



## National Sport School Online Engagement – Report, Dec. 20, 2019

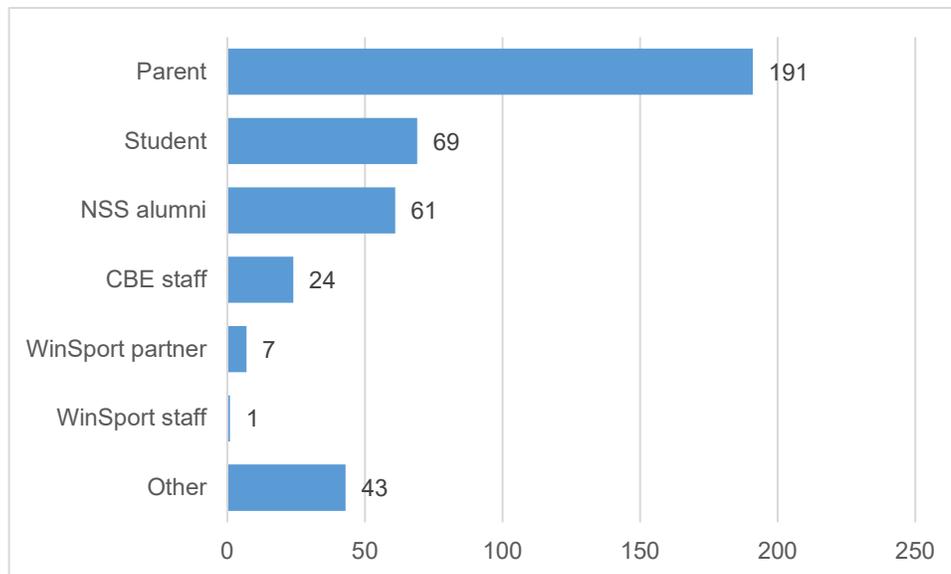
**Purpose of Engagement** | By the end of February 2020, CBE administration will make a recommendation to the CBE Board of Trustees about the location and program delivery of the National Sport School for the 2020-21 school year and beyond. A final decision about the future location and delivery of the program will be made by the Board of Trustees by end of May 2020.

**Purpose of Survey** | The 2019 Public Online Engagement offered staff, students, parents and others the opportunity to share their perspectives about the options presented at in person sessions.

**Responses** | 291 people completed some or all of the online survey.

**Open-Ended Responses** | Open-ended comments are shared as they were written. Opinions are the writers' own and content has not been vetted for accuracy. Comments have not been edited for spelling, grammar, sentence structure or otherwise. Comments have been edited to ensure anonymity. We have also edited or omitted abusive, discriminatory and otherwise inappropriate comments.

### Question 1 | How are you involved with NSS? (select all that apply)





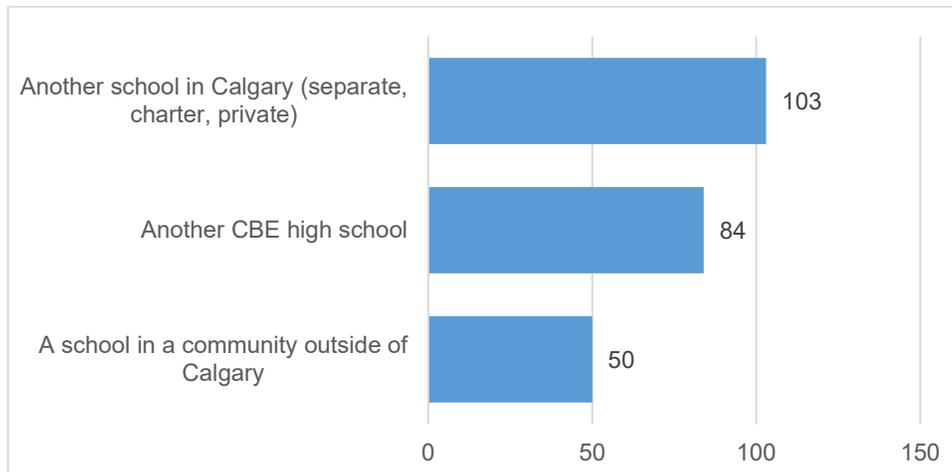
**Other responses:**

- Stakeholder
- Stakeholder
- Aunt to 2 students who attended and graduated from NSS, and I am an employee with the CBE, but I do not teach at NSS.
- Former parent
- Family of NSS student
- coach of athlete attending NSS
- My son attended NSS for grades 10 , 11 and 12, graduating in June 2019, but he is taking an additional course this term by distance as well.
- Stakeholder - International Hockey Academy students attend NSS
- AGF Staff
- Education advocate, tax payer
- Parent with CBE student
- nss alumni parent
- Parent of previous student
- Student Teacher
- Family of NSS student
- grandparent
- Treasurer and /chair of High Performance Committee of Ski Jumping Canada
- Support sports
- prospective family
- Board member, Alberta Ski Jumping & Nordic Combined. Board member Ski Jumping Canada
- Provincial Sport Organization
- Tennis Alberta staff
- Smith
- Winter Provincial Sport Group.
- PSO, coach of athletes who have attended NSS
- Parent of Potential Student (2020-2021 School year)
- Vice Chair, Alberta Alpine Ski Association. Stakeholder
- Former parent
- Canoe/Kayak Coach/Administrator
- NSS Alumni parent
- Parent if NSS alumni
- q
- Parent of two graduates of NSS
- Parent of alumni
- Volunteer trainer
- Friend of many NSS students
- CBE student
- have friends kids who go / have gone there.
- former NSS teacher
- coach of a former student
- Parent of NSS alumni

