



"Together We Learn"

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23 (CENTRAL OKANAGAN)
1940 Underhill St., Kelowna, BC V1X 5X7
Tel. (250) 470-3256, Fax (250) 860-9799, www.sd23.bc.ca

Memorandum

Date: December 18, 2015
To: Planning and Facilities Committee
From: Hugh Gloster, Superintendent of Schools

Action Item: Lake Country Elementary School Catchment Area Review

1.0 ISSUE STATEMENT

The majority of new residential development over the last five years in Lake Country has been within the Davidson Road Elementary catchment area. Davidson Road Elementary is a school that is already over capacity and, because of both recent and projected residential development, will be unable to manage enrolment pressures well into the future. At the same time as Davidson Road Elementary is expanding, Oyama Traditional is well under its capacity and École Peter Greer Elementary has room for further growth.

2.0 RELEVANT BOARD MOTION/DIRECTION

November 25, 2015

15P-178

THAT: The Board of Education set the next Planning and Facilities Committee Meeting for January 6, 2016 at 6:30 pm to discuss the Lake Country Catchment Area Review.

15P-179

THAT: The Board of Education direct senior staff to provide a staff recommendation regarding the Lake Country Catchment Area Review at the January 6, 2016 Planning and Facilities Committee Meeting.

May 13, 2015

It was agreed that there would be a School Planning Council member as part of each school's participation in the Focus Group. The first meeting of this group was scheduled for June 2, 2015 at George Elliot Secondary School.

April 8, 2015

15P-048

THAT: The Board of Education cap Davidson Road Elementary at 485 students for September 2015.

15P-050

THAT: The Board of Education redirect the overflow to École Peter Greer Elementary School for the 2015/2016 school year.

April 1, 2015 – Board of Education Interchange

The Board of Education met with members of senior staff to discuss the Lake Country catchment issue. It was agreed at this meeting that a Focus Group representing the schools in the community would be created to help move the process forward toward a conclusion that could be supported.

February 11, 2015

15P-026

*THAT: The Board of Education approve the adjustment of the catchment area for Oyama Traditional School to include the area at the south end of Wood Lake bounded by Highway 97 to the West, both sides of Woodsdale Road to the South, Wood Lake to the North and the existing Oyama Traditional catchment area to the East. **DEFEATED***

June 25, 2014 - 14P-127

THAT: The Board of Education approve the Lake Country Elementary School Catchment Area Review Work Plan, as attached to the agenda and as presented at the June 25, 2014 Public Board Meeting.

December 12, 2012 - 12P-202

THAT: The Board of Education receive and approve the Long-Term Facility Plan, as amended at the November 28, 2012 Public Board Meeting.

November 28, 2012 – 12P-175

The relevant portion of 12P-175 of the Long-Term Facility Plan is:

Lake Country Area Recommendation:

- *Manage elementary student growth at existing elementary schools through the revision of catchment areas, redirection of students and/or the placement of portable classrooms until a permanent Grade 6 to 8 middle school can be constructed.*

3.0 BACKGROUND

As Davidson Road Elementary is a school that is already over capacity, the school will be challenged to accommodate future enrolment pressures in the existing catchment area. As a result, the Board of Education approved a work plan in June of 2014 to explore options and solutions to manage elementary enrolment for the Lake Country schools. This work plan involved engaging largely with the Parent Advisory Councils of the four schools. The recommendations that came out of that initial process were not supported, so it was agreed that a different approach would be used in the future.

Creation of Focus Group

In April and May, 2015, the Board of Education established that the composition for the Focus Group membership should include representatives from the three elementary schools as follows:

- A parent of a pre-school or Kindergarten student
- A parent of a Primary Program student
- A parent of an Intermediate Program student
- The Parent Advisory Council President or designate

- A member of the School Planning Council
- The Principal and/or Vice-Principal

Additionally, George Elliot Secondary School was asked to have the PAC President or designate and one other parent representative join the Focus Group.

