

BOARD OF EDUCATION MAKES FINAL DECISIONS ON WESTSIDE CATCHMENT AND FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAMMING REVIEW

January 28, 2022

KELOWNA, BC – At the January 26, 2022 Public Board Meeting, the Board of Education approved the final recommendations for catchments and French Immersion Programming for the Westside Family of Schools. These recommendations came from a comprehensive community consultation that included multiple communications to families, four surveys and an in-person public consultation session at Mount Boucherie Secondary School. This community consultation was initiated due to the decision to repurpose École George Pringle Elementary to be the location of the new Westside Secondary School, which is at the final stage for provincial funding, and to move the English program at École George Pringle Elementary to a reopened Webber Road Elementary School.

The Board of Education has approved the following actions in response to the anticipated final approval of a new secondary school and the significant population growth throughout the community:

- A portion of Tallus Ridge has been moved from Mar Jok Elementary to Shannon Lake Elementary.
- The new subdivision in Smith Creek has been moved from Webber Road Elementary to Shannon Lake Elementary.
- The new subdivision in Goat's Peak has been moved from Webber Road Elementary to Peachland Elementary.
- Subject to the final approval of the Westside Secondary School by February 28, 2022, the Elementary French Immersion program at École George Pringle Elementary will be split between École Glenrosa Elementary and École Hudson Road Elementary.
- Upon the opening of the new Secondary School, Shannon Lake Elementary School's boundaries will be designated to attend École Glenrosa Middle School. The immediate area surrounding Constable Neil Bruce Middle School, at the same elevation of the school, will be designated as an optional attendance boundary that can have priority at either middle school.
- The new Westside Secondary School will offer a secondary French Immersion program when it opens. Until the new school opens, secondary French Immersion programming for the Westside will continue to be provided by École Kelowna Secondary School.
- Current students will not be displaced from the school that they are currently enrolled in and that current eligible students will retain bussing eligibility to their current school as long as the student continues to reside in their current residence.
- Siblings of students that are exempt from displacement will be provided the same registration priority as a sibling of a catchment area student if their sibling is attending the school.

"The Board of Education has endeavored to engage with its community to develop a long-term sustainable solution for the Westside" says Chantelle Desrosiers, Chair of the Planning and Facilities Committee. "The Board urges the Provincial Government to immediately approve the new Westside Secondary so that we can move forward."

For more details and information, please consult the following [link](#)

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For comments, please contact:

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