Dec. 6, 2018

## Important Changes to the Student Population at Valley Creek School

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Calgary Board of Education (CBE) has undertaken an extensive engagement process to understand what is important to parents, prospective parents, students, staff and community members as we make changes to the northwest and north central French Immersion Programs. The purpose of this engagement was to respond to growing interest and provide opportunities for more students to access high-quality French Immersion Programs in northwest and north central Calgary.

After careful review and consideration of all input and feedback, we have decided to make the following changes to the student population at Valley Creek School effective September 2018:

Hamptons and Sherwood communities added

This means that for the 2019-20 school year, the student population at Valley Creek School will include:

- Grades 4-9 regular program
- Grades 4-9 Early French Immersion Program

This decision allows for growth of the Early French Immersion Program and the regular program at the school. The decision allows students from the communities of Hamptons and Sherwood to attend school closer to home reducing travel time for those students.

We believe this is a sustainable plan that provides strong learning opportunities for students and supports growth of high-quality French Immersion programs in northwest and north central Calgary. It also balances our values and planning principles with what we heard from parents, prospective parents, students, staff and community.

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.

For additional information about the top feedback themes, please see the <u>overall themes</u> document on the CBE website. Some of these topics are addressed in our <u>FAQ</u> document on the CBE website; others are answered below.

### How will changes be phased in?

Current Grades 3-6 students from Hamptons and Sherwood communities will transition to Valley Creek School for the 2019-20 school year.

Current Grade 7 and 8 students from Hamptons and Sherwood communities are eligible to remain at Branton School to complete Grade 9.

#### Will students need to register at the new school location?

There is no need to register. Students will automatically be designated to their school.

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اہم نوٹس براہ مہربانی: اگر کوئی آپ کے لئے اس کا ترجمہ کر ہے

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

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

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

ملاحظة هامة: الرجاء ترجمة هذه المعلومات.

## How will students get to school?

School walk zones and attendance areas can be found using the CBE's <u>Find a School</u> tool. Students designated to Valley Creek School in the Early French Immersion Program are eligible for yellow school bus transportation within the congregated stop model if they live beyond the school's walk zone. Visit <u>Busing & Transportation</u> for more information.

# What if I have more questions?

More information about the engagement process, the decision, and what we heard throughout the process is on our <u>website</u>. If you have a question that is not answered here or on our website, contact the school's principal. If you still have questions, please contact the Area 3 office at <u>Area3@cbe.ab.ca</u> or 403-777-6820.

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,

Scott MacNeill

Carrie Edwards

Director, Area 3

Director, Property, Planning and Transportation