

# public agenda

*In light of the Alberta Government's COVID-19 guidelines effective November 13 to November 27, 2020, this public Board meeting will be held virtually.*

November 25, 2020  
12:00 p.m.

Microsoft Teams  
Education Centre  
1221 8 Street SW,  
Calgary, AB

## R-1: Mission |

Each student, in keeping with their individual abilities and gifts, will complete high school with a foundation of learning necessary to thrive in life, work and continued learning.

Conflict of Interest reminder: Trustees must disclose any potential pecuniary interest in any matter before the Board of Trustees, as set forth in the agenda as well as any pecuniary interest in any contract before the Board requiring the Board's approval and/or ratification.

Time	Topic	Who	Policy Ref	Attachment
12:00 p.m.	<b>1   Call to Order, National Anthem and Welcome</b>			
	<b>2   Consideration/Approval of Agenda</b>		GC-2	
	<b>3   Awards and Recognitions</b>		GC-3	
	<b>4   Results Focus</b>			
	<b>5   Operational Expectations</b>			
	<b>6   Public Comment [ <a href="#">PDF</a> ]</b> Requirements as outlined in Board Meeting Procedures		GC-3.2	
	<b>7   Matters Reserved for Board Information</b>		GC-3	
	<b>8   Matters Reserved for Board Decision</b>	Board		
	8.1 Consideration of Closure of the National Sport School		GC-3E	Page 8-1
	<b>9   Consent Agenda</b>	Board	GC-2.6	
9.1 Items Provided for Board Decision				
9.2 Items Provided for Board Information				
<b>10   In-Camera Session</b>				



Time	Topic	Who	Policy Ref	Attachment
4:30 p.m.	<b>11   Adjournment</b>			
	<b>Debrief</b>	Trustees	GC-2.3	

**Notice |**  
 This public Board meeting will be recorded & posted online.  
 Media may also attend these meetings.  
 You may appear in media coverage.

Information is collected under the authority of the Education Act and the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act section 33(c) for the purpose of informing the public.

For questions or concerns, please contact:  
 Office of the Corporate Secretary at [corpsec@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:corpsec@cbe.ab.ca).

## report to Board of Trustees

### Consideration of Closure of National Sport School

Date	November 25, 2020
Meeting Type	Regular Meeting, Public Agenda
To	Board of Trustees
From	Christopher Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools
Purpose	Decision
Originator	Dany Breton, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services
Governance Policy Reference	Operational Expectations OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students OE-3: Instructional Program OE-7: Communication With and Support for the Board OE-8: Communicating and Engaging with the Public OE-9: Facilities
Resource Person(s)	Darlene Unruh, Acting Superintendent of School Improvement Kelly Ann Fenney, General Counsel Latosia Campbell-Walters, Director, Planning Prem Randhawa, Education Director, Area 1 Trish Minor, Corporate Secretary

#### 1 | Recommendation

---

It is recommended:

- THAT the Minutes of the Public Input Meeting of November 4, 2020, Attachment I to this report, be approved by the Board of Trustees.
- THAT the Board of Trustees approves the closure of National Sport School and all programs contained therein, effective June 30, 2020.



## 2 | Issue

---

The *Education Act* together with Board of Trustees' policy GC-3E – Closure of Schools Procedures identifies a formal process that must be followed when closure is being considered. Under the direction of the Board of Trustees, the steps necessary for a school closure have been undertaken. This report is being provided to document compliance and to assist the Board of Trustees with its further deliberations.

## 3 | Background

---

Where the Board of Trustees is considering closure, it must raise the matter through a motion at a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees. On, October 13, 2020 the Board of Trustees passed a motion to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School.

Attachment III to this report provides a compliance chart that identifies the timelines and actions taken in compliance with the Board Policy GC-3 – Closure of Schools Procedure.

## 4 | Financial Impact

---

Should the recommendation to close the NSS be approved by the Board, and students were to be accommodated at Bowness High School, CBE costs will be reduced by an additional \$350,000. These costs include over \$242,000 in school administration and \$108,000 in lease costs.

Additionally, if some or all the current students choose not to attend Bowness High School and instead return to another school jurisdiction, the CBE will see a reduction in Alberta Education funding related to a decrease in enrollment. There would be no change in funding should the students return to another CBE school instead of Bowness High School.

Finally, the CBE has no plans for the use of the building housing the NSS. Once the lease agreement with WinSport comes to an end on July 15, 2021, the space will be vacated and returned.

## 5 | Conclusion

---

The Calgary Board of Education has complied with the requirement of the *Education Act* and Board Policy GC-3 – Closure of Schools Procedures. The Board of Trustees is now in a position to deliberate and to decide, by resolution whether to close the National Sport School.



**CHRISTOPHER USIH  
CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

**ATTACHMENTS**

<b>Attachment I:</b>	<b>Minutes of the Public Input Meeting of November 4, 2020</b>
<b>Attachment II:</b>	<b>Recommendation to Commence Public Input to Consider Closure of National Sport School</b>
<b>Attachment III:</b>	<b>GC-3 Closure of Schools Procedure Compliance Chart</b>
<b>Attachment IV:</b>	<b>Letter to Parents/Guardian of National Sport School</b>
<b>Attachment V:</b>	<b>Letters to Other Persons Significantly Affected by the Decision</b>
<b>Attachment VI:</b>	<b>Letter to His Worship Mayor Nenshi</b>
<b>Attachment VII:</b>	<b>Rationale and Pertinent Facts Available on CBE Public Website</b>
<b>Attachment VIII:</b>	<b>November 4, 2020 Public Input Meeting Presentation</b>
<b>Attachment IX:</b>	<b>Written Submissions from the Public (Trustees Only)</b>

**GLOSSARY –**

**Board:** Board of Trustees

**Governance Culture:** The Board defined its own work and how it will be carried out. These policies clearly state the expectations the Board has for individual and collective behaviour.

**Board/Chief Superintendent Relationship:** The Board defined in policy how authority is delegated to its only point of connection – the Chief Superintendent – and how the Chief Superintendent’s performance will be evaluated.

**Operational Expectations:** These policies define both the nonnegotiable expectations and the clear boundaries within which the Chief Superintendent and staff must operate. They articulate the actions and decisions the Board would find either absolutely necessary or totally unacceptable.

**Results:** These are our statements of outcomes for each student in our district. The Results policies become the Chief Superintendent’s and the organization’s performance targets and form the basis for judging organization and Chief Superintendent performance.

## The Calgary Board of Education

Minutes of the Public Input Meeting Regarding Consideration of Closure of National Sport School, held virtually through Microsoft Teams, on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

---

### ATTENDANCE (Virtual)

#### Board of Trustees:

Ms. M. Dennis, Board Chair, Trustee – Wards 5 & 10  
Ms. T. Hurdman, Trustee – Wards 1 & 2  
Ms. A. Adams, Board Vice-Chair, Trustee – Wards 3 & 4  
Mr. R. Hehr, Trustee – Wards 8 & 9  
Ms. J. Hrdlicka, Trustee, Wards 11 & 13  
Mr. M. Bradshaw, Trustee, Wards 12 & 14

#### Administration:

Mr. C. Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Superintendent Breton, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services  
Ms. D. Unruh, Acting Superintendent, School Improvement  
Ms. K. Fenney, General Counsel and Procedural Advisor to the Board  
Ms. L. Campbell-Walters, Director, Planning  
Mr. R. Jewan, Acting Principal, National Sport School  
Ms. J. MacDonald, Principal, Bowness High School  
Ms. Director Randhawa, Education Director, Area 1  
Mr. E. Sutlic, Director, Corporate Finance  
Ms. T. Minor, Corporate Secretary  
Ms. M. Geyer, Communications Advisor  
Ms. D. Perrier, Board Administrator

### WELCOME, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND INTRODUCTIONS

Board Chair M. Dennis called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and noted she would Chair the Meeting. She noted that to ensure the CBE is complying with COVID-19 related health measures, whenever possible meetings are being hosted virtually. Chair Dennis acknowledged the traditional territories and oral practices of the Blackfoot Nations, which includes the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai. She also acknowledged the Tsuut'ina and Stoney Nakoda First Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.

Introductions were made of The Calgary Board of Education (CBE) Trustees and Administration in attendance. The Chair also welcomed CBE teachers, staff, members of the public and students.

Chair Dennis stated that the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of maintaining an accurate internal record of the proceedings, and that minutes of the meeting will be available on the CBE website at [www.cbe.ab.ca](http://www.cbe.ab.ca) prior to the Board of Trustees making a decision on this matter.

Chair Dennis reviewed the agenda for the meeting, as follows:

1. Opening Remarks
2. Meeting Purpose and Outline
3. Meeting Guidelines
4. CBE Administration Presentation
5. Questions and Comments
6. Closing Remarks

### OPENING REMARKS

Chair Dennis spoke to the role of the Board of Trustees in the closure consideration process. She noted that the Board of Trustees has the sole responsibility and authority to make closure decisions, and she clarified that no decision has been made at this time.

In accordance with Alberta legislation and the Board's Closure of Schools Procedure, the consideration of closure process has many steps to it.

As part of the process, at the regular Board of Trustees' meeting held Tuesday, October 13, 2020, the Board passed a motion to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School. This was a decision to initiate the consideration of closure process - not a decision to proceed with the closure.

The rationale, pertinent facts, and information about the proposed closure is available on CBE's public website and National Sport School website. This information is one part of the information that has been, and will be, reviewed and considered by Trustees. Before making any final decision on the closure of a school, the Board follows a process to secure additional input from parents and the general public, including:

- convening this public input meeting to provide important and relevant information; and
- providing an opportunity for the public to share their perspectives with the Board.

Following this meeting, additional public comments or concerns may be provided in writing by Wednesday, November 18, 2020. The details for written submissions are set out in the parent letter sent through School Messenger on October 15, 2020 and the details for submissions are also available on the CBE public website. Trustees are here to listen to your comments and questions as your input will inform the Board's decision-making on this matter. Throughout tonight's discussion and the entire consideration of closure process, Trustees will be paying close attention to what the public have to say.

All of the information collected during the consideration of closure process will be weighed very carefully by Trustees before any final decision is made.

The Board of Trustees tentatively anticipates debating the merits of this matter and making a decision regarding the proposed closure on Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at a public meeting of the Board of Trustees.

The Board's ongoing commitment is to provide educational programs and services in suitable facilities throughout Calgary. To honour that commitment, the Board needs to take into consideration many factors including student enrolment levels, the ability to resource instructional programming, the health and safety of students, and accessibility. The Board also considers financial factors, to ensure the CBE is using resources effectively. The Board takes the information received and makes decisions, on a system-wide basis, serving the overall interests of public education within the CBE.

Consideration of closure of a school is a serious matter to the Board of Trustees. The Board also appreciates that it is very significant to the students, parents and other members of the community.

The attendance of CBE administration is to assist the Board with the presentation, to respond to the public's questions, and to help Trustees manage the process for this meeting.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Chair Dennis thanked everybody for attending the meeting.

### MEETING PURPOSE AND OUTLINE

Chair Dennis noted the purpose of the meeting is two-fold: firstly, it is for Administration to outline the rationale for the proposed closure, and share information about the timing of the proposed closure and the accommodation plan for students affected; secondly, it is to provide the public an opportunity to share their perspectives about the proposed closure with the Board.

The agenda has been arranged to ensure that everyone will have ample opportunity to ask questions and make any comments they may have. The public's comments and questions at this meeting will form part of the formal material that the Board of Trustees will consider, as they review this matter and ultimately reach a decision.

### MEETING GUIDELINES

Chair Dennis asked everyone to observe the meeting guidelines, which included:

- muting microphones except when called on to speak;
- comments and questions to be addressed following the presentation portion of the meeting;
- limiting questions or comments to three minutes; and
- being respectful of differing opinions and everyone's right to speak.

### ADMINISTRATION PRESENTATION

#### *CBE Planning Principles*

Administration shared the factors considered when planning for student accommodation, as outlined in the CBE Administrative Regulation 1090. These principles include:

- Use space and resources effectively
- Provide long term sustainability

- Provide equitable access for all students to quality learning environments and choice of programs
- Keep cohort groups of students together

### Rationale for the Proposed Closure

Administration provided an overview of following factors considered in bringing a recommendation to the Board of Trustees to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School:

- The National Sport School lease was intended to be temporary
- National Sport School was previously supported within other CBE high schools
- Bowness High School offers high quality programming and has experience with high performance athletes
- Opportunities to support students in a more financially sustainable way

### Background – Program Timeline

The National Sport School was created as a special focus/interest program offered through the CBE and Canada Olympic Development Association (CODA) in 1994. It was designed as a unique setting and delivery focus accommodating the sporting and learning needs of athletes in Grades 9-12. For the first 17 years of its existence, National Sport School operated out of two different high schools – William Aberhart High School and then the old Ernest Manning High School. There was insufficient space for the program at the new Ernest Manning High School and the program moved in 2011 to WinSport at Canada Olympic Park on a temporary lease.

The Alberta Government had pledged money for a capital project based on negotiation for the old Ernest Manning High School site, where the school was demolished to make way for the new C-train line. The money pledged was contingent upon the CBE covering the remaining cost of building a new school at WinSport.

The National Sport School was first identified on the Three-Year System Student Accommodation Plan (SSAP) 2013-2016. At that time, the SSAP referenced that the construction of a new facility for National Sport School was on hold and that an alternative accommodation plan may need to be determined. This school has remained on the SSAP since that time.

With the National Sport School lease expiring in June of 2020, the CBE reached out to parents, students, staff and the community in November 2019 and then in June 2020 to discuss the possibility of closure of the school. Feedback was also collected through an online survey at that time. In November of 2019 WinSport offered an extension of the lease for National Sport School for one year, for \$1.00. The CBE accepted that very gracious offer in March 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic then came about and the matter was essentially put on hold.