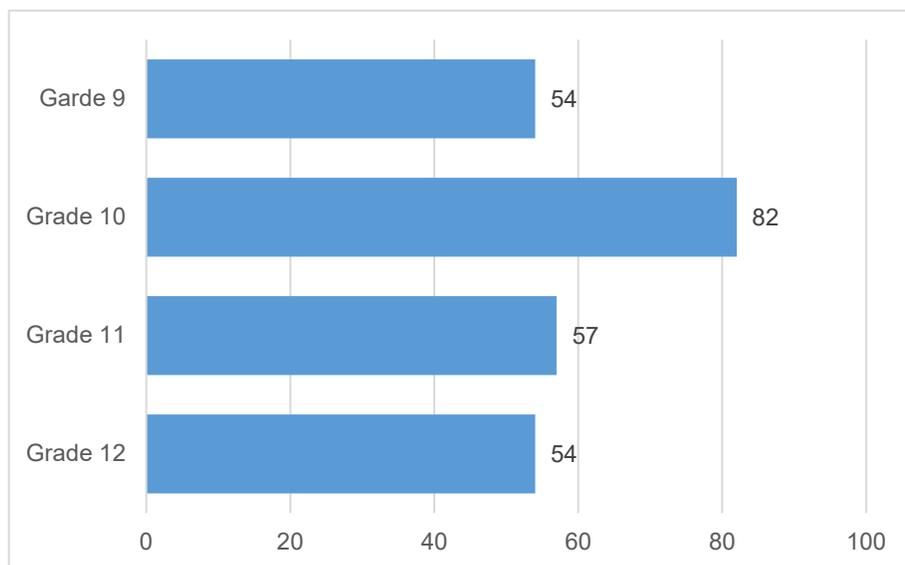


- Parent of NSS alumni
- International Hockey Academy
- taxpayer

**Question 2 | If you weren't part of NSS, would you/your student attend (parents and students only):**



**Question 3 | What are the grade level(s) of the students in the family who are attending NSS?**





## Question 4 | What are the opportunities for Option A?

- None
- There are no opportunities or benefits for students.
- None
- I do not believe that students would be best suited in a large high school with a general school population.
- none
- None
- NSS students are in a supportive learning environment where they know their learning is being met with an explicit understanding of what it is like to train on an elite level. All athletes have the same access to teachers and school staff who understand what it is like to train 30+/week and how they fairly support students to meet their curricular outcomes. The students are also together with their peers, who fully understand the expectations and pressures of training, competing, and learning. They help each other excel, because they are all involved in the same culture. They become family to each other. The foundation to any learning is building trusting relationships. Students need to know they are being taken care of, and the learning environment at NSS gives exactly that to these unbelievably hardworking elite athletes and students. Ideally, the NSS would stay where it is, but given the circumstances, Option A allows students to excel together. It still supports the students with less disruption than Option B. With Option A, the massive support network the students have would still mostly be in place. They would all be together, and not forced to leave their tight-knit group. It would be less like a divorce where families are torn apart.
- This may have some economies of scale and there would be a larger selection of potential courses available.
- This would NOT work with our program. Our student athletes train out of Winsport in the morning pre-school and at Winsport after school - This is NOT an option
- None
- None
- great
- NONE
- none
- none
- The opportunities provided allows for students to continue to attend a school that will accommodate their specific athletic and academic needs.
- reasonable proximity to facilities of Winsport
- Opportunity for other courses. I had a daughter who actually went to NSS and did band in grade 9 at Vincent Massey. Ernest Manning would not let her continue that practice so she had to stop band
- None
- None
- Good facilities opportunity and flexible schedule
- None that I can see.
- Other than keeping the students together: none
- None
- None



- Relative proximity to Winsport. The NSS student body while divided will be contained in one facility.
- Retains flexible schedules, which is not typically possible for other schools. Athletes/students remain together. More flexibility of schooling
- None
- none
- "Convenient" for CBE board. CBE has offered far too little information as to how this program would accommodate the rigorous training requirements of these elite athletes. I am not aware of any true opportunity in either of these options, from a student perspective.
- Sorry, moving the sport school is not a viable option.
- This does not work for a high performance athlete. This program is innovative and delivers incredible value per dollar spent. I would much rather see an increase to the cost of the school and have it remain where it is. Winsport's proposal to eliminate the vast majority of the rent and operating cost fees should be accepted and the program should be run for an additional year until parents/Winsport/teachers can develop a long term plan for the school that makes sense for all of the stakeholders.
- none
- there are no opportunities for Option A
- None
- none
- Cost savings. While the availability of broader course selections may seem like an advantage to administrators, these students already have made a decision to focus their academics to core courses so that the rest of their attention can be directed to their athletic goals.
- The program is kept alive (in name only)
- None
- None
- Option A does not offer any opportunities as my grandson cannot go there.
- Is there an option C?
- Save CBE money
- Athletes remaining together providing added support. NSS teaching staff that understand the needs of athletes

### Question 5 | What are the challenges for Option A?

- would need a vice-principal responsible for NSS students, faculty understanding of needs of athlete/students while away, availability of faculty to the athlete/student while away, keeping group of students together to continue the support and understanding that they give each other in their unique situation, faculty understanding of the high stress of travelling, competing, training that these athlete/students are under
- Traditional classrooms don't work for my student that travels and misses up to 70 school days a year.
- "-Larger class sizes that result from integrating into the regular program at Bowness do not allow for the supportive environment required to pursue both academic and athletic excellence.
- -Not being on site means students cannot have direct access to the"



- "My daughter moved from Bowness high school. She was in high performance program for Gr 10 but there wasn't any flexibility with other classes. If you missed the class because of competition, no help from any teachers. You just have to catch up when you come back. No online help while she was away. It didn't work well, The class was too big. I don't think this option works with big class size.
- World class athletes need to learn differently and require the flexibility offered by nss.
- Overcrowding, loss of an excellent facility at Winsport. I Fear the program will fade away with this move and will be a detriment to the athletes attending and the excellent staff, trained to be flexible with these kids.
- - Although in theory teachers say they can accommodate students missing so much school, in reality this is extra workload, and different teachers have different tolerance levels. How will the school ensure ALL students in this program receive the flexib
- "The challenges are endless with Option A. First and foremost the ability to train everyday at Winsport prior to school has reduced transportation challenges for most families. Winsport offers a world class training facility and works hand in hand with the philosophy and culture at NSS. This would completely lost with a move to Bowness.
- The next challenge comes with moving these students to an existing school and blended with other students. This will bring complications to their learning experience as well as social and psychological implications. Can you imagine being FORCED to change schools in grade 11 with only 1 year of high school left?? I can only speak for my child, however I am sure the MANY families are deeply concerned with this move at a high school level. The social impact alone may be insurmountable.
- I moved my child out of a "mainstream" school to attend NSS and it was the best decision that we could have ever made. The structure of the classes, the class sizes, the STAFF!, program offerings are not something that can be replicated by forcing a move to an existing high school.
- As a point of interest, I am sure that the reputation of Bowness High School should be considered as well.
- The proximity to winsport is further, meaning students would have to self-transport to winsport for training. This is not feasible. The start and end times of a regular high school do not work for busy athletes schedules. Being a part of a big high school may lead to bullying. This leads to negatively impacting students mental health and causing anxiety and depression, ruining their academic and athletic potentials. Bowness is packed and would make it very difficult for students.
- "There is an OPTION C that the CBE is not willing to look at.
- This option was presented by the parents at the meeting of Nov 18 2019."
- "Grade 9s lost in a big high school
- HPAD is not an equitable program to NSS's AD program
- Teachers without the supports they need to offer required flexibility
- Class sizes at Bowness
- Loss of NSS school culture and community
- Resentment towards NSS students by other students
- Too many maybes "
- "How can teachers in a "regular" high school offer the same supports and one on one help for students?