Focus Group and Public Consultation Meetings

The following were the Focus Group and Public Consultation meeting dates and the topics that were dealt with at each meeting:

- Tuesday, June 2, 2015
 - Inaugural meeting of Focus Group
 - Review/confirmation of Goals/Areas of Focus
 - Suggestions for options for catchment areas
- Tuesday, June 23, 2015
 - Review of options for catchment area change
 - Development of pros/cons for each option
- Tuesday, September 29, 2015
 - Reaching consensus on preferred options
 - Preparing for October PAC Meeting Presentations and November Public Consultation Meeting
- Thursday, November 12, 2015
 - Public Consultation Meeting to share preferred options of Focus Group
 - Discussion and Feedback

Focus Group Goals

At the first meeting of the Focus Group, the following goals were co-constructed:

- Effective use of existing facilities in all Lake Country schools
- Sustainable short and long-term enrolment levels at each elementary school in Lake Country
- Minimize disruption to families and neighbourhoods

It was also agreed that the ultimate objective would be 'to maximize space for quality teaching and learning'.

As options were brought forward by the group for consideration, these goals were used as criteria to measure the potential effectiveness of the solution.

Preferred Options

The two recommendations of the Focus Group are as follows:

- Option A – Woodsdale Road area to be directed to Oyama Traditional School and the Southwest Quadrant of Lake Country (**not** including Sage Glenn) to be directed to École Peter Greer Elementary School
- Option B - Woodsdale Road area to be directed to Oyama Traditional School and the Southwest Quadrant of Lake Country (including Sage Glenn) to be directed to École Peter Greer Elementary School

The attached appendices A and B include maps of the two options including information regarding the anticipated demographic changes that will result from this alignment of catchment areas.

Communication

Throughout the Focus Group process, all presentations and information were posted to the School District's website (www.sd23.bc.ca), and information was also posted by staff on the individual websites of the Lake Country schools.

During the month of October 2015, Focus Group members also shared information about the process and the preferred options at their school PAC meetings. Social media was also used extensively by the parent community to keep their communities informed and to reach beyond those who attended the PAC meetings.

At the Public Consultation Meeting on November 12, 2015, parents and community members were provided with an email link (Planning.Review@sd23.bc.ca) to provide written feedback. On November 19, 2015, a letter was sent to all parents/guardians of students attending Davidson Road and Peter Greer Elementary Schools who lived in the potentially impacted areas. A second letter was sent home on November 26, 2015 to Lake Country parents with detailed information regarding the recommendations of the Focus Group, the further opportunities for parent input and the dates and times of the trustee meetings in January to consider the staff recommendation. (See Appendices C and D.) This communication was also posted to the websites of all three elementary schools in Lake Country.

Feedback

In total 43 parents provided feedback to the preferred options identified by the Focus Group. Each of the original parent responses were provided to trustees to help the Board of Education in reaching a final decision. The following chart identifies the neighbourhood the parents came from who provided feedback, as well as which option they supported:

NEIGHBORHOOD	OPTION A	OPTION B	OTHER FEEDBACK
The Lakes	5	14	1
Sage Glenn	17	0	0
SW Quadrant	0	0	2
Woodsdale Road	0	0	1
Pretty Road	0	1	0
Hare Road	1	1	0
TOTAL:	23	16	4

With regard to the 'Other Feedback', this typically related to topics such as the potential availability of busing, access for courtesy riders, and the need for a final decision to be made.

Virtually every family from the Sage Glenn neighbourhood that could be impacted by the change in catchments provided feedback. 100% of this group requested that their neighbourhood remain within the Davidson Road catchment area. The other sizeable group to respond were residents

from The Lakes subdivision. The majority of this group has supported moving Sage Glenn to Peter Greer Elementary School. From the responses received from residents in the Sage Glenn and The Lakes areas, it appears as though both groups wish to minimize the disruption to families within their own neighbourhoods.

4.0 POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. If no action is taken, current enrolment projections indicate Davidson Road Elementary will continue to exceed its capacity over the next ten years. (On March 9, 2015 Lake Country was recognized by the Province as being the fastest-growing municipality in British Columbia.)
2. An additional school bus was added in the Lake Country area to address increased enrolment this year.
3. The Transportation Department will make changes to routes next year, and it is anticipated they will be able to accommodate either of the options for catchment area changes that the Focus Group identified.
4. The School District's Capital Plan identifies the building of a new middle school in Lake Country which will impact enrolment at all area schools in the future.
5. The long-term plan is to build a new elementary school in the south west area of Lake Country, and this aligns with the proposed boundary changes.

Staff have considered the recommendations of the Focus Group and the feedback that has been received. This information has been measured against the goals that were set at the beginning of the process. Based on this, staff can see the potential merit of both options A and B. However, when considering the potential impact on families in the short-term, staff are supportive of option A that makes a number of changes while leaving the Sage Glenn neighbourhood within the catchment area of Davidson Road Elementary. It is the opinion of staff that Option A best meets the three goals that were established at the start of the process. It is further recommended that staff and the Board of Education continue to monitor the growth in Lake Country over the next five years, and consider further adjustments if these are necessary prior to the construction of a new middle school.

