

update

Update #2

Date: July 15, 2014

Reviewing the Criteria for School Capital Planning Priorities

The CBE is engaging the public on the ranking the criteria for School Capital Planning Priorities. Over the next four months the public will have several opportunities to provide input and comment on the criteria to be considered when requesting new schools, major modernizations and modular classrooms from the Government of Alberta.

Focus Groups:

On June 16, 2014, a focus group of 9 stakeholders met to discuss and review the feedback from the first focus group. Feedback was divided into two categories:

- Suggestions possible to consider
- Suggestions difficult to consider

From the suggestions that are possible to consider the group prioritized which items they believed were important to consider as we examine our ranking criteria for school capital planning. To see what participants prioritized please refer to this document <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/New/news2013-14/pdfs/capital-planning-process/CBE-School-Capital-Planning-Process-Meeting-June-16-14.pdf>

Suggestions possible to consider:

New Schools:

- New schools to serve two or more communities
- Consider busing – median, vs. average, vs. distance travel time
- Population growth rates
- Currently the CBE uses public school supporters only, use all city preschool census
- Balance immediate needs with future needs
- Eliminate ranges when assigning points – award one point per criteria
- Eliminate the points assigned for an existing k-4 school

Modernizations:

- Ability to upgrade the building
- Combine schools that could meet the programming needs – may need to do only one modernization
- Site features, location and current condition need to be higher ranking than school use
- Disconnect from the programming in the school
- Consider future community and student populations
- Consider changing the category percentages
- Fate of older schools once population moves to a new school
- Use of facility to support other community needs (after hours)

Modular Classrooms:

- Site constraints
- Does it keep the kids in the community and does it solve the problem within the 3-5 year window?
- How many non-classroom spaces are currently being used for fulltime teaching space, i.e. music room and staffroom.

- What is the core capacity to support a modular?
- Use the same points system we use for ranking new schools
- Take some of the modernization factors in to consideration for modular classrooms
- Busing times
- Enrolment figures – principals don't have actual numbers in the spring, usually received in the fall when it's too late.

Suggestions difficult to consider:

Items that are difficult to consider are included in this document with an explanation beside each. <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/New/news2013-14/pdfs/capital-planning-process/Explanations-of-Suggested-but-Difficult-to-Consider-July2014.pdf>

Feedback and supporting documents from the focus group are located on the CBE website at: <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/New/news2013-14/20140515-reviewing-the-criteria-for-school-capital-planning-priorities.asp>

Thoughtstream:

Over the past few weeks Calgarians have been invited to provide their feedback on this issue via the online engagement tool, Thoughtstream. An executive summary of the Thoughtstream and all the details are available at <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/New/news2013-14/20140603-reviewing-the-criteria-for-school-capital-planning-priorities.asp>.

Next Steps:

July-August 2014	Review & Testing criteria suggestions
September 2014	Open House opportunities for additional feedback
October 2014	Recommendation to Board of Trustees