- Students will not be able to thrive in larger classes; they will fall through the cracks.
- Student-athletes will be ostracized by their peers; this has happened when students were integrated.
- Higher levels of stress, anxiety, and depression (especially for those transitioning in the middle of their high school experience).
- Many students will not enroll in the "regular" school; the CBE will lose student enrollment, especially for students who live outside of Calgary.
- Higher teacher burnout when unrealistic expectations are thrust upon them to accommodate student-athletes on top of their regular cohort."
- "-Large class size
- -integration with students and teachers who are not high performance athletes
- -lack of required training facilities at school
- -lack of transportation to required training facilities
- -length of transit time from
- bowness to required t"
- Concerned about bullying
- Our son struggled through 5 different public CBE schools before finally finding success at NSS. Since attending NSS, our son's grades have improved from barely passing to high honors. The NSS staff are the most supportive and dedicated staff we have ever come across in our children's education who understand the challenges of being an elite student-athlete. Our son is currently in grade 11 and our wish for him is to complete his final grade 12 year at a school that will set him up for success in his sport and for his university education.
- This is a rushed proposal and suggesting that the flexible school system for athletes would be maintained at Bowness is a fallacy. Bowness is already over-crowded and their teachers will not be able to take on the extra work load of students who are missing classes. There is no reason the CBE can't arrange one more year of NSS at Winsport to allow these athletes a proper transition to another school.
- "Teachers with 30 other kids will not be able to provide or dedicate the time my student athletes demands and or her demands for the teachers time will take away from the other kids in the classes she takes.
- My students training starts at 2pm everyday and she needs to leave school at 1:15pm each day. How will a teacher with 30 other students be able to accommodate or will be willing to accommodate her needs for the classes she's misses, she doesn't need to keep hearing it's her fault if she misses classes and to figure it out herself. No empathy for high performance student athletes. Experienced this first hand already.
- Other kids in High School do not have the same collective discipline and or dedication to work as hard as my student athlete many according to my student. Have watched this for years prior to her attending NSS. Always staying with the lowest common denominator dragging the other kids down.
- Teachers would be stretched further in having to accommodate separate schedules for tests or assignments and have to upload and record classes for students to be able to watch online. "
- Too crowded and too may distractions



- "Our daughter attended bowness HS as designated school and was in the high performance athlete program in its first year in G10. Unfortunately, the teachers and admin at bowness provided very little support to her sport training / travel requirements. She moved to NSS middle of G11 and the ability to have support from teachers and maintain the level required and stay caught up even when away from school approximately 30% of time.
- There is a major issue from athletes getting to their training especially if at Winsport. At another location would not work unless shuttle service or a car when able to drive at 16 yrs old."
- "NSS students will lose the personalized attention from teachers who know them as individuals and understand their needs based on away schedules
- Loss of ease of access to Winsport facilities
- Supportive network of likeminded students will be separated and have increase risk of not graduating or poor grades due to loss of supportive environment
- The NSS teachers have developed a very special culture in which students are comfortable being away from school for long periods of time while training. The existing teachers at NSS understand the unique requirements of students in each individual sport, this takes years to develop. Students will not function well in a classroom with the general population, there is no way for them to be able to keep up and would put a big strain on people teaching them. The NSS strategy really works for the students and I am very hesitant to think anything else would be as beneficial for this student population.
- As noted above, without the entire school (teachers, TA's, Principal and Vice Principal) staying intact, the Culture of Excellence is eliminated in Option A. Option A would be unworkable for athletes training twice per day without their own transportation and, with their own transportation or the city transit (50 min. bus to Winsport leaves less than once / 30 mins) would waste valuable study time commuting. That commuting time would also eliminate the few minutes these students have to ask questions of their classroom teachers after class. Even if flexibility of attendance for time away for sport commitments would be 'accommodated', with larger class sizes, the former NSS teachers or new Bowness teachers unfamiliar with elite athletes, would have less time to help those athletes catch up for material missed. 25 years ago NSS was established for students with a very specific constellation of 'special needs' and therefore require smaller class sizes. The CBE benefited from this jewel in its crown in multiple ways with the production of Olympians, sport and academic leaders and spokespeople. There was a cost as there is for providing ESL and aides to students who need those helps.
- having different teachers, getting to winsport, transportation, class sizes
- I do not want my son to go to Bowness High
- My child is a second generation NSS student. My wife attended NSS when it was part of William Aberhart High School and can attest first hand that having NSS within a regular high school is a recipe for failure. Your "conditions for success" are great on paper, but will fail in execution. Moreover, this option will not only negatively impact the academic, athletic, and social success of NSS students, but will have an adverse effect on the Bowness High School students who are expected to accept and be inclusive to a group of students that are perceived to receive different/better treatment than them (i.e. Flexibility and consideration of attendance for time away for sports commitments would be accommodated). The model was a failure when NSS was at Aberhart and you have an



opportunity to learn from those failures. By moving it to Bowness you're going to undo all of the successes achieved over the last 20 years. Please keep it at WinSport.