### Current Student Enrolment

As of September 30, 2020 there were 185 students enrolled in the program. One-fifth (1/5) or 37 students were from outside the CBE. There were no international students enrolled.

### Projected Enrolment for National Sport School

Enrolment in the program is expected to decline over the next five years – a decline from 185 students in 2020 to 143 students by 2025. There was recognition that Administration may have created uncertainty by discussing the possibility of closure which may have impacted the attractiveness of the school. As such, parents and students may not want to commit to a school that is experiencing these circumstances.

### Financial Impacts of the School

For the 2019/2020 school year, operating costs to the CBE were \$1.8 million, which includes a combination of staffing costs, supplies for delivering the program and miscellaneous operating costs including the WinSport lease. Staffing represents approximately 90% of the costs, which are a combination of administration, teachers, learning leaders and other support staff.

For the 2020/2021 school year, the Resource Allocation Method (RAM) is approximately \$1.25 million.

If the school were to close, the CBE's cost would be reduced by a further \$350,000 per year. These costs include over \$242,000 in school administration and support staff, and \$108,000 in lease costs. The remaining amount from the RAM allocation would be re-assigned to Bowness High School or other designated high school through the CBE methodology for allocating resources to schools (known as the RAM).

In total, the net reduction of both the modified program support and possible closure amount to approximately \$900,000.

### Proposed Student Accommodation Plan

Should the Board of Trustees decide to close the National Sport School, students will be accommodated at either Bowness High School or within their designated high school. All current National Sport School students that have an interest in attending the Bowness High School will be integrated with other students for some classes, and could access WinSport by self-transportation or transit.

This accommodation plan was informed by community feedback in addition to the planning principles of keeping cohorts of students together, providing long-term sustainability and using space and resources effectively within the CBE.

### Bowness High School – Capacity, Space and Access

The current capacity at Bowness High School is 1647. Current enrolment is 1149 students as of September 30, 2020: 889 students in the regular program; 18 students in special education; and 242 out-of-attendance area students

At a current utilization rate of 70%, Bowness High School has the space and capacity to accommodate all National Sport School students for the 2021/2022 school year and beyond. With

the addition of National Sport School, the utilization rate of Bowness High School is projected to reach over 80% by the 2021/2022 school year.

Additionally, the CBE has implemented precautionary measures to reduce the risks presented by COVID 19 in schools. These measures align with Alberta Health Services, and Alberta Education.

Bowness High School also has the advantage of being close to WinSport (3 km away). Transportation to school and between Bowness and WinSport would be private or City Transit as a responsibility of families.

Projected enrolment for Bowness High School (2020-2025) indicates that the school will have capacity to have more students in the next few years.

### CBE Capital Plan Impacts

The Ten-Year Student Accommodation and Facility Strategy identifies elevated high school enrolment. Requirements for Bowness High School to accommodate students is projected for the foreseeable future.

### Education and Program Impacts

Plans for transitions is a collaborative effort involving students, families and staff. Should the Board decide to close the National Sport School and the students are accommodated at Bowness High School, the transition plan would see students attend mainstream classes with other National Sport School students throughout the day. Timetabling and scheduling for each semester will be done with the Guidance team and will be personalized to support students. Programming will include both a blended and flexible approach, with accessibility to on-line learning. Attending Bowness High School also opens up a greater opportunity for selection of complementary courses.

Some National Sport School staff will have an opportunity to move with students to Bowness to support learning continuity. A learning leader will be allocated for the 2021-2022 school year to support the National Sport School student body transitioning to the school and would remain closely connected to the students.

Grade 9 is currently not offered at Bowness High School, but this grade level can be added to accommodate students wishing to attend from National Sport School if a minimum cohort size of twenty-five (25) is attained for the 2021-2022 school year. Interested future Grade 9 students would have opportunities to engage in and attend the open-house opportunities.

### Proposed Timeline for Implementation

The proposed timeline for implementation, should the decision be made to close the school, was reviewed:

- This public meeting of November 4
- Board of Trustees' public meeting, decision for National Sport School on November 25

- If the Board of Trustees' decision is to close National Sport School, transition planning for students will be initiated between January and June 2021
- Implementation – school's relocation to Bowness High School September 2021/2022

#### OPEN DISCUSSION, QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM PARENTS AND PUBLIC

Chair Dennis reiterated the Trustees were present to hear public input and that they will ultimately be the sole decision makers regarding the status of the National Sport School. She pointed out it would not be appropriate in the middle of the process for Trustees to respond directly to questions or to engage in debate. She asked that questions or comments be indicated in the chat box, and as the meeting Chair she would direct the question to an appropriate CBE staff member for response. She asked the public to state their first and last name and spell it for the record, and identify their interest or relationship to National Sport School.

Chair Dennis opened the meeting to questions or comments from the public.

**Karl Riabowol**, parent, noted the total budget for CBE is approximately \$1.375 billion and a potential savings from closure of the National Sport School is \$1.25 million. He felt this was a trivial amount in savings and questioned the rationale for the proposal to close National Sport School, which he noted to be a high point for sport in Calgary and a gem of a school to current and past students.

Superintendent Breton stated when the CBE looks at the overall portfolio of schools, it is necessary to look at the wellbeing of over 120,000 students and to attend to their learning needs. The CBE has a multitude of different schools and different settings for students, according to their needs, and attempts to balance that to the best extent possible. As the pressures on the province increase, CBE finances are further pressed, and it is challenging to find better opportunities and ways to serve our students. He point out that all along, and throughout the years, the CBE had its sights on how the National Sport School could be better served and this is an opportunity to do that; and, at the same time allow financial resources to be redirected elsewhere for continued support of learning opportunities in the system.

**Lauchlan Currie**, member of Parents and Friends of the National Sport School, noted the difference with the program of past was that it was not integrated within the school, but was a school within a school. He shared his opinion that Bowness High School is not a viable solution, and that he heard from parents a resounding negative response on the Bowness option. He believed the class sizes will be large, there will be pressure placed on teachers with having to manage both regular students and the National Sport School students; and that a resentment amongst regular students will be created with the flexibility of timetabling offered to students from the National Sport School. He shared that WinSport is a first class, World Class facility; that there is a very strong culture built within the school and it has a very strong academic standing. He commented on the pursuit of another option, that being a smaller school board bringing the National Sport School into its jurisdiction, which he believed would be a win-win for the CBE and for National Sport School students.

**Karl Riabowol** expressed his hope that a solution will be found that works in the best interest of students. He pointed out that the academics ranking for National Sport School is very high. He

shared that the arithmetic does not add up for him in regards to savings, and questioned how saving on average \$10 per student in the CBE is worth shutting a school that is renowned for what it does. He concurred with the previous comment that not many families are keen on the option presented by the CBE. If there is an alternative for having the National Sport School under some other auspices, he looks forward to that.

**Lindsey Fair**, parent of a student attending the National Sport School, shared her understanding of the difficulty Trustees are facing with cuts across the province and throughout the school division, and that Trustees must imagine the hard decisions that parents have to make. She shared that the proposed transition for her son would not be viable for her child. In her understanding, it would involve a bus ride of about one minute with a walk of about 34 minutes, along busy roads; workouts three times a day at the National Sport School; additional trips if he should have to attend physiotherapy treatment due to injury, or meet with his sport therapist or nutritionist. She questions how much school time could fit into one day with that number of walks between the National Sport School and Bowness High School. She stated her son would be absent from school for six weeks for travel and as a member of a national team. She requested the Board of Trustees to close the National Sport School and support its transition to Palliser School Division.

**Kevin Barr**, member of Parents and Friends of the National Sport School, expressed appreciation to the Board of Trustees and the CBE for taking interest and hearing the public comments. He echoed comments made in support of closure of National Sport School, so long as a transition could occur to the Palliser School Division. He referenced statements on the webpage of Bowness High School, with respect to the High Performance Athlete Development Pathway, noting that they are unable to accommodate student absences of more than two weeks, and suggests that families look into the National Sport School. He thanked all teachers and administrators at National Sport School for their tireless work through these issues over the past two years. He referenced a press release back in 2011, when the National Sport School moved to WinSport, and that shared the importance of the personalization of learning for CBE students. He pointed out that no reference at that time was made of the move being a temporary solution. He noted if the CBE continues to be committed to personalized learning for each student every day, no exceptions, then the Board should support the closure of the National Sport School and its transition to Palliser School Division so that those fundamental core values can be recognized in the future and ensure the viability of National Sport School at WinSport.

**Lorèn Lailey-Irvine**, parent of a student attending the National Sport School, commented on the uniqueness of the school and on the focus and dedication of students to succeed at their sport while maintaining their academic success. She noted that the dedicated vision of the CBE and its prioritization of student needs was responsible for the creation of this program back in 1994, and countless Canadian athletes have found academic, sport and life successes as a result of this commitment. She shared her hope that the alternative to the Bowness option is worthy of the Board's consideration; and that parents and community of the National Sport School and the CBE can work together to ensure the continuation of the National Sport School at WinSport, within a new school division.

**Janine Heiderich**, parent of a student with special learning needs attending the National Sport School, noted that her family provided a letter to the Board of Trustees. She shared some of their reasons for choosing the National Sport School over Bowness High School. She noted the small

class sizes, increased access to medical professionals and flexible timetabling has had a positive impact on the well-being of her child. The proposed transition would see her child hauling skates every day on the bus between the two schools and their home. She expressed support for the transfer of the National Sport School to the jurisdiction of the Palliser School Division.

**Bruce Irvine**, parent of a student attending the National Sport School, expressed his opinion that this matter is not an enrolment issue; that most of these kids will not transfer to Bowness High School; and that the CBE administration's assumption that this will help Bowness High School is faulty. He expressed his belief that the Board of Trustees would not want to make a decision that is not in the best interest of these students. He believed there to be a win-win solution available, which he was hopeful the Board would discuss such options with the public who were present for this engagement.

**Ali Smith**, parent of a student attending the National Sport School, shared her understanding that prior to WinSport, the National Sport School was a school within a school. Students were not integrated with mainstream classes, as is suggested in the proposed student accommodation plan for Bowness High School. She spoke about sport injuries and student accessibility to physical therapy at the National Sport School, noting that many of these athletes suffer injuries and require additional time off from their academic learning classes, over and above the time required of them for their sport. She reiterated that the webpage for Bowness High School states they are unable to accommodate student absences of more than two weeks. Ms. Smith stated that the high level of athletes and Olympians produced, the support to students and high academic achievement of students, speaks highly of the National Sport School at WinSport. She requested that Trustees help make the transition of students as smooth as possible, to close the program and help students transition to the Palliser School Division.

Director Randhawa acknowledged elements seen on the website for Bowness High School are the current representation. She stated that should the Board of Trustees make the decision to close the National Sport School, within the transition plan for students Administration would look at offering flexibility for students in the High Performance Athlete Development Pathway.

**Eva Glod**, parent of a student attending the National Sport School, noted that her daughter's athletic training amounts to approximately 12 to 40 hours per week, and two months of absence from school over the year. She shared how the National Sport School works so well for her daughter in both sports and academics. She stated that she would not place her child in Bowness High School and requested Trustees to keep the National Sport School in operation at WinSport.

**Chris Luscombe**, parent of a student attending the National Sport School and a student attending Bowness High School, noted that the training and competition schedule make it impractical for his daughter to attend Bowness High School. He recommended that Trustees cease operations of the National Sport School and help transition the program to the Palliser School Division.

**David Krease**, parent of a student attending the National Sport School and a student attending Bowness High School, stated his high regard for both schools. He explained the training needs for his athletic child and rationale for choosing the National Sport School, which included the proximity of the school to the Calgary Gymnastics Centre. He noted that he sent correspondence to the Board of Trustees explaining how they receive much more from the National Sport School, in terms of the caring, the teachers and small class sizes. He shared his understanding that Calgary

Transit route from Bowness High School takes a traveler to the downtown, where a transfer must be made to travel back to the National Sport School. He requested that the Board of Trustees transition the school to the Palliser School Division and keep it at WinSport.

**David Planden**, parent of a student attending the National Sport School, expressed how engaging and open to successful opportunities the school is. He questioned due diligence in terms of what was done with respect to the economics; what options were considered; what was the process for consideration of program changes; what other funding mechanisms were looked at; and whether further parental support could address some concerns. He expressed his belief that the CBE has put forward mixed messaging.

Superintendent Breton stated this is not a relocation of the National Sport School – it is a closure consideration with the proposed accommodation of existing students into another high school and in the mainstream programming. He commented on the process that included the review and monitoring of the Ten-Year Student Accommodation and Facilities Strategy and the Three-Year System Student Accommodation Plan (SSAP). He noted that the bulk of funding provided by the provincial government is on a per student basis, not necessarily on a per facility basis. The CBE aims for a mid to high 80% utilization rate for schools, meeting the provincial requirements for maximizing the dollar received from a facility perspective, and maximizing the flexibility within the school for learning opportunities. He stated that Rosscarrock School is also undergoing a closure consideration process and there are other schools identified in the SSAP that are under review. He noted the provincial financial framework under which the CBE operates has changed dramatically through the school year. The CBE model of operating does not necessarily lend itself to small schools, whereas other school divisions are better equipped to operate small schools, as they have better mechanisms and processes in place that can allow them to fund these schools in a different way that is not available to CBE. He pointed out the report to the Board on October 13, 2020 did not include the option of transitioning the National Sport School to the Palliser School Division because other school jurisdictions are not within the control of the CBE.