By leaving the Sage Glenn community in the Davidson Road catchment area, the projection is that the school could increase in population to as much as 494 students in five years. This, however, is less enrolment than the school had in 2013 (498), so it is manageable. If the Board of Education were to cap the school at 490 students, this would result in only 4 students being displaced. In the opinion of staff, this is a preferable scenario to disrupting the lives of up to 40 students and their families in the next five years by selecting Option B.

With any change in catchments, there is always the potential for unintended consequences. It is believed that Option A will have the least impact on other students who are currently 'courtesy riders' on existing bus routes. (This group does not live far enough away from their school to qualify for a ride based on the current eligibility limits, however they are able to ride on buses that have space for eligible riders.) It is also believed that the options identified by the focus group give preferential treatment to existing families, while providing a predictable future for families moving into new residential developments.

5.0 OPTIONS FOR ACTION

1. Recommend that the Board of Education approve the catchment boundary changes as presented.
2. Provide alternate direction to staff.

6.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

The most recent PowerPoint presentation that was shared with the Lake Country Community may be accessed from the homepage of the School District's website – www.sd23.bc.ca. This details the projections that staff have available in terms of the impact of the two preferred options identified by the Focus Group.

Current Board Policy 405R – *Student Placement* (Regulations) states that:

"Once a student has been registered in a school, he/she will be counted as a student of that school."

This effectively results in existing students being 'grandfathered' at the school they currently attend, even if the catchment area were to change, unless the Board elects to make a change to this position.

Additionally, the same regulations outline the 'Enrolment Priorities' the Board currently has in place. These give a higher priority to "*siblings of non-catchment area students currently enrolled in the school*" when compared to other non-catchment area students who request to attend the same school. The regulations do, however, give a higher priority to new catchment area students over siblings of non-catchment students.

Staff currently recommends that the Board continue to follow Policy 405 – *Student Placement* and the Regulations outlined in 405R – *Student Placement* (Regulations).

7.0 STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT: The Planning and Facilities Committee recommends to the Board of Education:

THAT: The Board of Education approve the adjustment of the catchment area for Lake Country to include the Woodsdale Road area to Oyama Traditional School and the Southwest Quadrant of Lake Country to Peter Greer Elementary School (not including the Sage Glenn subdivision) as described by the Option A map in Appendix A.