- Too large of classes
- Stay at COP!!! As a parent who has to drive their student into school, the ability to get to Winsport there and back to school is now hampered if they move location. The opportunity for my child to rub shoulders with other athletes and prominent figure who are at Winsport, this would be highly limited should NSS move. The atmosphere of sports and high level adult achievers was an inspiring environment for my child. Financially, this puts a much large burden on the parents, to get a car for our child, to get insurance, to chase their child back to school, care for the care, and in some cases our child does not have a license. As well, the bond in a smaller school swells the students achievements. This was also convenient for drop off and pick up for the parent. Stay at COP!!!
- "If I am not given the support I currently get at NSS I will have to choose between my sport and my academics. Being in a bigger school with other kids in my classes who do not understand what it takes to work hard and train hard will not work. And proving me with online options is not a substitute for the kind of flexibility I get with my teachers at NSS. We are a school community, if you put us in another High School we will no longer be NSS.
- I want to chose Option C - NSS works best at its current location in partnership with WinSport. Winsport has offered to extend the lease for a year for \$1. It is essential to take them up on this offer and keep NSS in its current location to allow for all involved to seek a permanent, cost-effective solution for NSS to remain onsite at WinSport moving forward."
- Parent concerned about bullying and learning environment for child
- There needs to be an option C. NSS needs to remain open at Winsport in its current form
- "Transportation to and from training facility at winsport list training time due to travel lost time for school due to travel
- Large class sizes
- Inflexible schedule
- Inexcusable absences due to training and competition
- CBE being completely inflexible in the unacceptability of the 2 unreasonable options they presented "
- Too many to count. Option C as noted above is the only option.
- "NSS is successful in its current location because of the training facilities and opportunities for athletes. NSS supports extensive travel and training while ensuring students are fully supported upon return. Asking young learners to simply catch up online without support is not reasonable especially when classes are already large. Students will be forced to choose between an education and a chance to excel in sport.
- Students at NSS have a successful culture of excellence. Students should not be ripped from their high school and expected to figure out a new high school with no support, planning or engagement.
- "Being integrated into another school will not provide a program that would work for national level athletes who want to do well in both their sport and their academics. They would lose the flexibility of programming that is key for this school to succeed. These students have attended NSS in its current format as they are committed to success in both their sport and academics, that is why they chose NSS at Winsport. Providing online courses would not be a substitute for the flexibility NSS student currently have. For this option of moving, even as



a group, into another school, it would not be possible to provide the support that they would need which would mean the students' sport or academics would suffer.

- Instead I choose OptionC - NSS works best at its current location in partnership with WinSport. Winsport has offered to extend the lease for a year for \$1. It is essential to take them up on this offer and keep NSS in its current location to allow for all involved to seek a permanent, cost-effective solution for NSS to remain onsite at WinSport moving forward."
- Being in a school where they do not understand the elite athlete/student academic needs and culture. It is still a disruption that may have a negative impact on their training and learning, but less so than Option B.
- "The success of NSS stems in large part to its proximity to a host of diverse training facilities. If Bowness can allow this same access, it would be a great option. It cannot, however, do so.
- Integration into classes that already have 40+ students is not helpful for any current student or those to be displaced."
- If the kids are put into classes with 30-40 like in the other schools there is no realistic way that the teachers will be able to accommodate the disruption this will cause and i fear the kids will be left on their own to have to come in after hours to speak and plan with teachers or to catch up and this will defeat the program. They already are stretched to the limit with their training. My son has ADHD and a learning disability in writing ,so large class sizes and no individual time for the student due to oversize classes being the norm now, is a huge problem. It is unfair to the teachers and very hard on the traveling students to be in a mainstream class when they miss up to a month at a time and to expect things to go smoothly. My son needs structure, he needs to be taught lessons, even if he was away, he cant just read it on line, and how are the teachers supposed to do that when i suspect they will be given no extra time to help the students . The students will end up having to teach themselves . My son has an IPP which quite frankly doesn't help. Its a label. He can get extra time on a test that is now allowed for everyone. Having a smaller teacher pupil ratio is what makes the program workable. Are they going to get that at Bowness? There is a proposal for OPTION C. Rent Winsport for a dollar for one year and get more stakeholders to assist, have the vice principal and principal teach more to help with the costs , let Winsport pay for administrative assistants and give Winsport and the school the chance to keep CBE's expenses in line and keep this fantastic school going for the special students that need the alternative approach to learning it provides.
- NSS has a eduction program designed for athletes that is second to none. The only way for that to continue to be successful is to continue NSS current form of learning options
- "Losing the essential need of the NSS model -- providing a great deal of flexibility to students and teachers to meet the end goals while accommodating athletic pursuits. CBE high schools well-known for NOT being flexible with student athletes.
- It would be important to ensure there are still TAs as liaison for the students, and also acting as advocates and facilitators with other teachers and admin, etc.
- Transportation and parking would be a greater challenge for most students at Bowness HS.
- Parent concerned about integration into another school
- Everything! Overcrowded classrooms, no transportation provided to Winsport (several times per day!) which means missed class time at Bowness. Our students don't have time for



clubs and extra-curricular activities, they are completely immersed in their sports and many will go on to compete nationals, worlds and in the Olympics.

- This won't work for athletes. They miss too much school and there's no way the teachers would take an interest in trying to work with them to catch up on their work.
- Facts and studies that show moving schools during the teenage years, is detrimental to their emotional and psychological wellbeing. These are "foundation forming" critical years of growth. A move to another school, without notice or proper transition, is harmful to their success and well being. We need an option C with time to properly transition.
- Not an option
- "How the students get to and from the Winsport facility and time it takes to get to and from the Winsport facilities
- NSS students schedules and learning time will differ greatly from their peers/ non athletes enrolled in normal school times and therefore without a separate dedicated wing could create conflicts between students. Regular CBE teachers may not fully understand the needs and requirements of the NSS athlete students and this could have a negative impact on their learning "
- Challenges, would be transportation, to and from Winsport, as mentioned above our student athletes train pre-school and after school at Winsport
- Parent concerned about integration into Bowness. No access to specialized facilities REQUIRED for training - physiotherapy (sometimes 2xs per day during peak), fitness 2xs per day, e.g.
- "- Focus on student/athlete needs and schedules and how that is incorporated into a very large school/class sizes
- - NSS feeling of community could be lost at a large school
- - Focus on developing leaders will suffer
- - flexibility of students to focus on "
- Over crowding, classroom sizes across Calgary are already unacceptably high. Integration of students with significant special needs will be disruptive to the flow of the students at Bowness; it puts the teachers at increased risk for burn out and dissatisfaction in the workplace ~ more demand from special need students (student athletes competing at elite levels are not typical teenagers). Integration with other students is a mental health risk for the student athlete. Our athletes left the CBE regular system as it was rigid and the teachers were not tolerant of the flexibility required for training, competition and travel. Requests to accommodate the student athlete were met with a very negative attitude toward the needs of the student athlete. The teachers familiar with student athletes are the cornerstone to the success of the athlete, these are special teachers. The location is suboptimal and transportation being 'independent' is unrealistic for families to navigate training schedules from Bowness, it would prohibit my ability to work if I had to drive to relocate children multiple times a day to train. The National Sport School is NOT the NSS as we know and love and need it if moved to Bowness.
- Destroying a great opportunity for athletes that need proper support, mentally and physically.
- Moving location is not ideal for many NSS students. There are transportation and logistic issues, not to mention the inconvenience to busy parents needing to drive their children back and forth to school and Winsport. Most students cannot drive on their own.