**Erick Salkeld**, grandparent of a student attending the National Sport School, commented that his granddaughter's academics, athletics and social skills are at 100% as a National Sport School student. He questioned the CBE financials showing a \$1.8 million cost for operations of the National Sport School and asked if that is a net cost, noting that parents pay fees to the National Sport School. He also asked what the cost savings would be aside from the administration area.

Superintendent Breton noted parents pay a fee of \$4,750 directly to WinSport for the provision of services and access to their facilities. He pointed out that none those dollars flow back to the CBE. The costs depicted in the financials are entirely born by the CBE. Director Sutlic added that some of the administrative costs would be assimilated into the other schools that the students would move to, so there would be some duplication that would result and there would be some synergies of those people moving back into schools.

**Mark Heiderich** questioned the status of the Alberta government grant of \$3 million if the CBE closes the National Sport School. He noted that socially, academically and athletically, the National Sport School has been a fantastic fit for their son and that Bowness High School is not an option for their family. He shared that with these students having to train for up to 40 hours per week, two times per day, the travel between schools will be offbeat and in the dark, and some of these students are still quite young. He commented that it is important to have flexibility for these

students. He felt that motivation for the proposed closure may be related to the under-utilization of Bowness High School.

Superintendent Breton reiterated the \$3 million pledge by the province was offered in 2011, when the new Ernest Manning High School was built and at that time was contingent on CBE finding the remaining funds for a purpose-built facility for the National Sport School. Whether that money is still available would be a question for the government.

**James Waddock**, parent of a student attending the National Sport School, questioned how the transition of the National Sport School to another school division would occur and whether parents would be participants in that process.

Superintendent Breton shared the CBE made a commitment to work with other jurisdictions that might be interested in operating the National Sport School. Discussions commenced between the CBE and the Palliser School Division on October 13, 2020 and the CBE is sharing with them the financials, the structure of the school, etc., to allow them to consider making a business case to operate the school should our Board of Trustees make the decision to close National Sport School. It would then be up to the incoming school division to decide on the implementation plan and work with parents.

**Lucy Philip**, parent of a student attending the National Sport School and a graduate of the school, shared that both her children thrived both academically and athletically at the school. She shared her knowledge that high school girls drop out of sport at twice the rate of boys, and that Canadian research done this year indicates that high school girls drop out at more than three times the rate of boys. She shared her belief that the National Sport School bucks that trend and asked how Bowness High School will create a culture that promotes females in sport that differs from the average high school. She stated that she supports any solution that allows the school to retain the WinSport location and the athletes' specialism.

Principal MacDonald noted that over 50% of the students in the High Performance Athlete Development Pathway at Bowness High School are females, and that the attrition rate at the school does not differ between males and females from either sports or athleticism.

**Kevin Barr** shared that missing from the enrolment projections is information to back up the numbers and he challenged those projections. He expressed his concern that he is not hearing full on that Bowness High School would support long-term student absences. He shared his belief that the National Sport School is operating this year on a skeleton staff and that keeping the school at WinSport in its current form is not sustainable.

Superintendent Breton acknowledged the uniqueness of the school adds an additional degree of complexity in terms of identifying enrolment projections. He noted the numbers show that Bowness High School has more than enough space to accommodate and support students from the National Sport School should the transition follow through as proposed. Director Randhawa confirmed flexibility around extended absences would be made possible at Bowness High School; and as a result of the pandemic the move to on-line learning has allowed the CBE to create very strong on-line digital platforms.

Superintendent Breton added that new funding seen for the National Sport School is reflective of the funding that other CBE high schools receive. In previous years, students at the National Sport School received a substantial top up, above and beyond the resource allocation model, and that has now been adjusted to align to new circumstances and the new funding framework.

**Beth Huckerby**, parent, questioned whether consideration was given to the sense of community for these athletes, and recognition given to the commitment of these very young athletes to bring exposure to the city through their sport. She shared her belief that this conversation seems a bit in reverse, when we should be doing everything possible to support this commitment of our future athletes.

**Gaylene Layden**, parent of a student attending the National Sport School, asked about the different timetable, where students attending the National Sport School have a fixed one and Bowness High School students are on a rotating timetable. She also questioned the comparison of costs for 2019/20 against funding for 2020/21, knowing the funding model has changed.

Principal MacDonald noted students have four classes during a typical day, morning classes are always morning classes and afternoon classes are always afternoon classes, with some minor toggling of start/end times. The timetable at Bowness High School is as flexible as possible to meet student needs, including those students who have courses off campus.

Superintendent Breton clarified the slide showing the 2019-20 budget for the National Sport School of \$1.8 million was identified to help put in perspective what it was when the CBE was under the old funding framework, and the topping up of additional funding above what other CBE high schools were receiving. The \$1.25 million shows what it is today, with the shift made to funding the National Sport School in the same fashion as funding other CBE high schools.

**Bruce Irvine** shared his concern that assumptions may have been made in the school enrolment projections for Bowness High School. He shared that it appears a significant driver of the proposed transition of students to Bowness High School is to increase capacity at the school. He reiterated previous public comments on the uniqueness of the National Sport School and the frequency of trips the students would have to make between schools, which he stated was not viable.

Superintendent Breton noted there was a time in the CBE when the personalization of learning equated to the creation of programs or schools, each one specific to a certain group. For the CBE of the future, as it comes to grips with the new funding realities, it is trying to place emphasis on the strength that exists within a community school and personalized learning that can happen within that community school. Administration recognizes the risk that students from the National Sport School will not opt in to the proposed transition plan.

**Matthew Fair**, parent, asked with the budget savings presented, what was the assumption on the percentage of students that would move to another high school.

Superintendent Breton noted the financial impacts reflect the actual costs and the new operating budget of \$1.25 million, aligning with the new funding framework and no top up of funds for the National Sport School. He stated there is no assumption of how many students would stay with

the program, because those numbers reflect the actual number of students that were at the school in 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

In response to CBE revenue from the National Sport School, Superintendent Breton noted the savings is a result of the overhead within the school administration. It is not a question of accounting for students as revenue, especially given that the new funding framework dilutes that. In the past, Alberta Education funded school boards based on the actual student enrolment. As of September 1, 2020, funding moved to a weighted moving average based on projected and actual student enrolment over a three-year period. It accounts for 50% of projected enrolment for the upcoming school year, 30% of the actual number of students enrolled in the previous year and 20% of the enrolment the year prior to that. This formula is very good for protecting school jurisdictions that have either stable enrolment or declining enrolment, but for growing school jurisdictions, it has the opposite effect. He noted the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) funding component of the grants received from the government attempts to incent school boards to maximize utilization of their schools by only funding O&M at 100% if a school is at 85% utilization or higher; a leased facility does not attract any such funding.

**Karl Riabowol**, parent of a child thinking of joining the National Sport School, noted his child's aspirations to represent her country and spending between 30 and 40 hours per week practicing her sport, while maintaining a very good academic average. He shared his understanding of the CBE trying to optimize on the high utilization of its buildings and its financial constraints; but he does not hear how the CBE recognizes that these students have "special needs" in terms of their goals for high achievement in sports and academics. He expressed that it does not make sense to him what the CBE is willing to lose, which includes a gem of a school with a high ranking of academic achievement. He shared his belief that a savings of \$10 per student is not worth all of the effort in this closure consideration.

Superintendent Breton stated if you take 120,000 students and multiple that by \$10 per student you arrive at the figure of \$1 Million in savings, per year. The CBE perspective goes back to the former funding framework where CBE would provide specialized programs; going forward the focus is on the strength that can exist within community schools, knowing that budgetary concerns are not going to be resolved in one, two or even three years. The CBE has to adjust and rapidly. Looking at the Ten-Year System Student Accommodation Plan, with lower birth rates within the city, we are actually seeing a decline of enrolment in the elementary schools, which will roll up over time into the middle and then the senior high schools. In closing, he remarked that the 120,000 students in the CBE must be treated equitably.

#### CLOSING REMARKS

Chair Dennis reiterated that following this public meeting the public has until Wednesday, November 18, 2020 to provide further written submissions for the Trustees regarding this closure consideration, to the following:

Attention: Prem Randhawa  
CBE  
728 – 32 Street NW  
Calgary AB T3E 3C2  
t | 403-777-8710



e | [Area1@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area1@cbe.ab.ca)

Email directly to [BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca)

Chair Dennis thanked everybody for attending the meeting and for providing respectful comments and input. The Board of Trustees tentatively anticipates debating the merits of this matter and making a decision regarding this school closure consideration on or about Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at a public meeting of the Board. The observations, comments and questions by the public are valued and will form part of the material that Trustees will consider as they review the matter and ultimately reach a decision. She noted that the public's input at this meeting has been an important contribution to the Board of Trustees' decision-making process.

Chair Dennis declared the meeting closed at 9:33 p.m.

Note to Reader:

The Minutes of the Public Input Meeting Regarding Consideration of Closure of the National Sport School, held virtually through Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. include the major points of discussion - they are not a verbatim transcript of the meeting.



## report to Board of Trustees

## Recommendation to Commence Public Input to Consider Closure of National Sport School

Date	October 13, 2020
Meeting Type	Regular Meeting, Public Agenda
To	Board of Trustees
From	Christopher Usih Chief Superintendent of Schools
Purpose	Decision
Originator	Dany Breton Superintendent Facilities and Environmental Services
Governance Policy Reference	Operational Expectations OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students OE-3: Instructional Program OE-7: Communication With and Support for the Board OE-8: Communicating and Engaging with the Public OE-9: Facilities GC-3E: Closure of Schools Procedure
Resource Person(s)	Dianne Yee, Superintendent of School Improvement Kelly-Ann Fenney, General Counsel Latosia Campbell-Walters, Director, Planning Prem Randhawa, Education Director, Area 1 Karen Drummond, Manager, Community Engagement Tanya Scanga, Manager, Corporate Planning and Reporting

## 1 | Recommendation

---

It is recommended:

THAT the Board of Trustees is satisfied that there is cause to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure.

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the public input period to consider the closure of National Sport School be shortened from 60 calendar days to 43 calendar days in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure.

## 2 | Issue

---

The National Sport School (NSS) operates at Canada Olympic Park under a lease agreement with WinSport.

The per-student cost of operating the school from this location is high, even with one year lease cost of one dollar per year. For the 2019-2020 school year, the total allocation to administer the program was \$1.8 million. The amended lease agreement comes to an end on July 15, 2021, and there is an opportunity to support students differently while concurrently enhancing financial sustainability.

Two Options (A&B) were explored with parents and staff in 2019/2020. Option A provides students with the opportunity to be integrated into Bowness High School, with access to WinSport using their own means of transportation. Option B involves closing the program and allowing students to return to their designated high schools.

Given the feedback from the engagement held in 2019/2020, Option A, which designates all students attending NSS to Bowness High School, is preferred.

Should the Board decide to proceed with the closure of NSS following the Closure of School Procedures, the program will cease to operate from Winsport effective the 2021/2022 school year.

## 3 | Background

---

NSS was created as a special focus/interest program offered through the CBE and Canada Olympic Development Association (CODA) in 1994. It was designed to meet the needs of high performance and developing athletes. This unique setting and delivery focus accommodates the sporting and learning needs of athletes in Grades 9-12.

For the first 17 years of its existence, NSS operated out of two different high schools (William Aberhart High School and Ernest Manning High School). When the replacement Ernest Manning High School was built, there was insufficient space to accommodate the NSS program. In 2011, the program moved to WinSport at Canada Olympic Park, a lease that was intended to be temporary. The Alberta Government pledged money for a capital project based on negotiations for the old Ernest Manning High School site, which was being demolished to make way for the new CTrain line. The money pledged from the government was contingent upon the CBE covering the remaining costs of building the school at WinSport. The total construction cost was

estimated to be \$9 million; the province committed \$3 million, meaning the CBE required an additional \$6 million. The CBE portion of the funding was never identified.

NSS was first identified on the Three Year System Student Accommodation Plan (SSAP) 2013-2016. At that time, the SSAP referenced that the construction of a new facility for NSS was on hold and that an alternative accommodation plan may need to be determined. This school has remained on the SSAP since that time.

With the initial lease for space expiring in June 2019 and the understanding that the 2019-2020 budget would be comparable to the 2018-2019 budget, CBE approached WinSport and was granted a one-year lease extension to June 2020.

Upon the release of the 2019-2020 budget by Alberta Education in October 2019, the CBE began exploring two options (A&B) that would see students supported differently.

#### Option A

This option would see the accommodation of students at Bowness High School. In this scenario, students would be integrated with other students for some classes and could continue to access WinSport using their own means for transportation. The advantage of this option is that all NSS students could be accommodated at a single site.

#### Option B

This option would involve the closure of the NSS program. Students would return to their designated schools within the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) or other jurisdictions. In this scenario, students would have the flexibility to work with their community school regarding programming and given the small numbers per receiving high school, all students could be accommodated within their designated community school.

Engagement proceedings around these two options began in the fall of 2019 with various stakeholder groups. In-person sessions were offered separately to students, staff and partner groups on November 18, 2019. An online survey was conducted from November 29 – December 16, 2019. Additional in-person discussions took place on January 30, February 3, and February 4, 2020, with parents, students, staff and partners. A second online survey was made available Feb. 3-18, 2020 for students, parents, staff and partners. Feedback was also received in various other formats. See Attachment I for more information.

In November 2019, WinSport made the CBE an offer to extend the lease agreement to July 2021 for \$1. In March 2020, the CBE accepted this offer.

## 4 | Analysis

---

Based on the feedback gathered on the two options and the number of students who indicated an interest in moving to Bowness High School, it is recommended that should the NSS program be closed, all current students be welcomed and integrated into the Bowness High School community. Should students choose not to attend, they would be accommodated at their designated high schools.