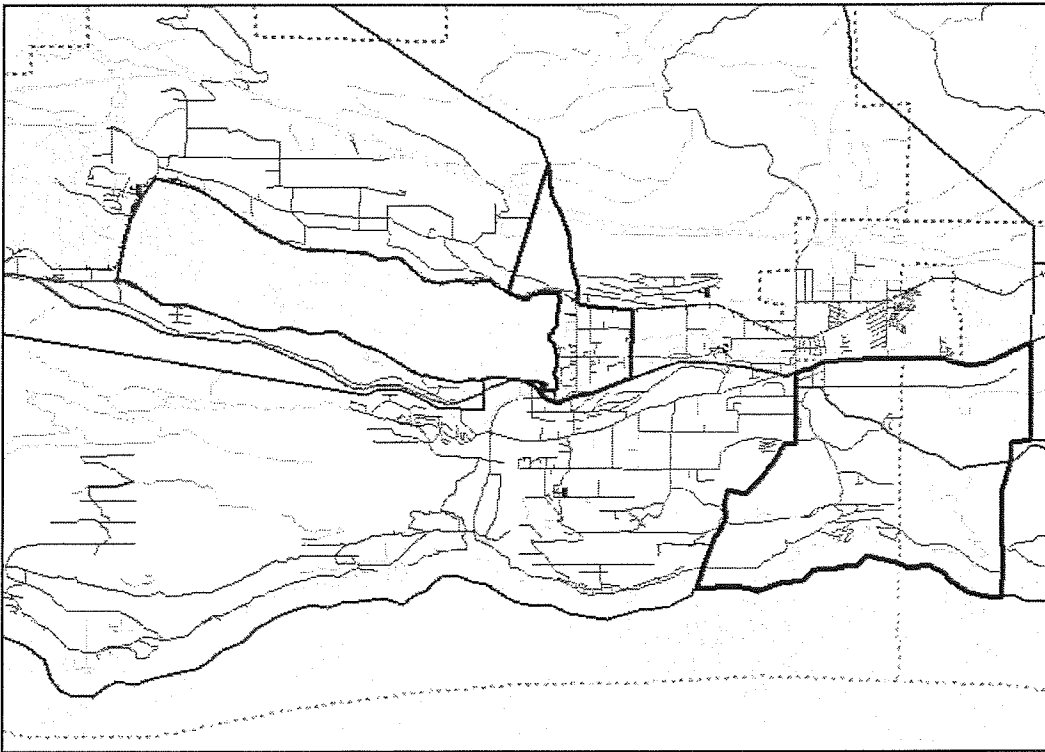
8.0 APPENDICES

A – Map for Focus Group Option A

B – Map for Focus Group Option B

C – Parent Letters to families potentially impacted by the changes in catchment areas (November 19, 2015)

D – Parent Letter to all families in Lake Country (November 26, 2015)



OPTION A

Woodsdale Road to OTS / SW to PGE without Sage Glenn

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS EXISTING AND PROJECTED ENROLMENTS
(Current)**

	Actual					Projected								
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
School														
Davidson	487	498	474	484	493	505	541	548	564	551	562	572	580	
Peter Greer	385	420	370	400	406	419	413	407	390	384	369	370	369	
Oyama	144	132	104	112	114	114	103	97	86	90	84	79	81	

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS EXISTING AND PROJECTED ENROLMENTS
(Boundary Change—Project all students move to catchment school)**

School	Actual				Projected									
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Davidson	487	498	475	484	439	447	475	474	485	462	462	458	456	
Peter Greer	385	420	380	400	427	449	458	470	462	474	476	490	501	
Oyama	144	132	103	112	151	153	141	130	120	122	118	113	117	

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS EXISTING AND PROJECTED ENROLMENTS
(Boundary Change— Project 50% of students move to new catchment school)**

	Actual					Projected								
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
School														
Davidson	487	498	475	484	460	465	492	488	494	466	462	458	456	
Peter Greer	385	420	380	400	422	446	454	465	460	472	476	490	501	
Oyama	144	132	103	112	134	133	123	116	107	113	111	107	111	

Southwest Area — 2014 Enrolment															
					K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total			
Davidson Road Elementary					6	9	4	3	6	4	7	39			
Peter Greer Elementary					0	0	2	0	2	1	1	6			
Oyama Traditional					0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			

Woodsdale Road Area — 2014 Enrolment															
					K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total			
Davidson Road Elementary					2	2	2	2	1	4	1	14			
Peter Greer Elementary					5	2	7	5	1	5	4	29			
Oyama Traditional					0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			





Central Okanagan
School District No. 23



OPTION B

Woodsdale Road to OTS / SW to PGE (with Sage Glenn)

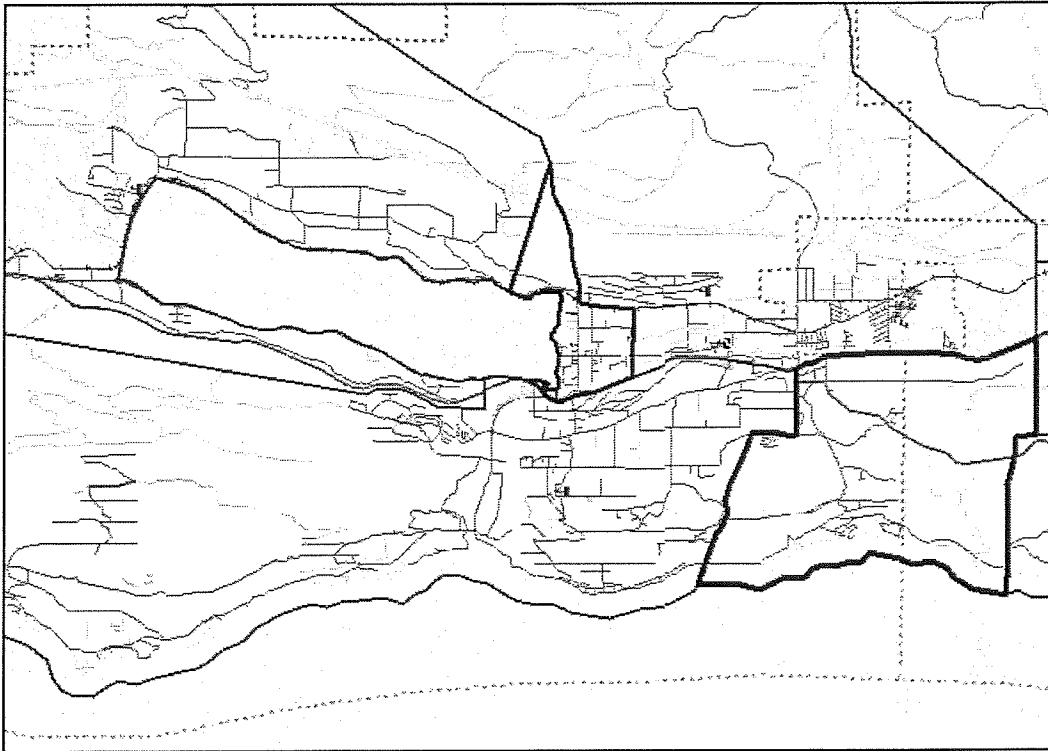
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS EXISTING AND PROJECTED ENROLMENTS (Current)														
School	Actual				Projected									
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Davidson	487	498	474	484	493	505	541	548	564	551	562	572	580	
Peter Greer	385	420	370	400	406	419	413	407	390	384	369	370	369	
Oyama	144	132	104	112	114	114	103	97	86	90	84	79	81	