- Essentially NSS students would be blended into Bowness. Extra curricular options are not a plus to elite athletes who have very little extra time beyond academics.
- Option A does not work for the likes of many students as Winsport is a location of convenience and it provides our community with all the necessities possible for our students to be successful in sport and academics. Moving the students to Bowness and integrating them with classes around the school would eliminate one of the sole reasons our students are successful; face to face learning that provides us with the personal approach to academics that we need to succeed. Furthermore, many students at NSS do not have the ability to drive themselves for the 'self-transport' aspect of your proposal which would provide another barrier to our students which would further limit our success in and outside of sport.
- What facility can accept 200 plus students and not be bulging at the seams requiring portals which cost money. Also there is no facility within CBE which meets the needs of the unique population that attends the National Sports School. Our daughter attends NSS for the expert knowledge of the staff on how best to meet the educational needs of its students and for the proximity to the Winsport facilities and training specialists. When the students are able to go from class to training and back again it is a huge advantage and makes the pursuit of excellence possible. Most families are made up of two working parents who can not take time out of their work day to shuttle students to and from training. These are students who have tried to succeed in the traditional school system but are being told that the schools CANNOT accommodate their special needs and requests.
- "The challenge is that there are other options that have not been considered. From the information that has been presented, the options were decided behind closed doors. There are alternatives that should be considered.
- There is time, please consider outside advice that could provide a fresh perspective while achieving your financial objectives.
- "One of the main things these students require is more teacher access - i.e. a lower student to teacher ratio. When school is missed they naturally have to ask more questions. This might be by email or in person when they return to school. It also requires the teacher to have many different versions of assessments for those students. Having a large number of students writing the exact same assessment on different days poses obvious challenges.
- It is very difficult to see how a teacher with a regular sized class (whether that be 28 or 30 or 44 kids) is going to be able to handle this with any level of effectiveness. Having taught a Math 30 class of 38 students before I came to NSS I can tell you that that number of students required my full attention and effort every day inside and outside of class. I don't know how I could have handled having groups of those students a chapter or more behind the rest of the class - which is absolutely the norm here.
- It is not unusual for a student here to extend a semestered course - a week, a month, or into a full year course. This poses obvious scheduling challenges for any school but it happens very regularly here."
- "Not the small class size and access to the teachers understanding the individual needs of each athlete/student. Not at the Winsport location for easy access to all the training and staff the facility has to offer and is required of the student/athlete.
- See option C and end of my survey. "



- "Bowness High School is the wrong locations. The WinSport facility provides access to world class facilities, coaches and extended athletic community that can not be achieved somewhere else. WinSport is the perfect location for this special school.
- Most of the student athletes have already tried a typical CBE school environment and found it not to be successful
- The teachers are key to helping these kids succeed, a typical teacher in a typical CBE school would not understand the challenges and how to support and achieve success, this is why NSS was built in the first place"
- "Transportation
- Accommodation(new location and class sizes)
- athletic fees(no longer covered by the school)
- "This option removes most of the best parts of the National Sport School, including personalized support, being in classes with other high-end athletes and the location at Winsport.
- Many students at the National Sport School have previously tried online learning and do not often experience success.
- Teachers at Bowness will be overwhelmed when trying to accommodate the large number of absences that NSS students have and it seems inevitable to me that many students will fall through the cracks and fail to achieve success. A student that misses over half of the classes in a term is unlikely to be able to keep up in a regular high school environment.
- Many students and parents that I have spoken with have suggested that there is no chance of them attending Bowness and I believe that this option will result in what is essentially the end of the National Sport School program. For many students, this will mean a black and white choice between sport and school
- Having the opportunity to participate in extra-curriculars is not a significant benefit to being at Bowness as most students will not have time to fit these into their schedule. "
- I went to Bowness High School before coming to National Sports School, I am aware first hand that Bowness is unable to accommodate students travelling for long periods of time. While at Bowness I received no support from the school believe that with an additional 200 students it will not be possible.
- There are many challenges with this option. Location is the first issue. Most of our students do not yet drive and either train before, during or after school. Some train at multiple times during the day. Many of these students train at the Winsport site but cannot get there if they are at Bowness High School because their parents work. If they were able to get to Winsport, they would be missing even more school than they already do. The second issue is flexibility. We have many students who come from regular high schools that have not been able to support them at this level of sport. They come here because we are set up to both teach them face-to-face and help them catch up when they return from long absences. They miss labs, notes, exams etc. It is not easy to prepare 6 weeks worth of work for a student when you are given a day's notice in some cases. We are set up to do this. We know how best to help these students and we support them with the inevitable stress that comes from being incredibly behind. Core courses in regular high schools are large and teachers are already stretched. I have a daughter at Churchill and know many teachers at several schools around the city. Our students rely on their teachers, peers in similar situations and the overall school community to help them though. They need a non-



cascading timetable so that training times are not affected. Online learning does not work for most of our students. We have seen that over and over again.

- Student athletes at NSS will have a difficult time integrating with the students of a high school such as Bowness. The environment we receive here allows for no discrimination and complete understanding of the sport life. Extra-curricular activities would not be possible for most athletes as training for our sport takes a lot of our time and energy. Travel to and from school and sport was one of the many multitude of reasons I go to NSS. Some of us do not have a license or a car. Some can't afford to waste the time and money on a bus. A change of location would strain so much crucial training and learning time. Students can be flexible and can make it work. But it will make our difficult lives much harder.
- You would cease having the benefits that the Winsport location offers to the students. Students would need to conform to the typical school program which would be a challenge for the athletes due to their travel schedule. I don't feel this would accommodate the requirements of the students. A third option should be considered where the students stay at the Winsport location and CBE negotiates a significantly reduced cost for leasing the space. This would be a win win for all parties involved.
- "Option A does not leave any opportunities to create a combined culture of athletic and academic excellence. With the influencing group dynamic being integrated into the regular classroom setting it diminished the teachers ability to connect with the athlete. Remember YOU TEACH A STUDENT NOT A SUBJECT! This may seem like a small taste but ask those teachers at Bowness what they teach and you will get a subject response not at all like NSS where you get names of kids instead. Does Bowness currently offer a TA period where cross grade students get together to offer peer support?
- Option C. Take the 1\$ lease agreement and work within the existing framework of excellence. Put consultants and directors back into the classrooms, offer reasonable retirement packages to staff. "
- We need more time. This isn't an option that can successfully happen in one years time. Give the children more time.
- Many of the students have tried to be part of a regular school program with not great success. The teachers at Bowness will have such large classes it will be very difficult to program for the NSS students as they miss so much school.
- The challenges of online courses; meeting deadlines, having a teacher to talk to and ask questions. The grade level for online courses in my experience are well below in class averages.
- "The challenges I have with this option include the following:
- #1 Grade 9 students attending high school with very few peers spread out in potentially different classes. These kids are additional support for each other when the teacher isn't available. Students are all in the same class with a group chat making information readily available to ensure assignments etc are not missed.
- #2 Safety! Transportation to and from Winsport is a safety issue. This is a huge issue for a 14 year old girl to travel through Bowness in the dark several times a day back and forth with multiple backpacks and snowboard gear. As if sport wasn't expensive enough I will need to pay for someone to drive her to where she needs to go.
- #3 Teacher's ability to meet the needs of students traveling up to 6 weeks at a time in a class of 40+ kids. this is a huge request and a commitment that the teachers at NSS



