New Schools and Major Modernizations

The following are frequently asked questions received through yourvoice@cbe.ab.ca. We appreciate the opportunity to communicate with you around these projects. Please continue to submit your feedback and questions through yourvoice@cbe.ab.ca, and check back frequently for updates. For clarity, similar questions have been grouped under General. More specific questions are answered by project.

GENERAL

1. When will the schools open? What grades? Will my child get in?
   - The new CBE schools are planned to open in September, 2016.
   - Based on Provincial Government approval, elementary schools are anticipated to provide instruction in grades K – 4; middle schools are anticipated to provide instruction in grades 5 – 9.
   - Grade configurations at the schools will be finalized closer to the opening date of the schools to accommodate as many students in their community school as possible.
   - In the event that the schools are at capacity, registrations will be determined based on the CBE’s established lottery process. Information regarding the lottery process can be found on the CBE website. Registration for all schools begins in January of the year students are to attend school.

2. What size are the classrooms in the new schools?
   - Typical classroom sizes are 80m² and are expected to accommodate 25 students. Classroom sizes for Career and Technology Foundation (CTF) courses vary depending on the CTF courses being offered and are expected to accommodate 20 students per classroom.

3. Will you consider offering French Immersion at the new school?
   - As programming decisions are made for new schools, Administration works with stakeholders in the community where the new school will be opening to determine if there is interest and/or opportunity for incorporation of specialized programming (e.g. French Immersion) in the school. Decisions on whether to offer alternative programming are made by Administration based on level of interest and availability of space.
4. Why is CBE not honouring developer promises of a greenspace by our home?
   o The Municipal Government Act requires 10% of new development area to be designated for amenities: parks; public space; community association sites; and school sites.
   o The developer offers land parcels at the beginning stages of land development. CBE and Calgary Catholic School Board, together with City planning, select from the offered sites in general locations for future schools. Sites are approved by the Provincial Government.

5. Why is there such a lack of community involvement in the plans for the new schools?
   o Current information on all projects is available at cbe.ab.ca.
   o The former P3 schools were already in the Development Permit process when they were inherited from the Province. Arrangements and configurations to the sites had already been determined and vetted through City of Calgary planning for approvals when the projects were received by CBE.
   o Upcoming engagements will be held to allow communities to provide feedback on remaining aspects of the project.

6. How is the location of portables on the school footprint decided?
   o Location of modular classrooms (portables) attached to new school construction is determined through the architectural process during the design of the school.
   o Modulars need to be adjacent to the school and arranged to function with the core school.
   o The addition of modular classrooms to existing schools is determined through the annual CBE Three Year School Capital Plan.

7. What are the plans, if any, to renovate Nickle School?
   o Please view the CBE 2015-2018 Three Year School Capitol Plan in which all requests for new schools, major modernizations, and allocations of modular classrooms (portables) are detailed.
8. Why does CBE not build K-9 schools?
   - Decisions on grade configurations for new elementary and middle schools are based on community populations and projections of students at build out. Building one K-9 school in the community may not be sufficient to accommodate the projected number of students.

9. Are there any plans to build a south High School?
   - Yes, the province announced funding for a southeast high school in October 2014. The CBE plans to build this school in the community of Seton. This new high school will accommodate students from the new and developing communities in southeast Calgary.
   - For detailed information, please view the CBE 2015-2018 Three Year School Capitol Plan.

10. How will the new bus zones be added to the schools?
    - New bus zones will be added in accordance with the location of the school.
    - The City of Calgary has specifications for bus zones and student drop off and pick up. An effort is made to streamline traffic movement in the community wherever possible within the by law restrictions. Adjustments to zoning and traffic may take place.

AUBURN BAY K-4

1. Will there be postings after meetings?
   - Current information on all projects is available at cbe.ab.ca - what’s new? – schools under development.

COPPERFIELD K-4

1. Why is the school on a different site from what the developer indicated?
   - Copperfield is shared by two developers. The developer to the south has not commenced development of the site on which the school was originally intended. In order to address the immediate need for a school in Copperfield, the CBE, the City of Calgary and the Province agreed to relocate the school site.
   - The footprint of the new Copperfield school was altered to better fit the site, considering the constraints created by the move to the new location.
2. How will adjacent properties be safeguarded during recess when homeowners are at work?
   - Students are supervised during morning and lunch recesses and are not permitted to leave the school grounds.
   - Homeowners are responsible for the security of their private property.

**EVERGREEN MIDDLE 5 - 9**

1. Will the new Evergreen school open with Gr. 9?
   - Middle schools typically open up to Grade 8 so that Grade 9 students are able to finish middle school at their current location.

**MCKENZIE TOWNE MIDDLE 5 - 9**

1. With all the existing congestion on Inverness Park, is it possible to install a circular drive at the school for drop off?
   - The City of Calgary has specifications for bus zones and student drop off and pick up. An effort is made to streamline traffic movement in the community wherever possible within the by-law restrictions.

2. Is it possible to have an outside courtyard for gardens and study?
   - Schools and School Councils work together to set direction for joint projects, such as creating unique learning environments.

3. Will there be community spaces available in the new McKenzie Towne middle school?
   - Leasing of school space is determined in consultation with the school principal and CBE leasing.

4. Will there be automatic entry from McKenzie Towne School to the new middle school? Will there be a lottery like at K-4?
   - When the new middle school opens in McKenzie Towne, the school will work in coordination with McKenzie Towne School to offer a kindergarten to Grade 9 continuum of learning for regular program students living in McKenzie Towne. Combined, the two schools will have a capacity of 1,575 student spaces.
NEW BRIGHTON K-4
1. Why is there a car dealership going in where the school should be?
   o The site where the dealership is planned was never under consideration for a CBE school.

SADDLE RIDGE MIDDLE 5 – 9
1. Saddle Ridge School has Grades K-3 and the new middle school is Grades 5-9.
   Where will the Gr. 4’s go to school?
   o When the new middle school opens in Saddle Ridge, the school will work in coordination with Saddle Ridge School to offer a kindergarten to Grade 9 continuum of learning for regular program students living in Saddle Ridge. Combined, the two schools will have a capacity of 1,500 student spaces. Grade configurations at the two schools will be finalized closer to the opening date of the middle school to accommodate as many students in their community school as possible.

TUSCANY K – 4
1. Twelve Mile Coulee School is at capacity. Where will the new elementary students go to middle school?
   o When the second elementary school opens in Tuscany, the school will work in coordination with Tuscany School and Twelve Mile Coulee School to offer a kindergarten to Grade 9 continuum of learning for regular program students living in Tuscany. Combined, the three schools will have a capacity of 2,190 student spaces. With the addition of the second elementary, it will be possible to accommodate more grades in the elementary schools (e.g. K-5 or K-6) and less grades at Twelve Mile Coulee School (e.g. GR6-9 or GR7-9). Grade configurations at the three schools will be finalized closer to the opening date of the second elementary school to accommodate as many students in their community school as possible.

2. Are there any plans for building a high school in Tuscany?
   o There are currently no plans to build a high school in Tuscany.
   o Please view the CBE 2015-2018 Three Year School Capitol Plan in which all requests for new schools, major modernizations, and allocations of modular classrooms (portables) are detailed.