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS EXISTING AND PROJECTED ENROLMENTS (Boundary Change—Project all students move to catchment school)															
School	Actual					Projected									
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024		
Davidson	487	498	475	484	423	428	454	452	460	437	435	432	429		
Peter Greer	385	420	380	400	442	462	469	478	469	475	476	490	501		
Oyama	144	132	103	112	151	153	141	130	120	122	118	113	117		

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS EXISTING AND PROJECTED ENROLMENTS (Boundary Change— Project 50% of students move to new catchment school)															
School	Actual					Projected									
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024		
Davidson	487	498	475	484	452	453	474	465	462	433	424	420	416		
Peter Greer	385	420	380	400	431	455	462	469	463	471	474	487	499		
Oyama	144	132	103	112	137	139	130	122	114	120	118	113	117		

Southwest Area —2014 Enrollment																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
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Woodsdale Road—2014 Enrolment														
	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total						
Davidson Road Elementary	2	2	2	2	1	4	1	14						
Peter Greer Elementary	5	2	7	5	1	5	4	29						
Oyama Traditional	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						



LAKE COUNTRY CATCHMENT REVIEW

APPENDIX C



"Together We Learn"

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23 (CENTRAL OKANAGAN)

1940 Underhill Street, Kelowna, B.C. V1X 5X7

Tel. 250-860-8888 Fax 250-860-9799

Website: www.sd23.bc.ca

November 19, 2015

TO: Parents/Guardians of a Davidson Road Elementary School Student(s)

RE: Proposed Catchment Change for Sage Glenn and South West Quadrant of Lake Country

You are receiving this correspondence as you currently have a student attending Davidson Road Elementary School who may be impacted by an upcoming Board of Education decision. For the past eight months, a Focus Group of representative parents has been analysing enrolment patterns, the future catchment challenges for the three elementary schools in Lake Country, and reviewing possible solutions. The Focus Group has completed its review of the catchments and has submitted its recommendations to the Board. The recommendations may affect your child. Your child currently attends Davidson Road Elementary and under Board Policy 405 – *Student Placement* your child will still be considered a student of the school. However, busing to Davidson Road Elementary may discontinue, siblings will not have the highest priority to enter Davidson Road Elementary and children in the neighbourhood not yet attending school may be redirected to École Peter Greer Elementary School. If the Board does make a change in catchments, eligible busing to the new catchment school will be provided.

The two recommendations that the Focus Group has submitted are as follows:

Option A - Woodsdale Road area to be directed to Oyama Traditional School and the South West Quadrant of Lake Country (not including Sage Glenn) to be directed to École Peter Greer Elementary School.

Option B - Woodsdale Road area to be directed to Oyama Traditional School and the South West Quadrant of Lake Country (including Sage Glenn) to be directed to École Peter Greer Elementary School

Maps of the two options have been attached for your reference.

The Board of Education is currently collecting feedback on the Focus Group's recommendation so that they can make an informed decision on the options available. The Board would like to invite you to provide any feedback that you may have on both proposals by sending a letter to the School Board Office or an email to Planning.Review@sd23.bc.ca by December 9, 2015. The Board would like to thank you in advance for your input.