provide on a regular basis. They record their classes so students can listen to missed lessons they go out of their way to ensure the success of each student. This does not happen in regular classes. I know because we have been a part of that before. "

- No transportation to winsport and not close to our training. Lose the teachers that we have developed relationships. We would be treated differently. Lose our school sense of community and atmosphere that is full of smart sport people who are very alike with each other. Many people found their place there and now we are being forced out back into an environment that'll ultimately affect our mental health and our grades. There are no good reasons for going to bowness and if they do move it to bowness no one is going to go anyway. If we all go to bowness, that school will get overpopulated as its already a big school.
- parents complaining about having to transport their student to their special training
- There are many challenges with Option A. For starters NSS functions to its full potential at the Winsport location. Athletes have full access to Winsport facilities to maximize their training as well as having teachers who support them both academically and athletically. And from what was understood at the meetings the NSS staff will not be relocated with the student-athletes. This is a huge issue for everyone. The teachers at NSS are very gifted in their subjects that they teach as well as being very flexible with their teaching styles and methods. This allows them to aid students who have a training schedule that makes it difficult for them to be in class as often as non-athlete students. Another thing that is very different about NSS than other schools, is the closely-knit environment. Everyone knows everyone. Students and staff have stronger relationships that help them work through challenging schedules or training issues. Here at NSS we all celebrate each other's success and grieve in failure. The NSS is a place where student-athletes feel like they are understood.
- I could not be able to go to nss, and western would not be accommodating, as they have said that their student population is too large to accommodate sports related absence.
- "-larger classes because NSS students will also be with Bowness students
- -farther from Winsport where many NSS students train every day
- -different teachers who do not know NSS students as well
- -all students at NSS currently have a plan for how on how th"
- Not a good option as it does not offer the same opportunities as NSS
- The program would not be the same as NSS. The class sizes are much larger at Bowness. Teachers at NSS are available through email in the evenings, weekends and during school.
- Everyone already has to worry about their sport and school but putting us in with more problems like the drama at a normal High school. We also will not end up getting the amount of communication as we do here at NSS and the support from not only teachers and students. We will also have a hard time with group projects with the amount of time we are away. Right now at school is made up of only 215 kids putting us all into Bowness High school with having an amount that large being put into a small school it will be highly overpopulated. We also would have a hard time going from school to training at the times we have them, like certain kids have train for 11:30am to 1:00pm how would we get the benefit from that when most of us train out of Winsport.



- Class assignment/teaching structure and timeline will be different for NSS and non-NSS students in the same class - I can't imagine a situation where this is feasible for teaching staff to balance. It would work best if core classes were offered in NSS only classes.
- It's stupid, the staff at WinSport said they'd give us the lease for \$1, I don't see a need to move or close
- "What is the CBE doing to promote public support for students with diverse needs (especially student-athletes)? How will there be the same level of personalization and flexibility in a regular classroom with many students? Students will not have access to Winsport's facilities and will not be able to train multiple times a day. Students will not be in the same cohort of athletes that share a unique and individual challenge of training for their sport and high school completion. Students will not be able to transfer to Winsport easily for their sport as many do not drive or have vehicles. Out of area students will not see the need to attend a school not located at Winsport and so there will be a loss of our population.
- "Large class sizes
- Transportation for under 16 year olds
- Large School Problems
- none
- I personally don't think that option A will work at all. First of all, you say that the teachers will be accommodating with travelling students and but from experience that most teachers outside the sport school don't understand the necessity of our high level sports. Second, many students use the Winsport facilities like the ice rinks, gymnastics center, ski hill, and everything else at Winsport on a daily basis and I know almost every single student uses the training gym. Next, you say that Bonness will be so great because we will have a chance to participate in more option classes and extra curricular courses. For almost every single student this is not an option because, our option is our sport, we don't have time to do extra curricular courses. Last, you say that we will have to self transport ourselves to Winsport for training but this is simply not an option. Myself and many others train directly after school, before school, and during school and do not have time to transport to Winsport. Along with time. Most of the students don't have a car or don't want to spend money that they don't have on gas and to take public transport it would take nearly an hour.
- "Atmosphere will never be the same!!! The whole purpose of NSS is to be around like-minded people who actually support you.
- Online learning is not an option; almost everyone who currently NSS has tried it and FAILED. We need teacher support 24/7 which you are not offering.
- Flexibility and Consideration of attendance?? We spend more time away from school than at school for our sports, our lack of attendance should not be questioned any more than NSS does.
- Tests, Assignments, Projects, Homework. At NSS Our workload is reduced and we can reschedule tests if we are way to best fit OUR needs so we can succeed to your best.
- Working ahead and small class sizes. Our classes at NSS are from 7 to 18 people this lets us actually learn the proper material, it also lets our teachers help us work ahead before we leave for a sports trip.



