

Shaping the Future of CBE High Schools - Decision Overview



Since 2019, we have been working on a sustainable plan that balances enrolment across CBE high schools and gives students access, flexibility and choice in programming.

The decision is to implement the proposed plan presented June 1, 2021with no changes. The decisions we have made balance enrolment in a way that provides the most positive impact for students across our system.

Below are the details of the long-term system-wide plan for high schools that reflects what we have heard overall, and considers CBE values and planning principles, available space and resources, and financial sustainability. Implementation of changes will begin in 2022-23, where possible.

Regular Program

• See details by school on pages 2-4.

French Immersion

- Three locations will be maintained Dr. E.P. Scarlett, Western Canada and William Aberhart.
- Students previously attending Lester B. Pearson for French Immersion will attend Western Canada.

Spanish Bilingual

• The program will be offered at Crescent Heights.

French International Baccalaureate Programme

It will continue at Western Canada at this time (see IB Programme information below).

International Baccalaureate Programme

- The IB Programme will remain at the five current locations at this time: Henry Wise Wood, John G. Diefenbaker, Lester B. Pearson, Sir Winston Churchill and Western Canada.
- The introduction of a new high school transfer process and changes to IB Programme requirements require more time for evaluation and assessment before a long-term decision can be made for IB and French IB
- The programme will be assessed over the next few years based on several criteria, including a minimum cohort size of 60 students per grade. Decisions about the five IB programmes and the French IB Programme will be communicated no later than January 2024 for implementation in September 2025.

See page 5 for utilization information and page 6 for information on how this decision aligns with CBE planning principles.

The decision provides quality learning opportunities that allow students to meet the requirements to complete high school. It does this in three key ways.



Provides a more equitable learning experience for all high school students.



Maintains a regular program at every high school.



Allows for alternative programs and academic enrichment when criteria are met.

Decision-Making Considerations

The decision is informed by the following:

- CBE values and planning principles
- Available space and resources
- Financial sustainability
- Input and feedback from students, staff, parents and community members

Opportunities for Input and Feedback

People were invited to share their perspectives at multiple points in the process:

Spring 2019 | How People Prefer to Participate Fall 2019 | Ways to Balance Enrolment March 2021 | Two Possible Scenarios June 2021 | Proposed Plan

You can review the information and feedback that has been provided on the high school engagement webpage.

cbe.ab.ca/highschoolengagement

School Details

School	Current	Decision	Rationale
Bowness High School	Regular Program	Regular Program - Coach Hill, Cougar Ridge, Haskayne (new community) and Patterson added	 Haskayne is close to the school. Communities are as close or closer to Bowness. Reflects feedback from the communities of Coach Hill, Cougar Ridge and Patterson. If public transportation meeting CBE guidelines is not available by 2022, yellow bus service with applicable fees will be provided. Enrolment will continue to be monitored for additional program opportunities such as intake of international students and system classes.
Centennial High School	Regular Program	Regular Program - Walden added	Students attend school closer to home.
Central Memorial School	Regular Program	 Regular Program Interim decision maintained for Discovery Ridge, Glenbrook, Glendale, Killarney/Glengarry, Richmond West, Rosscarrock, Shaganappi West, Spruce Cliff, Westgate and Wildwood Altadore (NE), Richmond (NE) and Shaganappi (east) added Ogden and Riverbend redesignated to Henry Wise Wood High School 	 Redesignated communities are furthest from Ernest Manning. Central Memorial is one of the closest schools to these communities. Ogden and Riverbend - students attend school closer to home. Altadore (NE), Shaganappi (east), Richmond (NE) - students from each community will now attend the same high school together; currently, students within each community attend different high schools.
Crescent Heights High School	Regular Program	Regular Program Chinatown and Eau Claire added Country Hills Village, Coventry Hills and Hidden Valley redesignated to the new north high school upon opening* Spanish Bilingual Program - all CBE designated communities	 Students in Chinatown and Eau Claire are close to Crescent Heights High School. Students in Country Hills Village, Coventry Hills and Hidden Valley attend school closer to home. Students in the Spanish Bilingual Program continue to have a K-12 continuum and will attend a larger program consolidated at one school that is central with good transit access.
Dr. E.P. Scarlett High School	Regular Program French Immersion Program Spanish Bilingual Program	Regular Program Walden redesignated to Centennial High School Woodlands/Woodbine option area redesignated to Henry Wise Wood High School French Immersion Program - no change Spanish Bilingual Program - all CBE designated communities redesignated to Crescent Heights High School	 Students in Walden will attend school closer to home. Woodlands/Woodbine designated to the next closest school with space and designated to same school instead of split through an option boundary. Students in the Spanish Bilingual Program continue to have a K-12 continuum and will attend a larger program consolidated at one school that is central with good transit access.
Ernest Manning High School	Regular Program	Regular Program Interim decision maintained for Discovery Ridge, Glenbrook, Glendale, Killarney/Glengarry, Richmond West, Rosscarrock, Shaganappi West, Spruce Cliff, Westgate and Wildwood Coach Hill, Cougar Ridge and Patterson redesignated to Bowness High School	 Redesignated communities are furthest from Ernest Manning. Central Memorial and Bowness high schools are the next closest schools to these communities. Reflects feedback from the communities of Coach Hill, Cougar Ridge and Patterson.
Forest Lawn High School	Regular Program	Regular Program Belvedere (new community) added Redstone and Skyview Ranch redesignated to James Fowler High School	 Redesignations reduce enrolment and utilization at the school. Redesignated northeast communities are furthest from Forest Lawn High School. Forest Lawn High School is close to the new community of Belvedere.