### Enrolment

Enrolment in NSS has remained steady between 170-200 students per year for the past five years. See Table 1.

Table 1 – Seven Year September 30 Enrolment

Year	GR9	GR10	GR11	GR12	Total
2014	36	37	44	49	166
2015	28	49	39	51	167
2016	32	41	47	50	170
2017	28	45	51	57	181
2018	58	38	46	58	200
2019	26	61	57	69	213
2020*	27	31	58	64	180

\* opening day enrolment

A move to a new location may mean a decline in enrolment. Through the feedback received to date, some stakeholders indicate that should the program move from WinSport, they would withdraw from it.

### Students and schools affected

The attendance area for NSS includes the entire city of Calgary. Students also come from school jurisdictions outside the CBE. A few students attending NSS are international students from other countries. As of September 14, 2020, enrolment in the NSS was 183 students.

Of the students currently registered, 37 or approximately one fifth are students from outside the CBE. The largest number of students within CBE boundaries attending NSS in September 2020 came from the community of Tuscany (15 students).

Bowness High School is the designated school for students in the regular program from this community. Should the decision be made for the NSS to close and students chose to return to their designated schools within the CBE, there will be minimal impact on these schools.

### Bowness High School – capacity, space and access

Bowness High School is located approximately 3 km from WinSport. The current capacity at the school is 1607 students. The projected enrolment for September 2020 is 1,159 students. As of September 14, 2020, there were 1,162 student enrolled. This number includes 898 students in the regular program, 16 students in special education programs and 248 out-of-attendance area students. At a utilization rate of 72 per cent, Bowness has the space and capacity to accommodate all NSS students in September 2021 and beyond.

This accommodation plan was informed by community feedback in addition to the planning principles of keeping cohorts of students together, providing long-term sustainability and using space and resources effectively within the CBE.

Under this proposed move to Bowness, transportation to school and between Bowness High School and WinSport would be by city transit or self-transport as a responsibility of the student and family.

## Capital Plan Impacts

Bowness High School was the subject of a large addition with various infrastructure upgrades completed between 2016-present. Moreover, master planning and design modernization work is underway to increase the number of classrooms by a total of six through the redevelopment of unfinished spaces within the building.

## Educational and program impacts

Under the proposed accommodation of students at Bowness High School, the transition plan would see students attend mainstream classes. Timetabling and scheduling for each semester will be personalized to support students. Programming would include both a blended and flexible approach, with accessibility to online learning. Athletic-related absences will be supported while students are away.

Student transitions will be coordinated, purposeful and outcomes-oriented. A learning leader will be allocated to support student transitions. This transition plan will include the following:

- NSS Parent & Student Information meetings at Bowness High School;
- Some NSS staff will have an opportunity to move to Bowness High School to support learning continuity for NSS students; and
- NSS staff will have student transition meetings with Bowness High School staff to share data and information about each student, including achievement data, social/emotional needs, attendance and sports commitments.

Grade 9 is currently not offered at Bowness High School, but this grade level can be added to accommodate students wishing to attend from NSS if a minimum cohort size of twenty (20) is attained.

## COVID precautionary measures

The CBE has implemented precautionary measures that align with Alberta Health Services (AHS) and Alberta Education (AB Ed) direction to reduce the risk posed by COVID-19 in schools. With a utilization rate of 72%, students can be safely accommodated within Bowness High School.

Moreover by 2021/2022 school year, there is the possibility of a vaccine or additional health measures that may further reduce the risks presented by the virus.

## Financial Impact

---

The 2019-2020 cost of the program was as follows:

	2019/2020
Principal (1 FTE)	\$ 140,096
Assistant Principal (1 FTE)	\$ 120,536
Learning Leader (1 FTE)	\$ 103,991
Teachers (11.07 FTE)	\$ 1,119,177
SIS Assistant (0.7143 FTE)	\$ 44,389
Admin Secretary (1 FTE)	\$ 75,653
School Technology Support (0.3 FTE)	\$ 29,983
Supplies General	\$ 3,723
Supplies Classroom	\$ 20,335
Copier Charges	\$ 2,075
Minor equipment	\$ 40,122
Telephone	\$ 2,805
Lease	\$ 108,331
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,811,216</b>

For the 2020/2021 school year, the Resource Allocation Method (RAM) total is approximately \$1.25 million dollars. If students were to be accommodated at Bowness High School, the CBE could avoid costs of approximately \$350,000 per year. These costs include over \$242,000 in school administration, and \$108,000 in lease costs. The remaining amounts from the RAM allocation would follow students to Bowness High School or other receiving high schools.

Additionally, even if some or all current NSS students choose not to be accommodated at Bowness High School and instead return to another school jurisdiction, the CBE will likely not see provincial revenue impacted given the continued system-wide enrolment growth that is forecasted.

Lastly, WinSport currently charges parents a fee of approximately \$4,750 per student per year. All money is collected by WinSport and is directed to services for students provided by WinSport.

## 5 | Implementation Consequences

---

If the Board of Trustees is satisfied that there is cause to proceed with commencement of the public input process for the purpose of closing the NSS program in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure, then a second decision is required in regards to shortening the public input period.

If a decision was taken to close NSS and accommodate students at Bowness High School, school staff, both certificated staff and support staff, would be redeployed within the CBE as follows:

- Teachers would be transferred through ‘the teacher transfer process’, in accordance with the CBE’s current staffing processes. Some teachers would move to Bowness High School.
- Support staff would be identified for transfer/layoff and considered for placement and recall in accordance with the CBE and Staff Association Collective Agreement and current staffing processes.

## 6 | Conclusion

---

There is a pressing need for a decision to be made soon concerning the NSS so that students and their families can adequately prepare themselves.

An important consideration is that GC-3E requires that the Board provide a minimum of 60 calendar days for the public input before making a final decision. Accordingly, should the Board decide to proceed with the public input process, it is recommended that the Board consider shortening the timeframe from 60 calendar days to 43.

Additionally, there is the sense that seeking further stakeholder feedback outside of the public input process is unnecessary, will duplicate the engagement that has already occurred and may generate an adverse emotional reaction in parents who desire a rapid resolution.

Lastly, if the Board chooses to commence the public input process, CBE Administration will collaborate with other school jurisdictions that may be interested in establishing a similar program at WinSport. Based on input received during the engagement conducted during the 2019-2020 school year, this would be well received by parents as it could provide another alternative for students.



**CHRISTOPHER USIH**  
**CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

### ATTACHMENTS

Attachment I: Engagement Summary  
 Attachment II: NSS Staff Feedback

### GLOSSARY – Developed by the Board of Trustees

Board: Board of Trustees

Governance Culture: The Board defined its own work and how it will be carried out. These policies clearly state the expectations the Board has for individual and collective behaviour.

Board/Chief Superintendent Relationship: The Board defined in policy how authority is delegated to its only point of connection – the Chief Superintendent – and how the Chief Superintendent’s performance will be evaluated.

Operational Expectations: These policies define both the nonnegotiable expectations and the clear boundaries within which the Chief Superintendent and staff must operate. They articulate the actions and decisions the Board would find either absolutely necessary or totally unacceptable.

Results: These are our statements of outcomes for each student in our district. The Results policies become the Chief Superintendent’s and the organization’s performance targets and form the basis for judging organization and Chief Superintendent performance.



## 2019-2020 Discussions Regarding Options for the Future of the National Sport School

On October 24, 2019, the province released the 2019-2020 school budget. Based on this budget information, the CBE determined that action was needed sooner than previously anticipated to consider options for the future of the National Sport School (NSS). With the fiscal realities, it was no longer viable to have the NSS program located at WinSport.

A community engagement plan was developed in alignment with the [CBE Dialogue Framework](#). This plan included the following opportunities for the NSS community to learn about the options and share their perspectives

### Community Engagement with Stakeholders

#### **Nov. 18, 2019**

CBE staff from Planning, School Improvement and Communications and Community Engagement presented information to staff, students, parents, partners and alumni to inform the community about the budget situation and the options available to the CBE in planning for the future of the NSS. These options for the 2020-21 school year were as follows:

Option A - Relocation of the program to a nearby high school, likely Bowness High School. In this scenario, students could be integrated with other students for some classes, continue to access WinSport providing their own transportation and NSS students could be accommodated at a single site.

Option B - This option would involve the closure of the NSS program. Students would return to their designated schools within or outside the CBE. In this scenario students would have the flexibility to work with their community school regarding programming and given the numbers, all students could successfully return to their community school.

[Nov. 18, 2019 Presentation](#)

#### **Nov. 29 – Dec. 16, 2019 Online Survey**

This survey was open to students, parents, staff, partners and alumni to share their thoughts and perspectives on Options A and B.

[Nov. – Dec. Online Survey Results Report](#)

#### **Dec. 13, 2019 NSS Staff Session**

CBE staff from Planning, School Improvement, Communications and Community Engagement and Bowness High School shared information with NSS staff and provided an opportunity for staff to share their thoughts on how students could best be supported in making transitions for the two options.

[Dec. 13, 2019 Input from NSS Staff](#)

#### **Jan. 30 – Feb. 4 Sessions**

CBE staff from Planning, School Improvement, Communications and Community Engagement and Bowness High School provided additional information on the two options to those directly affected by the decision (parents, students, staff and

partners). Sessions provided time to either respond to questions or for discussion amongst participants.

[Jan. 30 Presentation](#)  
[Jan. 30, 2020 Discussion Notes](#)  
[Feb. 4 Presentation](#)  
[Feb. 4 Discussion Notes](#)

### ***Feb. 3 – 18 Online Survey***

With the additional information provided at the Jan. 30 – Feb. 4 sessions, one last opportunity was provided in the process for students, parents, staff and partners to provide feedback on Options A and B before the recommendation would be submitted to the Board of Trustees for consideration.

[Feb. 3 – 18, 2020 Online Survey Results](#)

## **Additional Meetings and Discussions**

### ***Oct. 22, 2019***

Initial communication to families and school administration came on October 22, 2019 when the trustee for the school attended the School Council meeting. The next day, stakeholders received an invitation to an information meeting to be hosted by CBE Administration in November. At the school council meeting, it was shared by the trustee that a one-year lease extension was being contemplated for NSS at WinSport to allow for time to engage with stakeholders on the future of NSS.

### ***Nov. 6, 2019***

CBE Chief Superintendent of Schools met with WinSport leaders to discuss the CBE's financial situation and the fact that the one-year extension would no longer be possible for CBE administration to consider. There was also discussion about the value of the sport culture NSS students experience when immersed at WinSport.

### ***Nov. 28, 2019***

Director, Area 1 and ELL/Kingsland, System Principal, Area 1 and a WinSport executive met and discussed the following concerns: the options presented at the meetings did not meet the needs of NSS students, in particular attendance and transportation; WinSport felt they had not been consulted or included in conversations and WinSport was asked to consider how the CBE/WinSport partnership could continue in Options A and B.

### ***Dec. 9, 2019***

CBE Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services met with a WinSport executive and an NSS parent and discussed the financial circumstances the CBE is under and the CBE's desire to support student-athletes out of existing CBE high schools to gain savings. The value of maintaining the program on location at WinSport was also discussed and asked to be considered by CBE.

### ***Jan. 29, 2020***

CBE Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services, Director, Area 1 and ELL/Kingsland and Manager, Employee and Community Engagement met with three

NSS parents to discuss the CBE's financial situation and the proposal put forward by a group of NSS parents. The parents expressed a desire to keep NSS at WinSport for one more year and expressed concern about the timing of the decision given that families need to make decisions for the 2020-21 school year.

***Feb. 4, 2020***

CBE Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services and WinSport executive discussed the fact that WinSport was taking the lead reaching out to other school jurisdictions that might be interested in creating a school at WinSport and that the conversations would take place in a way that was respectful of the CBE.



