by New School Openings - Area I

April 13, 2016

Public Engagement Feedback

A Public Engagement session was held at Simon Fraser School on April 13, 2016, to provide information on schools impacted by new school openings and to collect feedback on the opportunities for using additional space in schools to best meet the learning needs of students, families, and the community. Approximately 50 people attended this engagement and were asked to provide feedback on opportunities developed in collaboration with principals.

General Comments:

- Give parents option to apply to other schools if the change doesn't mean their child's learning needs.
- Need for temporary/frequent communication on school builds.
- Other plans for Tuscany (K-4) in terms of contingency plan (very full @ Tuscany)

Parents have significant issues around before and after school care at Tuscany school. Very difficult with current start and end times for parents to coordinate either drop off or pick up. An in school before /after care would help so many families that go to Tuscany School. Best case operational hours early @ 730 – 5PM would work.

Language and Non-Language Alternative Programs:

- Have Spanish programs in new schools like Eric Harvey! Instead of bussing to W.O Mitchell
- More opportunities for accelerated learning programs & mental health challenges.
- More specialized learning Arts Technology in NW.
- Simon Fraser as a dual track middle school housing community program and alternative science program or TLC (TLC – so kids could feed from Brentwood to here rather than leave the community).
- Any consideration for the NSA program being a part of this specific school?
- Is there any way to gauge actual interest in Alt. program? i.e. waiting lists as well as interest surveys.
- Interested (agree) in a science (agree for middle school) alternative program in NW YYC.
- TLC (agree)middle school option for S. Fraser from Brentwood elementary TLC

Other Opportunities:

For parents in the walk zone, availability of out of school care in older schools may be driving school decisions. As an example, there are lots of school options in Brentwood – Spanish, French immersion, TLC, regular/???. However, OSC for Collingwood is extremely capacity limited, TLC doesn't have OSC for kindergarten, Banff Trail doesn't provide OSC for kindergarten and Captain John Palliser's program is extremely capacity limited. However, as an older community, Brentwood doesn't have daycares or other licensed childcare facilities willing to

provide OSC for half-day kindergarten. Once children enter a program for K, changing schools & programs for grade one becomes less appealing. I like the option of increasing the program offerings, but if there are not OSC options available within the community at the program entry point, it will be difficult to keep walk-zone kids within their home communities.

- Have heard from parents that transportation and OSC may be key issues.
- Declining enrollment at John Palliser may impact viability of OSC.
- BUT before & after school care should not take priority (space) over regular K-12 classroom space. It should not take up space at a school to the detriment of K-12 classroom space.
- BUT there will be extra space in Tuscany School!

Unique Setting:

- Please continue to provide staffing support to schools/teachers with high #'s of ELL's....throughout the city. Continue to provide support for students with literary needs beyond the norm.
- Move programs closer to where students live
- Will there be any additional "gate" program. Gate North for Grade 5 is at full capacity.
- Open a Gate program at Simon Fraser

Community Schools:

- Could the pressure of being bursting at the seams at Simon Valley be alleviated by grade 6's or 5's & 6's coming to Simon Fraser?
- Re-assess school designation for Sandstone closer to our community which will alleviate transportation (bussing) issues.
- Great to see schools opening in new communities
- Issues on Hamptons school (K4-5) designated to C.J.P
- Expand the boundary at Dr.Coffin to include 33st NW as far South as Bearspaw Dr.
- Still need more neighborhood schools, would alleviate some of the student transportation issues.
- How will teacher/student ration be affected by opening of new school?
- Will SF be able to maintain programs such as Band, French, ECL supports, IPP supports given drastic drop in population.
- Change the boundary for Kincora so our children can stay with their peers from Simon Valley when they transition to Junior High (Simon Fraser).
- Designate Kincora community to Simon Fraser
 - Look at feeder schools and keeping the elementary students together (agreed) and in addition, Kincora students were pulled from their cohort at Cambrian in 2012. Knowing the importance of continued peer collaboration it is difficult to explain yet another separation to students.
 - Before & after school programs for (agree)Tuscany School & Eric Harvie School
 - Would like to see Tuscany School hours to stay the same as current (agree) times.

Early Learning:

- Full day kindergarten
- Viability of family literacy programs in of the schools space to fill.
- Does CBE have family programs?
- EDCs in the NW corner would be beneficial reported by some parents in dialogue.
 - Will there be enrollment impacts on Sir Winston Churchhill?
 - Would like to see before & after school care at Tuscany School.
 Would be awesome to have this commence as soon as EHS opens.