^{*}This decision assumes the new north high school will open in 2024. There is a possibility the school could open in 2023, in which case redesignations would occur in 2023.

Reflecting Changes at Each School

School	Current	Decision	Rationale
Henry Wise Wood High School	Regular Program IB	Regular Program - Bel-Aire, Manchester, Mayfair, Meadowlark Park, Ogden, Riverbend, Windsor Park, Woodlands/Woodbine added IB - Bel-Aire, Manchester, Mayfair, Meadowlark Park, Ogden, Riverbend and Windsor Park added	 Most redesignated students attend school closer to home; some will be in the walk zone. Woodlands/Woodbine designated to the next closest school with space and designated to same school instead of split through an option boundary. Enrolment in IB will be capped to ensure the school stays within an appropriate utilization range.
Jack James High School	Knowledge and Employability	Knowledge and Employment Program - no change	 Possibility of campus model with Forest Lawn High School in the future.
James Fowler High School	Regular Program Arts-Centred Learning Program	Regular Program Interim decision maintained for Castleridge, Coral Springs and Falconridge Cornerstone, Redstone and Skyview Ranch added Country Hills (north) redesignated to the new north high school upon opening* Evanston, Kincora and Sage Hill redesignated to John G. Diefenbaker High School upon opening of the new north high school* Arts-Centred Learning Program - discontinued	 Students in Country Hills, Evanston, Kincora and Sage Hill attend school closer to home. Castleridge, Coral Springs and Falconridge designated to James Fowler High School before Nelson Mandela High School opened, creating familiarity and relationships. If public transportation meeting CBE guidelines is not available by 2022, yellow bus service with applicable fees will be provided for Cornerstone, Redstone and Skyview Ranch. Projected enrolment in ACL is low; additional space needed for regular program.
Joane Cardinal-Schubert High School	Regular Program	Regular Program Interim decision maintained for Douglasdale/glen, McKenzie Lake and McKenzie Towne New Brighton redesignated to Lord Beaverbrook High School in 2025	 Redesignated communities are the furthest from Joane Cardinal-Schubert High School; Lord Beaverbrook High School is the next closest high school. There is space for New Brighton at Joane Cardinal-Schubert High School until September 2025, at which time they will be redesignated to Lord Beaverbrook High School. This allows students to remain as close to home as possible for as long as possible.
John G. Diefenbaker High School	Regular Program	Regular Program Evanston, Kincora, Macewan Glen, Sage Hill and Sandstone Valley added upon opening of the new north high school* Harvest Hills and Panorama Hills redesignated to the new north high school upon opening* B - Banff Trail, Briar Hill/Hounsfield Heights, Capitol Hill (west of 14 St. NW), Charleswood (east of Charleswood Dr.), Collingwood, Hillhurst (west of 14 St. NW), and West Hillhurst (east of Crowchild) redesignated to Sir Winston Churchill High School	 Regular program and IB students will attend school closer to home. Many regular program students will be able to walk to school. Enrolment in IB will be capped to ensure the school stays within an appropriate utilization range.
Lester B. Pearson High School	Regular Program French Immersion Program IB	Regular Program - Cornerstone redesignated to James Fowler High School French Immersion Program - all communities redesignated to Western Canada High School IB - no change	 Small French Immersion cohort is not sustainable. Students will attend larger and more robust program at Western Canada High School. Enrolment in IB will be capped to ensure the school stays within an appropriate utilization range.
Lord Beaverbrook High School	Regular Program Arts-Centred Learning Program	Regular Program Interim decision maintained for Douglasdale/glen, McKenzie Lake and McKenzie Towne New Brighton added in 2025 Arts-Centred Learning Program - discontinued	 Redesignated communities are the furthest from Joane Cardinal-Schubert High School; Lord Beaverbrook High School is the next closest high school. There is space for New Brighton at Joane Cardinal-Schubert High School until September 2025, at which time they will be redesignated to Lord Beaverbrook High School. This allows students to remain as close to home as possible for as long as possible. Projected enrolment in ACL is low; additional space needed for regular program.