Sincerely,

Hugh Gloster
Superintendent of Schools



SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23
(CENTRAL OKANAGAN)

1940 Underhill Street, Kelowna, B.C. V1X 5X7
Tel. 250-860-8888 Fax 250-860-9799
Website: www.sd23.bc.ca

"Together We Learn"

November 19, 2015

TO: Parents/Guardians of an École Peter Greer Elementary School Student(s)

RE: Proposed Catchment Change for Woodsdale Road Area of Lake Country

You are receiving this correspondence as you currently have a student attending École Peter Greer Elementary School who may be impacted by an upcoming Board of Education decision. For the past eight months, a Focus Group of representative parents has been analysing enrolment patterns, the future catchment challenges for the three elementary schools in Lake Country, and reviewing possible solutions. The Focus Group has completed its review of the catchments and has submitted its recommendations to the Board. The recommendations may affect your child. Your child currently attends École Peter Greer Elementary and under Board Policy 405 – *Student Placement* your child will still be considered a student of the school. However, busing to École Peter Greer Elementary may discontinue, siblings will not have the highest priority to enter École Peter Greer Elementary and children in the neighbourhood not yet attending school may be redirected to Oyama Traditional School. If the Board does make a change in catchments, eligible busing to the new catchment school will be provided.

The two recommendations that the Focus Group has submitted are as follows:

Option A - Woodsdale Road area to be directed to Oyama Traditional School and the South West Quadrant of Lake Country (not including Sage Glenn) to be directed to École Peter Greer Elementary School

Option B - Woodsdale Road area to be directed to Oyama Traditional School and the South West Quadrant of Lake Country (including Sage Glenn) to be directed to École Peter Greer Elementary School

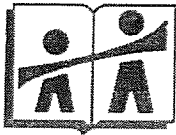
Maps of the two options have been attached for your reference.

The Board of Education is currently collecting feedback on the Focus Group's recommendation so that they can make an informed decision on the options available. The Board would like to invite you to provide any feedback that you may have on both proposals by sending a letter to the School Board Office or an email to Planning.Review@sd23.bc.ca by December 9, 2015. The Board would like to thank you in advance for your input.

Sincerely,

Hugh Gloster
Superintendent of Schools

APPENDIX D



SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23 (CENTRAL OKANAGAN)

1940 Underhill Street, Kelowna, B.C. V1X 5X7
Tel. 250-860-8888 Fax 250-860-9799
Website: www.sd23.bc.ca

"Together We Learn"

November 26, 2015

TO: Parents/Guardians of Lake Country Students

RE: Proposed School Catchment Area Changes in Lake Country – Update and Timeline

Thank you to all residents of Lake Country for their patience as the School District continues to work through the process to establish new catchment areas for the three elementary schools in the community.

As many of you are already aware, for the past eight months a Focus Group of representative parents has been looking at the challenges associated with the existing catchment areas, and considering possible solutions. The two options the Focus Group are recommending that the School District consider are:

Option A - Woodsdale Road area to be directed to Oyama Traditional School and the South West Quadrant of Lake Country (not including Sage Glenn) to be directed to École Peter Greer Elementary School

Option B - Woodsdale Road area to be directed to Oyama Traditional School and the South West Quadrant of Lake Country (including Sage Glenn) to be directed to École Peter Greer Elementary School

(Maps of the two options have been attached for your reference.)

The Board of Education is continuing to welcome feedback on the Focus Group options as well as input regarding other possible solutions. Feedback may be provided by sending a letter to the School Board Office or an email to Planning.Review@sd23.bc.ca by **December 9, 2015**.

At the November 25th Public Meeting of the Board of Education, trustees agreed to the following as the **next steps** in the process:

1. A public meeting of the **Planning and Facilities Committee of the Board** will be held at the School Board Office – 1940 Underhill Street, Kelowna, at **6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 6, 2016**. At this meeting committee members will debate a recommendation they will receive from staff. (This recommendation will be provided to trustees and posted to the District's website - www.sd23.bc.ca prior to the Winter Break.)
2. The Board of Education will receive a recommendation from the Planning and Facilities Committee at their **Public Board Meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. at the School Board Office**. At this meeting, trustees will endeavour to reach a final agreement as to what changes they intend to make to the Lake Country catchments for September of 2016.

Interested members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings of the Board of Education. If you wish further background information, please refer to the "Lake Country Catchment Area Public Consultation Presentation" that is posted on the District's website.

Sincerely,

Hugh Gloster
Superintendent of Schools