**Feedback from NSS Staff – Friday, December 13, 2019**
**Agreement represents the number of dots on the post-it notes.**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Agreement</b>
What do you believe are the needs and priorities of the student athletes? (some examples to consider) Outline the day in the life of a student athlete and provide context of their schedules Complementary courses Off-site activities Other	
Students benefit from rubbing shoulders with Olympians daily – in the hallway/gym	6
D - Other – Grade 9 needs: the youngest students at our school are able to work on a Grade 10 science second semester; this allows gr. 10, 11, 12 scheduling of all 3 sciences to be easily scheduled; often easing the Gr. 12 year (usually a highly competitive year)	1
I think world-class athletes need to experience success in all areas of life, and (success) school is a big part of that.	2
Student athletes need compassionate adults in their lives, who are flexible with not only the assignments/tests, but also with teaching methods, and access to teachers	4
With the 2 options the current partnerships can not be maintained they can not exist out of this facility in a meaningful manner	2
There is no one day in the life. All sports and Club with different schedules train at different times No one size fits all Some miss classes some miss days some miss months Students take the courses they need no time for complementary courses. Get there 100 credits move on Very few have time for sports clubs, so on ...	8
Offsite activities Physical literacy provided through Athlete Development Builds Community Many students to off-site for training eg: Yukon for skiing, Pano, Europe Gymnasts need to go off-site to train 2x/day	2

Students need the ability to continue a course from one semester to the next semester to provide extra time to complete course	1
Diploma Sittings often in April or November because students still need time to complete extended courses	
Day in a life varies greatly from one student to another Some are away period 1, every day for the semester Some are gone for 3 weeks at a time, multiple times a year Some miss 1 – 2 days/wk for the entire year	2
Most Students would assign minimal value to extra curricular & complementary courses – no time for them	3
At NSS, the student has the same TA for all 4 years. Each year we have a planning day & long term plan their courses. Will they need an extra semester/year? Do they need to take some courses all year? Do they need to take a summer or online class? What period(s) of the day do they miss? (Can we schedule a spare or option course at that time?) Ex 1: A speed skater will arrive at school at 10:30 am each day Ex 2: A student makes Youth Olympic team and will miss January Ex 3: A group of students on the same team misses every Friday Etc ...	1
Location – Specific Advantages training facilities, rink, gymnastics, snow dryland sport psychologists nutritionists physio massage concussion clinic Canada Sport Hall of Fame – opportunity for public speaking * WinSport helps minimize time away from school. Builds communities of support. Witness and get inspired by worlds cups, and other world class facilities & athletes	6
Biggest needs: flexible schedules small group support to catch up on missed days flexible due dates sense of belonging	1

<p>Mental Health Injury: treatment on-site, minimizing time from school * Command empathy &amp; support by students and staff who understand process Sport specific mental health strategies Access to sport psychology consultant</p>	5
<p>There is no “day in the life” of an NSS student athlete. All students have very different schedules based on their sports. Some students are only there on Wednesdays and Fridays. Some always miss ½ of per 3 and all of period 4. Some travel for weeks at a time, come back for a week and then are gone again for weeks. Every student is different. Every sport is different. There are 216 “days in the life”.</p>	7
<p>The need for complementary courses is not needed for our students. What matters more is the flexibility in the schedule. They get all the CTS credits they need. They get the PhysEd requirements (and more) and the students have an interest in sport, which is what most CTS is catered to their interests</p>	2
<p>Students need flexibility. Real flexibility not putting them in a class of 30+ and hoping that it will be enough</p>	
<p>NSS students don’t have time for extra complementary courses. Or, extracurricular activities as training &amp; competition demands don’t permit</p>	1
<p>Four Sample Students. Many more permutations exist</p> <p>Student A: Gr 9 gymnast. Train in morning, miss per 1 T/W/TH. Afternoon training on F. Student B: Luge – 2-3 wk blocks throughout year. Many classes done full year. Senior Luge: gone Nov – Apr. Student C: Alpine: misses every Th/F. Periods in winter months; 4 – 6 wks absence Student D: Freestyle – afternoon training Starts sem 1 2 – 3 wks late due to int’l training Miss 4 – 6 wk blocks</p>	4 (for B)

<b>2. From your perspective, what partnerships and opportunities need to be maintained for students in Options A and B?</b>	
<b>Response</b>	<b>Agreement</b>
Opportunity for: working with students in similar situations	

Canada Sport Hall of Fame opportunity to speak to over 40 elem. Groups per year access for sport med, humanities, physics, etc	2
Maintaining the WinSport relationship	4
TA (teacher that understands): These athletes need to be together to support each other as they understand the same stresses they are under	1
Access to a sports psychologist/counsellor! Daily interaction!	7
Students must have opportunities to demonstrate their learning in multiple ways ... opportunities to showcase their success and struggles. Recognition of accomplishments ... opportunities to continue with sport at their full capacity	5
Facility opportunities – (gymnast & figure skaters are often too young to drive), hockey players, freestyle skiers, snowboarders, etc ski jumpers, figure skaters, ie, dancers train here. They come late to some classes, leave early from others – with minimal disruption and time lost for travel. Coaches on site Many parents work and cannot drive back and forth	6
There is not a way to maintain a relationship with these very important partners. How would it be feasible to keep our sport psychologist without WinSport fees and a reduction in student number What would be the incentive for WinSport? School psychologists are VERY different from sport psychologist.	5
Students need to be close to WinSport facilities for easy training – access to nutritionists, physio, sports medicine coaches. Yoga CSF Mental Health training	5
* A reality: if the quality of the program is not worthwhile for the student-athlete, the program will not be worth driving for. * Opportunity to train, to attend classes to train again, esp. for our student-athletes who cannot drive. (or class/train/class...etc)	3
Option A: remaining as a cohort. Understanding community	

cbe.ab.ca



Calgary Board  
of Education

*dialogue* )))

<p><b>What do you believe are important issues to pay attention to regarding the transition of students to another school?</b>            Assimilation into a CBE school            Offsite/Digital Learning/Advanced Technologies            Hybrid learning environment            Travel Schedule            Other</p>	
<b>Response</b>	<b>Agreement</b>
<p>Without the resource teachers, so many students would get lost. We are constantly providing students with extensive support            Small class sizes allows us to quickly identify student needs and get them into the correct programs/classes very quickly</p>	1
<p>E - Other - Extending Course endings ... Many students need last minute schedule changes that reflect only a temporary extension. Ie Soc. 20 – will need to extend to end of Feb            Diplomas 4 times a year            Tumbling timetable doesn't work with training schedules</p>	2
<p>D - Travel schedule –            1. Travel plans ( advance notice &amp; contact w/teacher)            2. Opportunities to plan ahead            3. Realistic time available when away            4. Contact w/coaches</p>	1 2 2
<p>Many students at NSS have <u>complex</u> needs (ex: social/behavioural, family problems, intellectual), and the small class sizes helps support their HS success</p>	1
<p>Care of grade 9 to be considered</p>	

cbe.ab.ca



Calgary Board  
of Education

*dialogue*)))

<p>A - Assimilation TA/Adult mentor in building Clear understanding by all staff regarding student needs/demands Set schedule to accommodate training times Clear definition of accommodations are available: flexibility in terms of student needs: how to ask for these accommodations Colleagues – how will NSS staff be integrated into the schools? Options for a test centre Students may be writing exams well after the rest of the class, or ahead of time. Constant schedule adjustments (ex. Shift of diploma for Jan – Apr split A/B, etc)</p>	7
<p>E - Other – Awareness that a few students utilize different diploma settings: Nov, Jan, April, June, at times splitting the exam. ie This year students just made the Youth Olympics 2020/Jan – diplomas now need to be moved. Non-diploma final exams are <u>often</u> written late or early</p>	3
<p>Offsite/Digital Learning/Advanced Technologies. Hybrid Learning Environment These students <u>need</u> face to face, some blended Strictly online will not work for these kids, they need accountability, personal connection, structure encouragement They need to feel a sense of community All courses do need to be online in terms of content videos, resources, audio etc as these students require these supports when away for sport Teachers need to communicate with students via email Any students taking online classes at the current location have opportunities to get in-person support from teachers here</p>	7

Relevant Excerpts from Board Policy GC-3E: Closure of Schools Procedure	Action
<p>10. A decision by the Board to commence the public input into the proposed closure process shall be made, by motion, at a public meeting of the Board</p>	<p>At the October 13, 2020 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Calgary of Education (CBE), the Board of Trustees (Board) accepted a recommendation from CBE administration to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School, Attachment III to this report, as set out in its Board Policy GC-3E – Closure of Schools Procedure. The Board passed the following motions</p> <p><b>THAT</b> the Board of Trustees is satisfied that there is cause to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure.</p> <p><b>THAT</b> the Board of Trustees approves the public input period to consider the closure of National Sport School be shortened from 60 calendar days to 43 calendar days in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure.</p>
<p>13. Parents of every student enrolled in the school are entitled to be notified of the proposed closure in writing. Those parents shall be notified in writing of the proposed school closure including:</p> <p>(a) the date and time of the public meeting set for the purposes of allowing public input into the decision;</p> <p>(b) where parents can access information about the proposed school closure;</p> <p>(c) process, method and timelines, for parents and other interested persons to provide written responses into the proposed decision;</p> <p>(d) the date and time of the meeting of the Board of Trustees where the matter will be deliberated; and</p>	<p>October 15, 2020 the Board of Trustees sent a letter to all parents/guardians of National Sport School, Attachment IV to this report, containing the following information on the proposed closure of National Sport School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Board motions passed at the October 13, 2020 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees;</li> <li>▪ Date, time and location of a public meeting being held by the Board to hear from parents, students and other persons on the proposed closure;</li> <li>▪ Information on the rationale, pertinent facts and proposed closure is available to the parents and the public on the CBE public website and the school website:  <a href="https://cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Pages/national-sport-school.aspx">https://cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Pages/national-sport-school.aspx</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/NationalSport/Pages/default.aspx">https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/NationalSport/Pages/default.aspx</a></li> <li>▪ The process for parent/guardian to provide written submission and questions to the Board of Trustees was outlined. The public</li> </ul>

Relevant Excerpts from Board Policy GC-3E: Closure of Schools Procedure	Action
<p>(e) any other information that the Board believes is relevant in the circumstances.</p>	<p>was given until Wednesday, November 18, 2020 to provide written submissions on the proposed closure;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Board advised the parents/guardians that it will decide whether to close National Sport School Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at a meeting of the Board of Trustees.</li> </ul>
<p>14. The Board may notify in writing any other persons, municipality, or community organizations who, in the opinion of the Board, may be significantly affected by the decision.</p>	<p>October 16, 2020 letters were sent to WinSport, school council of National Sport School and the City of Calgary, Attachment V and VI to this report, containing the following information on the proposed closure of National Sport School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Board motions passed at the October 13, 2020 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees;</li> <li>▪ Date, time and location of a public meeting being held by the Board to hear from parents, students and other persons on the proposed closure;</li> <li>▪ Information on the rationale, pertinent facts and proposed closure is available to the parents and the public on the CBE public website and the school website:  <a href="https://cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Pages/national-sport-school.aspx">https://cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Pages/national-sport-school.aspx</a>   <a href="https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/NationalSport/Pages/default.aspx">https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/NationalSport/Pages/default.aspx</a></li> <li>▪ The process for the public to provide written submission and questions to the Board of Trustees was outlined. The public was given until Wednesday, November 18, 2020 to provide written submissions on the proposed closure;</li> <li>▪ The Board advised the parents/guardians that it will decide whether to close National Sport School on Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at a meeting of the Board of Trustees.</li> </ul>
<p>15. The Board shall ensure that the rationale, pertinent facts, and information about the proposed closure is available on the CBE public website and school website, which may include, where applicable:</p> <p>(a) The number of students who could be affected by the decision, at the school proposed for closure and the schools of receiving schools and surrounding schools;</p>	<p>October 15, 2020 the CBE posted the following information on the Managing Space for Students – National Sport School webpage, Attachment VII to this report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ October 13, 2020 motions passed by the Board of Trustees</li> <li>▪ Notification letter to parents/guardians regarding consideration of closure</li> <li>▪ Background Information including:</li> </ul>

Relevant Excerpts from Board Policy GC-3E: Closure of Schools Procedure	Action
<p>(b) Future growth or decline in student enrolment;</p> <p>(c) Use of and availability of space at receiving schools;</p> <p>(d) Proximity of the receiving schools and the need for busing;</p> <p>(e) Educational and program impacts for the affected students;</p> <p>(f) Financial considerations including cost savings and future disposition;</p> <p>(g) Consideration of possible alternative educational or community uses for all or part the school building;</p> <p>(h) Impact, if any, on the CBE's long-term capital plans.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Number of students who could be affected by the decision including future decline in student enrolment;</li> <li>○ Proximity of Bowness High School and student transportation;</li> <li>○ Use and availability of space at Bowness High School</li> <li>○ Impact on long-term capital plans</li> <li>○ Educational and program impacts</li> <li>○ Financial impacts; and</li> <li>○ Alternative use of the school building</li> <li>▪ Public Input meeting date, location and RSVP information</li> <li>▪ The process for the public to provide written submission and questions to the Board of Trustees is outlined</li> <li>▪ Powerpoint presentation from the November 4, 2020 public input meeting</li> <li>▪ The Board will decide whether to close National Sport School on Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at a meeting of the Board of Trustees.</li> </ul>
<p>16. The Board will organize at least one (1) public meeting, along with the opportunity to provide written submissions, as part of the public input process.</p> <p>17. The Board will convene a meeting to provide parents, community members, community organizations and other members of the public, with an opportunity to provide input into the proposed closure decision.</p>	<p>On November 4, 2020 a public input meeting was held virtually to allow CBE Administration to outline the rational for the proposed closure and share information about the timing of the proposed closure and the accommodation plan for students affected; and to provide the public an opportunity to share their perspective about the proposed closure and ask questions.</p> <p>At the conclusion of the public input meeting the process to provide written submissions to the Board was reviewed.</p> <p>All six trustees attended the November 4, 2020 public input meeting.</p>
<p>18. The date, time and place of the public input meeting will be advertised through a variety of methods. This will include sharing information with neighbouring schools, school councils, if any, employee groups, and by posting information on the CBE's public website and school websites, and by any other reasonable means that are</p>	<p>The details on the public input meeting were posted as follows:</p> <p><b><u>Posters advertising the public input meeting</u></b></p> <p>On October 21, 2020 poster size notices indicating the date, time and RSVP information for the November 4, 2020 public input meeting regarding the consideration of closure of National Sport School were posted at WinSport.</p>

Relevant Excerpts from Board Policy GC-3E: Closure of Schools Procedure	Action
likely to bring the matter to the attention of affected persons or groups.	<p><b><u>Bold signs</u></b>  On October 21, 2020 three bold signs were assembled to inform the public of the November 4, 2020 public input meeting time and RSVP information. The bold signs were installed at the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ On North side of Canada Olympic Dr; West of 16 Ave NW</li> <li>▪ On East side of 83 ST; North of Bowfort Rd NW</li> <li>▪ On East side MacKay Rd; North of 23 Ave NW (visible from Shagappi Tr)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>CBE Website</u></b>  October 15, 2020 National Sport School webpage linked to Managing Space for Students – National Sport School webpage which contained the date, time and RSVP information for the public input meeting.</p>
19. Parents of students in the affected school will be notified of the date, time and location of the meeting as set out in section 15 above.	October 15, 2020 the Board of Trustees sent a letter to all parents/guardians of National Sport School indicating the date, time and RSVP information for the November 4, 2020 public input meeting.
20. The public meeting will include: <p>(a) a presentation setting out the rationale for the proposed closure, including the pertinent facts and information, set out in the report prepared in support of the proposed closure; and</p> <p>(b) sharing information on the timing of the proposed closure, the accommodation plan for students affected by the closure, and information about possible future uses of the school building; and</p> <p>(c) a means for the attendees to offer comment and questions.</p>	<p>On November 4, 2020 a public input meeting was held virtually to allow CBE Administration to outline the rationale for the proposed closure and share information about the timing of the proposed closure and the accommodation plan for students affected; and to provide the public an opportunity to share their perspective about the proposed closure and ask questions.</p> <p>Powerpoint presentation from the November 4, 2020 public input meeting as posted to the Managing Space for Students – National Sport School webpage, Attachment VIII to this report.</p> <p>The meeting was recorded audio/visually for internal administration purposes.</p>
21. The Board shall prepare draft minutes of the public meeting and ensure that the draft minutes are posted on the CBE’s public website.	Minutes of the November 4, 2020 public input meeting were prepared, Attachment I to this report.