^{*}This decision assumes the new north high school will open in 2024. There is a possibility the school could open in 2023, in which case redesignations would occur in 2023.

Reflecting Changes at Each School

School	Current	Decision	Rationale
Nelson Mandela High School	Regular Program	Regular Program - Interim decision maintained for Castleridge, Coral Springs and Falconridge	 Redesignated communities are furthest from Nelson Mandela High School. Castleridge, Coral Springs and Falconridge designated to James Fowler High School before Nelson Mandela High School opened, creating familiarity and relationships.
North High School	Regular Program	Regular Program - Country Hills (north), Country Hills (south), Country Hills Village, Coventry Hills, Harvest Hills, Hidden Valley and Panorama Hills added upon opening*	Students will attend school closer to home.
Queen Elizabeth High School	Regular Program	 Regular Program Macewan Glen and Sandstone Valley redesignated to John G. Diefenbaker High School upon opening of the new north high school* Country Hills (south) redesignated to the new north high school upon opening* 	Students will attend school closer to home.
Robert Thirsk High School	Regular Program	Regular Program - Communities currently designated to the school remain at the school	 Consider additional program opportunities such as intake of international students and system classes.
Sir Winston Churchill High School	Regular Program IB	Regular Program - University and University District redesignated to William Aberhart High School IB - Banff Trail, Briar Hill/Hounsfield Heights, Capitol Hill (west of 14 St.), Charleswood (east of Charleswood Dr.), Collingwood, Hillhurst (west of 14 St.) and West Hillhurst (east of Crowchild) added	 Regular program and IB students will attend school closer to home. Enrolment in IB will be capped to ensure the school stays within an appropriate utilization range.
Western Canada High School	Regular Program French Immersion Program IB French Immersion IB	Regular Program Chinatown and Eau Claire redesignated to Crescent Heights High School Altadore (NE), Richmond (NE) and Shaganappi (east) redesignated to Central Memorial High School Bel-Aire, Manchester, Mayfair, Meadowlark Park, Ogden and Windsor Park redesignated to Henry Wise Wood High School French Immersion Program - all communities from Lester B. Pearson High School French Immersion Program added IB - Bel-Aire, Manchester, Mayfair, Meadowlark Park, Ogden, Riverbend and Windsor Park redesignated to Henry Wise Wood High School French Immersion IB - no change	 Most redesignated students attend school closer to home; some will be in the walk zone. Altadore (NE), Shaganappi (east), Richmond (NE) - students from each community will now attend the same high school together; currently, students within each community attend different high schools. Growth from designated communities is expected to continue. Long term this will mean fewer available spaces for IB and French IB. Enrolment in IB and French IB will be capped to ensure the school stays within an appropriate utilization range.
William Aberhart High School	Regular Program French Immersion Program Spanish Bilingual Program	Regular Program - University and University District added French Immersion Program - no change Spanish Bilingual Program - all CBE designated communities redesignated to Crescent Heights High School	 Regular program students will attend school closer to home. Students in the Spanish Bilingual Program continue to have a K-12 continuum and will attend a larger program consolidated at one school that is central with good transit access.