- These teachers actually understand what we go through each day if it weren't for there 24/7 support I will not be able to graduate high school!!
- The location of NSS is so awesome!!!! It allows me to go to school, train and work without any transportation. This saves me so much travel time a lot of us spend 10-14 hours a day on the same campus
- We will literally lose all the AMAZING services Winsport provides us on a daily bases.
- so far away from my house,
- Many of us have come from other cbe schools where we have not been supported by other students or teachers because of how much school we miss because we are athletes and the class sizes. So if we relocated I don't think many of us would get the help that we need to become well educated because of the schools population and the supportive atmosphere of the teachers.
- No winsport training facilities, more students, students at bowness that aren't going to think that it is fair, not close to winsport where most people have their training their
- "have to ride bus for an hour to get to winsport
- everything is wrong"
- "Students from NSS would still be paying money to go to Bowness, and everyone else that goes to Bowness wouldn't have to pay.
- Student concern about being bullied at another school. This year I've had so many incredible opportunities for my sport this year and if I would have still been at my old school I would have been so behind and maybe could fail, but because of NSS all of my grades have stayed extremely high, and I am excelling at my sport as well.
- "nothing
- You're moving an entire away from the reason most students chose to come here, which is pointless because even if you are saving an estimate of 1 million dollars you'll be losing more because most people won't enroll into the program by next year.
- other students may not be as nice to us because of how we get a more flexible schedule than they do. It might not be the same.
- can't get from Bowness to the ski hill in under 5 minutes. Bowness does not have a place to store all your gear.
- Trying to access winsport facilities.
- everything
- - I grew up competing in gymnastics. The peak ages for gymnasts is 15-17 yes old. I met with the Principal at Diefenbaker to discuss my school/gymnastics schedule. I was told that with all the school I was missing, I wouldn't graduate highschool. He refer
- "It is not feasible for students in Grade 9 and 10 to provide their own transport from a school to activities at WinSport.
- Not being a cohort will remove the cultural identity of the National Sport School; these like minded individuals will not retain the collective need for academic support that an athlete that is excelling needs.
- For most current NSS student-athletes clubs and extracurricular are difficult because of competition and training schedules; this is not a priority."
- "NSS needs to remain open at Winsport in its current form.
- "Currently student lives within walking distance of Winsport. Movement to Bowness would now mean a minimum 1 hour public transit ride to and from school each day. As the student



is a mountain bike racer she trains through the warmer months directly on the Winsport and Paskapoo Slopes, Transit time from Bowness would result in a time loss sitting on a bus rather than completing academic work or training.

- The option speaks of temporary TA support during the transition period. This TA support is crucial to the success of the student to ensure that when they are away for long period during trianing or competition, that they have a single point of contact to help keep them linked with the school. Removing the TA after the “transition period” means throwing these students in to the general population left to fend for themselves.
- No teacher who is assigned student loads of upwards of 30 student per class they teach is going to go above and beyond to assist these student athletes when they are on the other side of the world trying to get their homework done. I just cant see it happen. The workloads of teachers in general high schools is already overwhelming. I cant seem them taking on this level of specialty teaching in addition to their existing workloads.
- Students who choose to commit their lives to high performance athletics have a different mindset than those who do not. Student athletes are incredibly focused and do not “fit” the general high school student profile. Placing them in a regular high school opens them up to scrutiny from other students who do not understand the commitment and drive that student athletes possess.
- No sports psychology support is mentioned in this option.
- Bigger class sizes will lose the student-teacher connection that is developed and not allow the student to excel within the larger school environment. Along with this, the flexibility for students who miss a majority of a certain semester or the school year would not be able to keep up without the same contact with their teacher for each course
- The proposed model of integration into existing class rooms fails to address the challenges faced by NSS kids. These kids have a high proportion of IPPs and special learning needs. It's no different that another group with specialized learning needs. Connection to WinSport would be completely lost. Flexibility in the program would be difficult to maintain. The program would not be able to meet the needs of the kids.
- "-location is very important for the students.
- -last year for my son, it will be very difficult. He will have gone three years of high school in three different schools and that is not healthy for him.
- - NSS is a semi private school, Bowness is a public "
- "Each student is now responsible for their own method of transportation. The inconvenience of this, especially if the distance from Bowness is significant may require them to reconsider attending this school. As a result, the option to attend a sports school would be eliminated. If families are dependent on school buses, their child may need to attend a school within their zone, one which does not have the structure to accommodate athletics. Therefore, the move to Bowness would serve no purpose.
- Not all staff currently employed at NSS would have job security. Although some teachers would continue to work with these students, the number of staff members that will be employed is not provided and those individuals not chosen to move with students would no longer have employment. "
- Regular schooling system, which does not support the special needs to the athletes involved at NSS. That is the reason they left general schooling in the first place.



- Logistical challenges of no longer being a short walk from training venue and medical attention is physio.
- Tough to be integrated in a regular high school - can be disruptive for regular and NSS students. The school would need to be very understanding of the various situations
- The grade 9's will not be included in the move as was stated by the Principal of Bowness during their open house November 27th. As much as other schools state they can accommodate the needs of student athletes they don't understand the work and commitment it takes. Many NSS students started in a regular school and were not successful due to the complexity of their needs. No transportation to Winsport is a challenge. A tumbling timetable affects training schedules. Later dismissal will cause more students missing more time during the day. Class sizes will eliminate the personalized needs of these students. Flexibility for many different starting points and ending points will be eliminated. Diplomas not offered 4 times a year will limit flexibility. A sense of belonging and community will be lost as most students do not understand the commitment of elite sport. A small number of NSS staff is not enough to support the program. Special attendance modifications will not work for a small group of students. All students want equity and if athletes get special attendance modifications all students will expect the same treatment. Very little thought and planning has gone into moving the program, these students will get lost in the shuffle as they did before the school was created. WinSport would not be able to provide the support as they do now and students would miss out on a key feature of the program.
- Access and travel to Winsport for training and the loss of time to do so when training is during school hours, which often happens.
- Inability of school to appreciate the commitment it takes to be in a competitive sport that requires travel and every day training and away meets. I want my child to excel in both and appreciate the value of each.
- "-Many students would attend their designated due to the fact that it would reduce travel time.
- -Online school does not work for student athletes, they need a physical class and teacher to succeed.
- -Bowness with regular class sizes could not accommodate "
- "Multiple trips per day to WinSport for student Athletes.
- Instructors not having the time to assist distance learning with large class size, increased burden on teachers
- Social disruptions by students that do not understand the pressure on student athletes
- Perception of unfairness and preferred attention to NSS students by other students
- "The challenges for this option include difficulty getting to and from Winsport for training. These students are already pressed for time and this makes it even more challenging to add in transport time. How is it possible for the teachers in a regular
- School to accommodate my daughter who has right now I'm December already missed 52 days of school because she is in Europe training and competing. These students need teachers who can accommodate their special needs. "
- Teachers and staff will say they can accommodate but won't. You need special teachers that are engaged with the athletes like we have at NSS it's a lot of extra unpaid work that



they do. Parents work during the day no way to move athletes to Winsport facility with all there gear. Distraction from sport being involved with non like minded students.