<b>Relevant Excerpts from Board Policy GC-3E: Closure of Schools Procedure</b>	<b>Action</b>
<p>22. The Board shall provide an opportunity for affected persons to provide their input on the proposed school closure in writing.</p> <p>23. The Board will provide directions and information on how to submit written input including timelines for submissions.</p>	<p>The October 15, 2020 letter to all parents/ guardians of National Sport School, and the October 16 letters to affected persons contained details on how to provide written submission and questions to the Board of Trustees. The public was given until Wednesday, November 18, 2020 to provide written submissions on the proposed closure.</p> <p>The Managing Space for Students – National Sport School webpage contains the process for the public to provide written submission and questions to the Board of Trustees.</p> <p>At the conclusion of the November 4, 2020 public input meeting the process to provide written submissions to the Board was reviewed.</p>
<p>25. After the public meeting has been convened and the time for written submission is concluded, the Board shall deliberate and decide on the proposed closure at a public meeting of the Board of Trustees.</p> <p>26. The Board will publish, on CBE’s public website, the date and time of the Board meeting when the final decision on the proposed school closure will be deliberated.</p>	<p>The October 15, 2020 letter to all parents/ guardians of National Sport School, and the October 16 letters to affected persons stated the Board will decide whether to close National Sport School on Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at a meeting of the Board of Trustees.</p> <p>The Managing Space for Students – National Sport School webpage indicated the Board will decide whether to close National Sport School on Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at a meeting of the Board of Trustees.</p> <p>At the commencement and conclusion of the November 4, 2020 public input meeting the public was informed that the Board will make a decision regarding the closure of National Sport School on or about Wednesday, November 25, 2020, at a public board meeting.</p>


**Board of Trustees**

1221 – 8 Street SW Calgary, AB T2R 0L4 | t | 403-817-7933 | f | 403-294-8282 | www.cbe.ab.ca

**Board Chair**
**Marilyn Dennis** Wards 5 & 10

**Vice-Chair**

Althea Adams Wards 3 &amp; 4

**Trustees**

Trina Hurdman Wards 1 &amp; 2

Board of Trustees Wards 6 &amp; 7

Richard Hehr Wards 8 &amp; 9

Julie Hrdlicka Wards 11 &amp; 13

Mike Bradshaw Wards 12 &amp; 14

October 15, 2020

To: Parents/Guardians of National Sport School

This letter is to advise you that at the October 13, 2020 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Calgary of Education (CBE), the Board of Trustees (Board) accepted a recommendation from CBE administration to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School as set out in its Board Policy GC-3E – Closure of Schools Procedure. The Board passed the following motions:

- THAT the Board of Trustees is satisfied that there is cause to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure.
- THAT the Board of Trustees approves the public input period to consider the closure of National Sport School be shortened from 60 calendar days to 43 calendar days in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure.

The Board of Trustees' Closure of Schools Procedures (GC-3E) sets out the formal process that must be followed when closure is being considered, prior to the Board making its decision on whether or not to close this school. This includes providing notice to parents and students who are affected by the decision.

**Public Meeting**

The Board of Trustees will hold a public meeting to hear from parents, students and other persons on the proposed closure. At the meeting CBE will share information about the proposed closure including the rationale, the plans for students, and the timing (amongst other things). The meeting will be held on:

Date: Wednesday, November 4, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

Due to COVID-19 and related health measures the meeting will be hosted virtually to minimize in person contact. To participate in this virtual meeting, kindly RSVP providing your first and last name, and email address to

[BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca) by **Tuesday, November 3, 2020**. A meeting invitation link will be emailed to you in advance of the meeting.

We encourage you to attend the meeting to hear more about the proposed closure and to share your viewpoints.

### **Access to Information**

Information on the rationale, pertinent facts and proposed closure is available to the parents and the public on the CBE public website and the school website:

<https://cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Pages/national-sport-school.aspx>

<https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/NationalSport/Pages/default.aspx>

We strongly encourage you to review the information on CBE's website so that you are informed about the proposed closure.

### **Questions and Written Submissions**

The Board of Trustees welcome your views and input and invite you to provide comments to them directly at: [BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca), or through administration at the Area 1 Office in writing to:

Attention: Prem Randhawa  
Calgary Board of Education  
728 – 32 Street NW  
Calgary AB T3E 3C2  
t | 403-777-8710  
e | [Area1@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area1@cbe.ab.ca)

Please note all written submissions must be received by **Wednesday, November 18, 2020** for Board of Trustees to give due consideration to the written submissions received prior to making a final decision on the proposed closure.

Any questions regarding the Board of Trustees' consideration of closure of National Sport School may be submitted in writing to [Area1@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area1@cbe.ab.ca). It is not possible to respond individually to questions or inquiries prior to the public meeting. At the public meeting, having reviewed questions for relevancy and redundancy, selected questions will be answered. Should your specific question(s) not be selected for response at the public meeting, you will have ample opportunity to direct questions to CBE administration, and you are invited to do so.

### **Board Decision**

The Board of Trustees will hold a special public meeting to deliberate and decide on whether or not to close National Sport School. The meeting will be held on:

Date: Wednesday, November 25, 2020

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: Multipurpose Room, Education Centre, 1221 – 8 Street SW,  
Calgary

Members of the public may offer comment at this Board meeting in accordance with the public comment procedure outlined in the Board Meeting Procedures:

<https://cbe.ab.ca/GovernancePolicies/Board-Meeting-Procedures-with-Public-Comment-Excerpt.pdf>

Following the November 25<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, the Board of Trustees will communicate its final decision, the effective date and any other information relevant to support the implementation of the decision.

The Board of Trustees looks forward to your input regarding this important matter.

Yours truly,



Marilyn Dennis  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Calgary Board of Education

Cc: C. Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools  
D. Breton, Superintendent, Facilities & Environmental Services  
L. Campbell-Walters, Director, Planning  
P. Randhawa, Education Director, Area 1  
R. Jewan, Principal, National Sport School


**Board of Trustees**

1221 – 8 Street SW Calgary, AB T2R 0L4 | t | 403-817-7933 | f | 403-294-8282 | www.cbe.ab.ca

**Board Chair**
**Marilyn Dennis** Wards 5 & 10

**Vice-Chair**

Althea Adams Wards 3 &amp; 4

**Trustees**

Trina Hurdman Wards 1 &amp; 2

Board of Trustees Wards 6 &amp; 7

Richard Hehr Wards 8 &amp; 9

Julie Hrdlicka Wards 11 &amp; 13

Mike Bradshaw Wards 12 &amp; 14

October 16, 2020

 School Council, National Sport School  
 151 Canada Olympic Road SW  
 Calgary, AB T3B 6B7

Attention: Ms. Nadine Yacey

This letter is to advise you that at the October 13, 2020 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Calgary of Education (CBE), the Board of Trustees (Board) accepted a recommendation from CBE administration to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School as set out in its Board Policy GC-3E – Closure of Schools Procedure. The Board passed the following motions:

- THAT the Board of Trustees is satisfied that there is cause to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure.
- THAT the Board of Trustees approves the public input period to consider the closure of National Sport School be shortened from 60 calendar days to 43 calendar days in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure.

The Board of Trustees' Closure of Schools Procedures (GC-3E) sets out the formal process that must be followed when closure is being considered, prior to the Board making its decision on whether or not to close this school. This includes providing notice to other persons who, in the opinion of the Board, may be significantly affected by the decision.

**Public Meeting**

The Board of Trustees will hold a public meeting to hear from parents, students and other persons on the proposed closure. At the meeting CBE will share information about the proposed closure including the rationale, the plans for students, and the timing (amongst other things). The meeting will be held on:

Date: Wednesday, November 4, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

Due to COVID-19 and related health measures the meeting will be hosted virtually to minimize in person contact. To participate in this virtual meeting, kindly RSVP providing your first and last name, and email address to [BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca) by **Tuesday, November 3, 2020**. A meeting invitation link will be emailed to you in advance of the meeting.

We encourage you to attend the meeting to hear more about the proposed closure and to share your viewpoints.

### **Access to Information**

Information on the rationale, pertinent facts and proposed closure is available to the parents and the public on the CBE public website and the school website:

<https://cbe.cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Pages/national-sport-school.aspx>

<https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/NationalSport/Pages/default.aspx>

We strongly encourage you to review the information on CBE's website so that you are informed about the proposed closure.

### **Questions and Written Submissions**

The Board of Trustees welcome your views and input and invite you to provide comments to them directly at: [BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca), or through administration at the Area 1 Office in writing to:

Attention: Prem Randhawa  
Calgary Board of Education  
728 – 32 Street NW  
Calgary AB T3E 3C2  
t | 403-777-8710  
e | [Area1@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area1@cbe.ab.ca)

Please note all written submissions must be received by **Wednesday, November 18, 2020** for Board of Trustees to give due consideration to the written submissions received prior to making a final decision on the proposed closure.

Any questions regarding the Board of Trustees' consideration of closure of National Sport School may be submitted in writing to [Area1@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area1@cbe.ab.ca). It is not possible to respond individually to questions or inquiries prior to the public meeting. At the public meeting, having reviewed questions for relevancy and redundancy, selected questions will be answered. Should your specific question(s) not be selected for response at the public meeting, you will have ample opportunity to direct questions to CBE administration, and you are invited to do so.

### **Board Decision**

The Board of Trustees will hold a special public meeting to deliberate and decide on whether or not to close National Sport School. The meeting will be held on:

Date: Wednesday, November 25, 2020

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: Multipurpose Room, Education Centre, 1221 – 8 Street SW,  
Calgary

Members of the public may offer comment at this Board meeting in accordance with the public comment procedure outlined in the Board Meeting Procedures:

<https://cbe.ab.ca/GovernancePolicies/Board-Meeting-Procedures-with-Public-Comment-Excerpt.pdf>

Following the November 25<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, the Board of Trustees will communicate its final decision and the effective date of the decision.

The Board of Trustees looks forward to your input regarding this important matter.

Yours truly,



Marilyn Dennis  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Calgary Board of Education

Cc: C. Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools  
D. Breton, Superintendent, Facilities & Environmental Services  
L. Campbell-Walters, Director, Planning  
P. Randhawa, Education Director, Area 1  
R. Jewan, Principal, National Sport School



**Board Chair**

**Marilyn Dennis** Wards 5 & 10

**Vice-Chair**

**Althea Adams** Wards 3 & 4

**Trustees**

**Trina Hurdman** Wards 1 & 2

**Board of Trustees** Wards 6 & 7

**Richard Hehr** Wards 8 & 9

**Julie Hrdlicka** Wards 11 & 13

**Mike Bradshaw** Wards 12 & 14

October 16, 2020

WinSport  
88 Canada Olympic Road SW  
Calgary, AB T3B 5R5

Attention: Mr. Phil Graham

This letter is to advise you that at the October 13, 2020 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Calgary of Education (CBE), the Board of Trustees (Board) accepted a recommendation from CBE administration to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School as set out in its Board Policy GC-3E – Closure of Schools Procedure. The Board passed the following motions:

- THAT the Board of Trustees is satisfied that there is cause to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure.
- THAT the Board of Trustees approves the public input period to consider the closure of National Sport School be shortened from 60 calendar days to 43 calendar days in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure.

The Board of Trustees' Closure of Schools Procedures (GC-3E) sets out the formal process that must be followed when closure is being considered, prior to the Board making its decision on whether or not to close this school. This includes providing notice to other persons who, in the opinion of the Board, may be significantly affected by the decision.

**Public Meeting**

The Board of Trustees will hold a public meeting to hear from parents, students and other persons on the proposed closure. At the meeting CBE will share information about the proposed closure including the rationale, the plans for students, and the timing (amongst other things). The meeting will be held on:

Date: Wednesday, November 4, 2020  
Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Location: Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

Due to COVID-19 and related health measures the meeting will be hosted virtually to minimize in person contact. To participate in this virtual meeting, kindly RSVP providing your first and last name, and email address to [BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca) by **Tuesday, November 3, 2020**. A meeting invitation link will be emailed to you in advance of the meeting.

We encourage you to attend the meeting to hear more about the proposed closure and to share your viewpoints.

### **Access to Information**

Information on the rationale, pertinent facts and proposed closure is available to the parents and the public on the CBE public website and the school website:

<https://cbe.cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Pages/national-sport-school.aspx>

<https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/NationalSport/Pages/default.aspx>

We strongly encourage you to review the information on CBE's website so that you are informed about the proposed closure.

### **Questions and Written Submissions**

The Board of Trustees welcome your views and input and invite you to provide comments to them directly at: [BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca), or through administration at the Area 1 Office in writing to:

Attention: Prem Randhawa  
Calgary Board of Education  
728 – 32 Street NW  
Calgary AB T3E 3C2  
t | 403-777-8710  
e | [Area1@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area1@cbe.ab.ca)

Please note all written submissions must be received by **Wednesday, November 18, 2020** for Board of Trustees to give due consideration to the written submissions received prior to making a final decision on the proposed closure.