^{*}This decision assumes the new north high school will open in 2024. There is a possibility the school could open in 2023, in which case redesignations would occur in 2023.

June 30, 2021

Balancing Enrolment at CBE High Schools

15 out of 21 high schools (71 per cent) will be in or near the balanced utilization range. That is more than double the number of schools that would be in this range if we took no action.



Aligning with CBE Planning Principles

The CBE has seven planning principles that guide student accommodation decisions (school designations, movement of student programs etc.). These are outlined in AR1090.

When multiple schools are involved, all seven planning principles cannot be met for every school and each student. Your feedback helped us determine which principles should take priority.

Planning Principle How Addressed in the Decision Allow students to attend school • Over 90 per cent of regular program students are the same distance or closer to school. as close to home as possible • 99 per cent of regular program students who were in the walk zone are still in a walk zone. Regular program students are within the CBE transportation guidelines. Use space and resources The long-term system-wide plan consolidates alternative programs due to limited space and resources into the future. This includes the elimination of the Arts-Centred Learning Program, consolidating the Spanish Bilingual Program from two sites to effectively one site and consolidating the French Immersion Program from four sites to three sites. • In 2019, five out of 20 schools were at 85-100 per cent utilization. Provide long term sustainability By 2029, one additional high school will have opened and 15 out of 21 schools are projected to be in or near the balanced utilization range of 85-100 per cent. In balancing enrolment and consolidating programs, we are able to better fund operation and maintenance of high schools. Provide equitable access for The regular program is maintained in all 21 high schools, providing access for more students to attend school close to home. • The consolidation of programs provides a more equitable learning experience for all high school students. Students can all students to quality learning environments and choice of experience similar class sizes, similar learning opportunities and less overcrowding and limitations on scheduling classes. programs By continuing to provide alternative programs and academic enrichment, students will continue to have choice beyond the regular program. The flexibility (online learning options, personalized student timetables, learning accommodations and other opportunities) currently offered to high school students is maintained. • From a student perspective, about four out of five regular program students continue to attend the same school as currently Minimize disruptions for students designated. • From a community perspective, 74 per cent of communities continue to attend the same school as currently designated. Regular program students attending the school in the 2021-22 can stay to complete their program; this does not apply to siblings at other schools. There will be a transition for students designated to the north high school, specifically Grade 10 students will start in one school and complete Grades 11 and 12 at the north high school. Students enrolled in Arts-Centred Learning in 2021-22 can complete the program at the school where they started. • Students enrolled in the Spanish Bilingual Program in 2021-22 can complete the program at the school where they started if there is a minimum of 25 students/grade enrolled. Starting in September 2022, students who were enrolled in French Immersion at Lester B. Pearson will attend Western Canada for French Immersion or attend their designated school for the regular program. Provide program continuity K-12 continuity has been maintained for the regular program, French Immersion Program and Spanish Bilingual Program. from kindergarten to Grade 12 It will no longer be offered for Arts-Centred Learning. It is not applicable to IB or AP, which are only offered in high school. Keep cohort groups of students Currently there are 16 communities where middle school student cohorts are not designated to the same high school. The together long-term system-wide plan reduces this to nine communities. These nine communities continue to have split high school designations because of physical constraints such as major roadways that divide communities as well as the desire to keep students within the walk zone wherever possible.