Any questions regarding the Board of Trustees' consideration of closure of National Sport School may be submitted in writing to [Area1@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area1@cbe.ab.ca). It is not possible to respond individually to questions or inquiries prior to the public meeting. At the public meeting, having reviewed questions for relevancy and redundancy, selected questions will be answered. Should your specific question(s) not be selected for response at the public meeting, you will have ample opportunity to direct questions to CBE administration, and you are invited to do so.

### **Board Decision**

The Board of Trustees will hold a special public meeting to deliberate and decide on whether or not to close National Sport School. The meeting will be held on:

Date: Wednesday, November 25, 2020

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: Multipurpose Room, Education Centre, 1221 – 8 Street SW,  
Calgary

Members of the public may offer comment at this Board meeting in accordance with the public comment procedure outlined in the Board Meeting Procedures:

<https://cbe.ab.ca/GovernancePolicies/Board-Meeting-Procedures-with-Public-Comment-Excerpt.pdf>

Following the November 25<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, the Board of Trustees will communicate its final decision and the effective date of the decision.

The Board of Trustees looks forward to your input regarding this important matter.

Yours truly,



Marilyn Dennis  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Calgary Board of Education

Cc: C. Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools  
D. Breton, Superintendent, Facilities & Environmental Services  
L. Campbell-Walters, Director, Planning  
P. Randhawa, Education Director, Area 1  
R. Jewan, Principal, National Sport School


**Board of Trustees**

1221 – 8 Street SW Calgary, AB T2R 0L4 | t | 403-817-7933 | f | 403-294-8282 | www.cbe.ab.ca

**Board Chair**
**Marilyn Dennis** Wards 5 & 10

**Vice-Chair**

Althea Adams Wards 3 &amp; 4

**Trustees**

Trina Hurdman Wards 1 &amp; 2

Board of Trustees Wards 6 &amp; 7

Richard Hehr Wards 8 &amp; 9

Julie Hrdlicka Wards 11 &amp; 13

Mike Bradshaw Wards 12 &amp; 14

October 16, 2020

The City of Calgary Council  
 c/o His Worship, Mayor Naheed Nenshi  
 P.O. Box 2100 Station M  
 Calgary, Alberta T2P 2M5

Dear Mayor Nenshi:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of The Calgary of Education (CBE), I am writing to advise you that at the October 13, 2020 regular Board meeting, the Board of Trustees (Board) accepted a recommendation from CBE administration to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School. The Board passed the following motions:

- THAT the Board of Trustees is satisfied that there is cause to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure.
- THAT the Board of Trustees approves the public input period to consider the closure of National Sport School be shortened from 60 calendar days to 43 calendar days in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure.

It is expected a decision will be made by the Board of Trustees on Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at a regular meeting of the Board. In addition to this official notification regarding commencement of the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School, the *Education Act* states:

62(4) Where a board is considering an action referred to in subsection (1), the board shall, in writing, notify ...

(b) any other person, municipality or community organization who, in the opinion of the board, may be significantly affected.

The Board of Trustees will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 to hear from parents, students and other persons on the proposed closure. At the meeting, CBE will share information about the proposed closure including the rationale, the plans for students, and the timing (amongst other things).

Due to COVID-19 and related health measures the meeting will be hosted virtually to minimize in person contact. The details of the meeting will be advertised and available on the CBE corporate website.

Following the November 25<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, the Board of Trustees will communicate its final decision and the effective date.

Yours truly,



Marilyn Dennis  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Calgary Board of Education

cc: David Duckworth, City Manager, The City of Calgary  
Christopher Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools



[CBE Home](#) > [Schools](#) > [Managing Space For Students](#) > National Sport School

## Managing Space For Students

### National Sport School

Oct. 13, 2020

At the Oct. 13, 2020 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Calgary of Education (CBE), the Board of Trustees (Board) accepted a recommendation from CBE administration to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School as set out in its Board Policy **GC-3E – Closure of Schools Procedure** (<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/GovernancePolicies/GC-3E.pdf>) . The Board passed the following motions:

- THAT the Board of Trustees is satisfied that there is cause to commence the public input process to consider the closure of National Sport School in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure.
- THAT the Board of Trustees approves the public input period to consider the closure of National Sport School be shortened from 60 calendar days to 43 calendar days in accordance with GC-3E Closure of Schools Procedure.

Oct. 14, 2020

The Board of Trustees' **Closure of Schools Procedures (GC-3E)** (<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/GovernancePolicies/GC-3E.pdf>) sets out the formal process that must be followed when closure is being considered, prior to the Board making its decision on whether or not to close this school. This includes providing notice to parents and students who are affected by the decision.

### Public Meeting

The Board of Trustees will hold a public meeting to hear from parents, students and other persons on the proposed closure. At the meeting CBE will share information about the proposed closure including the rationale, the plans for students, and the timing (amongst other things). The meeting will be held on:

**Date:** Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2020

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Location:** Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

Due to COVID-19 and related health measures the meeting will be hosted virtually to minimize in person contact. To participate in this virtual meeting, kindly RSVP providing your first and last name, and email address to [BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca) (<mailto:BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca>) by **Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020**. A meeting invitation link will be emailed to you in advance of the meeting.

We encourage you to attend the meeting to hear more about the proposed closure and to share your viewpoints.

### Questions and Written Submissions

The Board of Trustees welcome your views and input and invite you to provide comments to them directly at: [BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca) (<mailto:BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca>) , or through administration at the Area 1 Office in writing to:

Attention: Prem Randhawa  
 Calgary Board of Education  
 728 – 32 Street NW  
 Calgary AB T3E 3C2  
 t | 403-777-8710  
 e | [Area1@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area1@cbe.ab.ca) (<mailto:Area1@cbe.ab.ca>)

Please note all written submissions must be received by **Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2020** for Board of Trustees to give due consideration to the written submissions received prior to making a final decision on the proposed closure.

Any questions regarding the Board of Trustees' consideration of closure of National Sport School may be submitted in writing to [Area1@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area1@cbe.ab.ca) (<mailto:Area1@cbe.ab.ca>) . It is not possible to respond individually to questions or inquiries prior to the public meeting. At the

public meeting, having reviewed questions for relevancy and redundancy, selected questions will be answered. Should your specific question(s) not be selected for response at the public meeting, you will have ample opportunity to direct questions to CBE administration, and you are invited to do so.

Oct. 5, 2020

### Notice regarding the Future of National Sport School

Dear Students, Parents/Guardians and Partners,

The Calgary Board of Education (CBE) would like to inform you that CBE administration will be presenting a recommendation to consider commencement of the public input process regarding the possible closure of National Sport School to the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, October 13, 2020.

During the 2019-20 school year, CBE administration shared concerns about the future of the school and heard community feedback around the options that could be considered. In March 2020, CBE administration advised parents and students that a further decision about the future of the National Sport School (NSS) for the 2020-21 school year had been postponed and that the school would continue to operate out of WinSport for the 2020-21 school year, with some programming adjustments.

At the regularly scheduled public meeting scheduled for October 13, 2020, the Board of Trustees will consider starting the public input process regarding a possible school closure effective June 30, 2021. This meeting will be live-streamed at the link provided below:

<https://www.cbe.ab.ca/about-us/board-of-trustees/Pages/Board-Meetings.aspx> (<https://www.cbe.ab.ca/about-us/board-of-trustees/Pages/Board-Meetings.aspx>)

In light of the feedback collected over the past year, the Board will also consider shortening the required public input period to 43 days, this to more rapidly provide certainty over the future of the school.

If the Board approves the commencement of the public input process to consider the closure of the NSS, you will be notified of the opportunities that will be provided to provide feedback this fall.

More information will be available on the [National Sport School Website](https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/nationalsport/get-involved/community-engagement/pages/national-sport-school.aspx) (<https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/nationalsport/get-involved/community-engagement/pages/national-sport-school.aspx>). The report recommending commencement of the public input process regarding the consideration to close the National Sport School will be available on the CBE website on Friday, October 9, 2020.

Sincerely,

Prem Randhawa  
Director, Area 1

Latosia Campbell-Walters  
Director, Planning

---

## Contact Us

Office of the Board of Trustees

t | [403-817-7933](tel:+14038177933) (tel:+14038177933)

e | [BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca) (mailto:BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca)

---

## Related Links

- [National Sport School Engagement](https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/nationalsport/get-involved/community-engagement/pages/national-sport-school.aspx) (<https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/nationalsport/get-involved/community-engagement/pages/national-sport-school.aspx>)
- [The Future of National Sport School - 2019-20 Engagement](https://engage.cbdialogue.com/en/projects/4) (<https://engage.cbdialogue.com/en/projects/4>)
- [National Sport School Website](https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/nationalsport/Pages/default.aspx) (<https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/nationalsport/Pages/default.aspx>)

---

## Supporting Documents

- [Minutes | Public Input Meeting Nov. 4, 2020](http://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Documents/20201104-National-Sport-School-Public-Input-Meeting-Minutes.pdf) (<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Documents/20201104-National-Sport-School-Public-Input-Meeting-Minutes.pdf>)
- [Presentation | Public Input Meeting Nov. 4, 2020](http://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Documents/20201104-Consideration-of-Closure-NSS-Presentation.pdf) (<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Documents/20201104-Consideration-of-Closure-NSS-Presentation.pdf>)
- [Notice Regarding the Future of National Sport School | Oct. 5, 2020](http://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Documents/20201005-Notice-Regarding-the-Future-of-National-Sport-School.pdf) (<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Documents/20201005-Notice-Regarding-the-Future-of-National-Sport-School.pdf>)
- [Background Information | Oct. 15, 2020](http://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Documents/National-Sport-School-Background-Information.pdf) (<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Documents/National-Sport-School-Background-Information.pdf>)
- [Notification Letter to Parents re: Consideration of Closure | Oct. 15, 2020](http://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Documents/20201015-Notification-Letter-to-Parents-re-NSS-Consideration-of-Closure.pdf) (<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Documents/20201015-Notification-Letter-to-Parents-re-NSS-Consideration-of-Closure.pdf>)

Last modified: 11/16/2020 1:19 PM  
 Website feedback: [Webmaster](#)



## Get Started

- | [K - Grade 9 Registration](#)
- | [High School Registration](#)
- | [Fees & Waivers](#)
- | [Forms You Need](#)

## Schools

- | [Find a School](#)
- | [School Calendars](#)
- | [Busing and Transportation](#)
- | [Program Options](#)
- | [New Schools](#)

## Contact Us

Main Office - Education Centre  
 1221 - 8 Street SW  
 Calgary AB T2R 0L4

- | [403-817-4000](#)
- | [Map](#)
- | [Feedback](#)

## Parents & Students

- | [School Councils](#)
- | [Volunteer](#)
- | [Student Technology Support](#)
- | [Student Records & Transcripts](#)

## Support for Parents

- | [MyCBE / PowerSchool](#)
- | [Brightspace by D2L](#)
- | [G Suite for Education](#)

## News & Events

- | [New Stories](#)
- | [Open Houses](#)
- | [Meetings & Sessions](#)

## Welcome to the CBE

The Calgary Board of Education (CBE) is the public school board in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. From kindergarten to Grade 12, the CBE operates a variety of programs and services to benefit each and every student.

- | [About Us](#)

## School Messages

Join your school community and sign up to hear about school events, fundraisers, fees, news and much, much more.

- | [Subscribe Today](#)

[New to Canada](#) [Welcome](#) · [عربي](#) · [中文简体](#) · [中文繁體](#) · [Français](#) · [한국어](#) · [ਪੰਜਾਬੀ](#) · [Español](#) · [اردو](#) · [Việt](#) · [International Students](#)

[Privacy Policy](#) · [System Status](#)

© 2020 Calgary Board of Education. All rights reserved.

**Date:**  
Oct. 15, 2020

National Sport School (NSS) was created as a special focus/interest program offered through the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) and Canada Olympic Development Association (CODA) in 1994. It was designed to meet the needs of high performance and developing athletes. This unique setting and delivery focus accommodates the sporting and learning needs of athletes in Grades 9-12.

For the first 17 years of its existence, NSS operated out of two different high schools (William Aberhart High School then Ernest Manning High School). When the replacement Ernest Manning High School was built, there was insufficient space to accommodate the NSS program. In 2011, the program moved to WinSport at Canada Olympic Park, a lease that was intended to be temporary. The Alberta Government pledged money for a capital project based on negotiations for the old Ernest Manning High School site, which was being demolished to make way for the new CTrain line. The money pledged from the government was contingent upon the CBE covering the remaining costs of building the school at WinSport. The total construction cost was estimated to be \$9 million; the province committed \$3 million, meaning the CBE required an additional \$6 million. The CBE portion of the funding was never identified.

#### Students affected

Students attending the NSS come from across the city of Calgary, with some from other jurisdictions outside the CBE. A few students attending NSS are international students from other countries. As of Sep. 30, 2020, enrolment in the NSS was 185 students.

Of the students currently registered, 35 or approximately one fifth are students from outside the CBE. The largest number of students within CBE boundaries attending NSS come from the community of Tuscany (15 students). The school is projected to have a student population of 143 by 2025 (see table 1).

Table 1: The 5 year projected enrolment for NSS

Year	Enrolment
2020 (Actual)	185
2021	164
2022	137
2023	140
2024	143
2025	143

#### Proximity of the receiving school and student transportation

Bowness High School is located approximately 3 km from WinSport. Transportation to school and between Bowness High School and WinSport would be via city transit or self-transport and a responsibility of the students and their families.



### **Use and availability of space at receiving schools**

Should the NSS program be closed, all current students who indicated an interest in attending Bowness High School will be welcomed and integrated into that school.

The current capacity at the school is 1647 students. As of Sep. 30, 2020, there were 1,149 students enrolled. This number includes 889 students in the regular program, 18 students in special education programs and 242 out-of-attendance area students.

At a utilization rate of 70 per cent, Bowness has the space and capacity to accommodate all NSS students in September 2021 and beyond. The school is projected to have a student population of 1276 by 2025 (see table 2)

Table 2: The five year projected enrolment for Bowness High School

<b>Year</b>	<b>Enrolment</b>
2020 (Actual)	1149
2021	1226
2022	1255
2023	1302
2024	1308
2025	1276

Additionally, master planning and design modernization work is underway for the school to increase the number of classrooms in the next few years to maximize its capacity.

Finally, if current students decide to return to their designated schools, there will be minimal impact on the receiving schools.

### **Impact on Long-Term Capital Plans**

Bowness High School was the subject of a major modernization that was completed in 2016. Moreover, in light of the elevated high school student enrolment projections identified within the Ten Year Student Accommodation and Facilities Strategy, requirement for this high school to accommodate students is projected indefinitely.

### **Educational and program impacts**

The transition plan would see students attend mainstream classes. Timetabling and scheduling for each semester will be personalized to support students. Programming would include both a blended and flexible approach, with accessibility to online learning. Athletic-related absences will be supported while students are away.

Student transitions will be coordinated, purposeful and outcomes-oriented. A learning leader will be allocated to support student transitions. This transition plan will include the following:

- NSS Parent and Student Information meetings coordinated by Bowness High School;
- Some NSS staff will have an opportunity to move to Bowness High School to support learning continuity for NSS students; and
- NSS staff will have student transition meetings with Bowness High School staff to share data and information about each student, including achievement data, social/emotional needs, attendance and sports commitments.

Grade 9 is currently not offered at Bowness High School, but this grade level can be added to accommodate students wishing to attend from NSS if a minimum cohort size of 25 students is attained.

### Financial impacts

The 2019-2020 cost of the program was as follows:

	2019/2020
Principal (1 FTE)	\$ 140,096
Assistant Principal (1 FTE)	\$ 120, 536
Learning Leader (1 FTE)	\$ 103,991
Teachers (11.07 FTE)	\$ 1,119,177
SIS Assistant (0.7143 FTE)	\$ 44,389
Admin Secretary (1 FTE)	\$ 75, 653
School Technology Support (0.3 FTE)	\$ 29,983
Supplies General	\$ 3,723
Supplies Classroom	\$ 20,335
Copier Charges	\$ 2,075
Minor equipment	\$ 40,122
Telephone	\$ 2,805
Lease	\$ 108,331
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,811, 216</b>

For the 2020/2021 school year, the Resource Allocation Method (RAM) total is approximately \$1.25 million dollars. If students were to be accommodated at Bowness High School, the CBE could avoid costs of approximately \$350,000 per year. These costs include over \$242,000 in school administration, and \$108,000 in lease costs. The remaining amounts from the RAM allocation would follow students to Bowness High School or other receiving high schools through the Weighted Moving Average (WMA) per student allocation.

Additionally, even if some or all current NSS students choose not to be accommodated at Bowness High School and instead return to another school jurisdiction, the CBE will likely not see provincial revenue impacted given the continued system-wide enrolment growth that is forecasted.

Lastly, WinSport currently charges parents a fee of approximately \$4750.00 per student per year. All money is collected by WinSport and is directed to services for students provided by WinSport.

### Alternative use of the school building

Currently, the building is leased from WinSport. Should the Board decide to close the school, the lease for the school will be terminated.



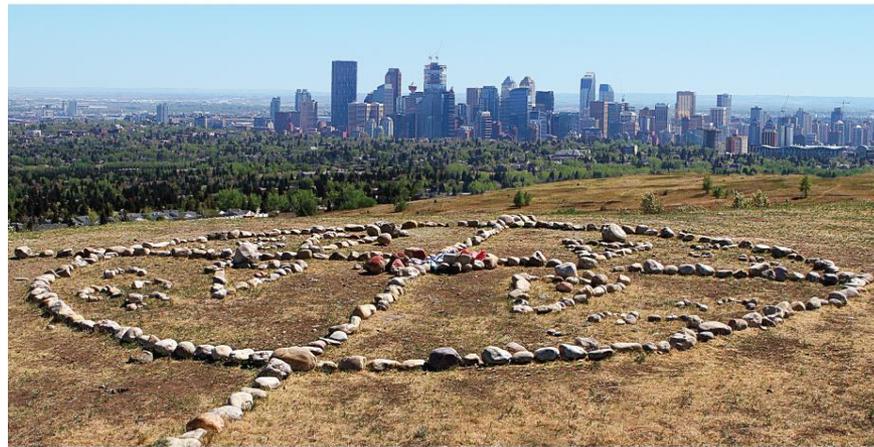
# Consideration of Closure – National Sport School (NSS)

Virtual Public Meeting  
Wednesday, November 4, 2020  
Time: 7:00 – 9:30 pm



**Calgary Board  
of Education**

# Acknowledging the land where we gather



We would like to acknowledge the traditional territories and oral practices of the Blackfoot Nations, which includes the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai. We also acknowledge the Tsuut'ina and Stoney Nakoda First Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.

learning | [as unique](#) | as every student



# Welcome and Introductions – CBE Board of Trustees



**Trina Hurdman**  
Wards 1 & 2

**Board of Trustees**  
Wards 6 & 7

**Richard Hehr**  
Wards 8 & 9

**Julie Hrdlicka**  
Wards 11 & 13

**Althea Adams**  
Wards 3 & 4

**Marilyn Dennis**  
Wards 5 & 10

**Mike Bradshaw**  
Wards 12 & 14



**Calgary**

# Welcome and Introductions – CBE Administration



- Christopher Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools
- Dany Breton, Superintendent, Facilities & Environmental Services
- Darlene Unruh, Acting Superintendent, School Improvement
- Kelly-Ann Fenney, General Counsel & Procedural Advisor
- Prem Randhawa, Education Director, Area 1
- Rob Jewan, Acting Principal, National Sport School
- Jana MacDonald, Principal, Bowness High School
- Latosia Campbell-Walters, Director Planning
- Ed Sutlic, Director Corporate Finance
- Trish Minor, Corporate Secretary
- Megan Geyer, Communications Advisor

# Agenda (7:00 pm - 9:30 pm)



1. Opening Remarks
2. Meeting Purpose and Outline
3. Meeting Guidelines
4. CBE Administration Presentation
5. Questions and Comments
6. Closing Remarks

# Opening Remarks



- Chair - Board of Trustees, Marilyn Dennis

# Meeting Purpose and Outline



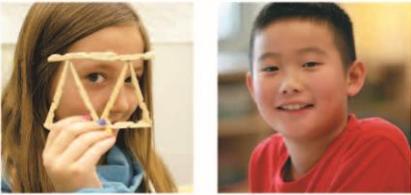
- Outline the rationale for the proposed closure
- Share relevant information
- Provide the opportunity for questions and comments on the proposed closure

# Meeting Guidelines



- Please mute your microphone except when you are called on to speak
- Comments and questions will be addressed following the presentation portion of the meeting
- Please limit your question or comments to three minutes
- Respect differing opinions and everyone's right to speak

# CBE Planning Principles



- Use space and resources effectively
- Provide long term sustainability
- Provide equitable access for all students to quality learning environments and choice of programs
- Keep cohort groups of students together
  - AR 1090 Student Accommodation Planning Process

# Rationale for the Proposed Closure



- The NSS lease was intended to be temporary
- NSS was previously supported within other CBE high schools
- Bowness High School offers high quality programming and has experience with high performance athletes
- Opportunities to support students in a more financially sustainable way

# Background- Program Timeline

1994- NSS was created

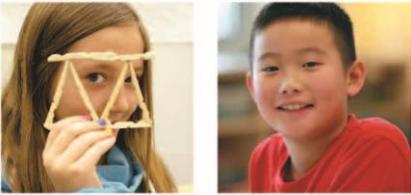
1994-2011- NSS operated out of two High Schools

2011- NSS moved to WinSport on a temporary lease

2013- first identified on the SSAP (2013-2016)

2019/2020- Feedback from Parents, students and staff

# Current Student Enrolment



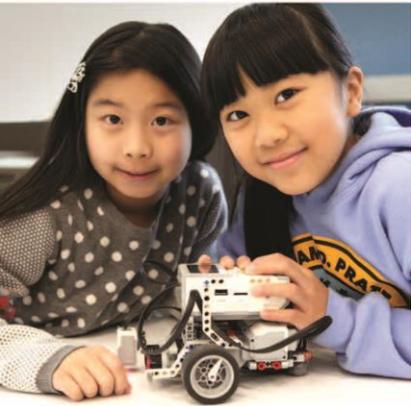
- Total number of students enrolled: 185 (as of September 30<sup>th</sup>)
  - Grade 9: 26
  - Grade 10: 34
  - Grade 11: 61
  - Grade 12: 64
- 1/5 or 37 students were from outside the CBE

# Projected Enrolment for NSS (2020-2025)



**Table 2: Five year projected enrolment for NSS**

Year	Total
2020 Actual	185
2021	164
2022	137
2023	140
2024	143
2025	143



# Financial Impacts of the School

2019/2020 operating costs were over \$1.8 million

	2019/2020
Principal (1 FTE)	\$ 140,096
Assistant Principal (1 FTE)	\$ 120,536
Learning Leader (1 FTE)	\$ 103,991
Teachers (11.07 FTE)	\$ 1,119,177
SIS Assistant (0.7143 FTE)	\$ 44,389
Admin Secretary (1 FTE)	\$ 75,653
School Technology Support (0.3 FTE)	\$ 29,983
Supplies General	\$ 3,723
Supplies Classroom	\$ 20,335
Copier Charges	\$ 2,075
Minor equipment	\$ 40,122
Telephone	\$ 2,805
Lease	\$ 108,331
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,811,216</b>

# Financial Impacts of the School



- 2020/2021 Resource Allocation Model is approx. \$1.25 million dollars
- Should the school close, CBE costs would be reduced a further \$350,000

# Proposed Student Accommodation Plan



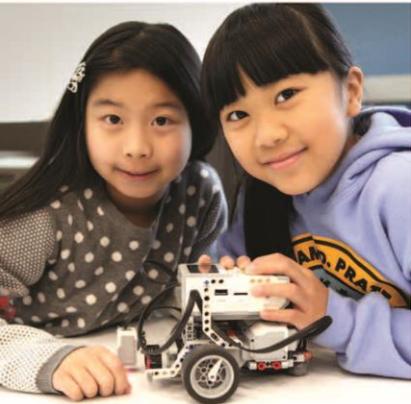
Should the decision be made to close the school, the proposed Accommodation Plan is as follows:



- Students will be accommodated at Bowness High School
- Students choosing not to attend Bowness will attend their designated high schools



# Bowness High School- Capacity, Space and Access



- Current capacity is 1647
- Current enrolment is 1149 students
- Utilization rate of 70%
- Adequate to safely accommodate students and mitigate COVID related risks
- Work is underway to finish additional classroom to accommodate more students
- Approximately 3km from WinSport
- Transportation is private or City Transit

# Projected Enrolment for Bowness High School (2020-2025)



**Table 3: Five year projection for Bowness High School**

Year	Total
2020 Actual	1149
2021	1126
2022	1255
2023	1302
2024	1308
2025	1276

# CBE Capital Plans Impacts



- The Ten-Year Student Accommodation and Facility Strategy identifies elevated high school enrolment
- Requirements for Bowness High School to accommodate students is projected for the foreseeable future

# Education and Program Impacts



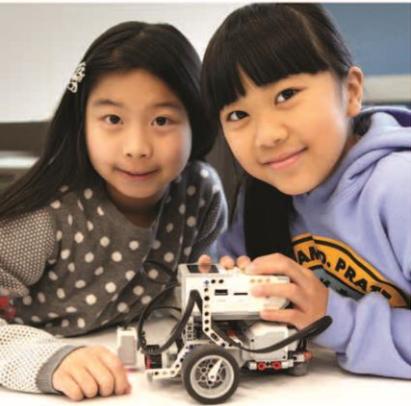
Should the decision be made to close the school:



- Students will attend mainstream classes
- Timetabling and scheduling personalized
- Programing is both blended and flexible approach
- Opens greater opportunity for course selection within complementary courses



# Education and Program Impacts



- Some NSS staff would move with students
- A learning leader allocated
- With the minimum cohort size (25) attained, Grade 9 will be added

# Proposed Timeline for Implementation





# Questions and Comments

# Written Submissions

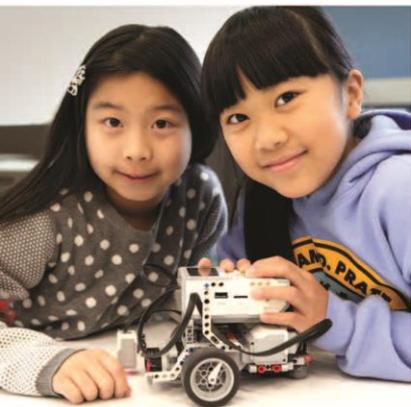


Attention: Prem Randhawa  
Calgary Board of Education  
728 – 32 Street NW  
Calgary AB T3E 3C2  
t | 403-777-8710  
e | [Area1@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:Area1@cbe.ab.ca)

or

Email directly to [BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca)

Please respond in writing  
**By Wednesday, November 18, 2020**



## Closing Remarks