- "loss of relationships with current teachers that have been built over years.
- changing schools, school culture"
- CBE will not be able to make Option A work effectively. Too many students will leave the public education and in our case leave the province which will result in lower tax revenues for the province. The net benefit our family gives to the province of Alberta far exceeds the costs associated with this program.
- The program will be diluted and less personalized. Students will have larger classes with less assistance for catching up. Travel to and from training facilities becomes difficult and time-consuming. PE program is watered down or eliminated. Regular teachers will not be as accommodating or understanding. This is not a very viable option. I believe many students will choose CBeLearn and that will not be nearly as good as NSS either.
- Challenges for Option A include, normal teachers that haven't had to teach high-performance athletes won't be as good at teaching students like the ones at NSS. Teachers at NSS are better at accommodating to students missing school, extending deadlines, and giving students the help they need right away. Most of the normal highschoools in Calgary are pretty big, and the class sizes are much bigger than at NSS. At NSS, the class sizes are smaller for a reason, for teachers to have more time to help every student with whatever they need when they need it. I guarantee that if NSS gets moved to a different school, the teachers will just treat them like everyone else and we won't get the extra help we need. They won't care that we have to miss school or that we never have time to do school outside of school because the only thing they are concerned about is their paycheck. Another reason why moving NSS would be negative is that athletes won't be able to access the facilities that Winsport has. Winsport is the best place for athlete development. Not only is there COP, but there is all the ice rinks, the gymnastics center, G23, the high-performance training center, and the trampoline room. Having all of these amazing facilities all in one spot around the school is part of NSS. without all of this, nowhere near as many kids would go to NSS. I know people that have moved from all around Canada just to go to NSS because that's how good of a school it is. Moving NSS would pretty much be the same as closing it because NSS being at Winsport is the main reason why everyone loves the school.
- Large class sizes
- Transportation, more crowded classes
- Self transport is not an option for younger students. And carrying equipment, etc. on city busses may not be possible. Also, it's additional time away from class that they currently don't need to experience at Winsport facilities.
- The challenges for Option A are that it isn't really an option that speaks to the future of NSS. The challenges of Option A are that it is effectively an end to this unique and wonderful program. In fact, a tremendously invested group of stakeholders (parents, students, alumni, former Olympians, former NSS staff) have voiced enormous concern about the school's closure and are CHALLENGING the CBE to find a creative solution which allows for the continuation of NSS at WinSport.
- travel to training and back to school. Students travelling for 3 months at a time returning and not having support. Teachers not having time to deal with such students who require



individual attention and preorganized unit plans and exams while dealing with all the other students.

- Rolling transportation costs of our athletes onto the parents. Not fair. Accommodate training times will be difficult since the availability of the training facilities will not line up with the school schedule.
- Win sport is an ideal location due to proximity to training locations for many student athletes.
- This is not a good fit with Bowness High. The diversity is too great. Also it is not located at COP. This presents huge challenges for winter sport athletes.
- I feel the single space environment with knowledgeable (understanding of the special needs of high performing student athletes) teachers is critical. In an open environment other students and educational staff look at this program as elitist and can be unsupportive.
- My daughter would not know anyone in the school going into her grade 12 year, I would be concerned for her mental health. She has missed 37 days of school as of December 10th
- "It is not realistic that teachers can accommodate the needs of these athletes due to the quantity of days that they miss for their sport. Bowness, in particular, has the 3rd highest rate of special needs students in Calgary at 37% of the population. These teachers are already taxed.
- The primary reason why the NSS exists, is so that our future Olympic athletes do not have to sacrifice their academics. "Flexibility and consideration of attendance for time away for sports commitments would be accommodated" is not an achievable goal. "
- Many challenges- teachers aren't able to adapt to the athletes schedules, teacher student ratio is way to high, athletes fall behind in school and potentially have to give up their dreams of national team or Olympics
- Because NSS will not being able to function as an independent school, students will not receive the resources and attention they require. Athletes athletic and academic achievements will suffer for many reasons, one of which being the location change. Students will miss more school because they'll need to leave earlier to get to training on time, especially if they need to take public transit. Students may not be able to stay in their NSS teachers classes at a larger school, they will not receive the care and attention they need. Allowing NSS to function as an independent school within Bowness would help with this
- Many students will look for other options, as corralling them into Bowness is not an option. NSS has a great facility, a tremendous amount of the costs should be absorbed by the extra fees paid, so I cannot understand why this has been turned into a financial reason by CBE. I have asked for disclosure of the NSS School financials, but there has been no reply to this simple request. Teachers are very accommodating with such an intense travel schedule for these athletes at NSS. There is no possible way this programming would work at Bowness with the Class sizes as large as they are.
- Location. We specifically moved to Cougar Ridge so our son could attend NSS. His training is done at Win Sport and we do not want to have to buy him a vehicle so that he can get to his training. Teachers are very understanding at NSS and work with he students to get their school work done and make it work.



- "1. Transportation to sport lessons that are easily accommodated at Winsport. Moving to Bowness puts a hardship on parents to get kids to sports then back to school. Being a Winsport minimizes time away from classes throughout the day.
- 2. Integrating into a larger class structure is detrimental to kids that have Social issues. Bullying at the High Schools is not dealt with as swiftly as it was a NSS.
- 3. Larger class sizes means kids with IPP get lost in the shuffle and the teachers are not as responsive to their needs as they are unfamiliar with each kids tendencies.
- 4. Anxiety is an issue from massive change for these kids."
- "What teacher would be capable or willing to teach, post lesson on line or provide lessons ahead of time in anticipation of long term absences for student athletes who participate in a variety of sports. My son in attending NSS was physically at school 7 days between January and early March in his senior year. That isn't likely to happen or be well received.
- Resentment toward the student athletes by the rest of the main stream student body for the "preferential" treatment to account for long absences!!!"
- No NSS means no kids can excel in their sport or school and now having to make a choice between the two.
- I have an older daughter who also ski races and who was determined to stay with her school friends into high school. She went to Bowness in grade 10 and as much as it is a great school with a great principal and teachers, alpine ski racing, as with many or most sports of the kids going to NSS, has far too many days away from school. After struggling through grade 10, she knew her only option to excel in her sport as well as school was NNS, or something the same. It is not realistic for teachers in a regular high school to accommodate let alone support kids who are out of class for many and extended periods of time. This is not a recipe for success for anyone.
- "Said above
- Bullying at school
- Lack of accommodation for
- Teachers ( as witnessed by older siblings of my son)
- Just WONT and cannot work"
- Transport to Winsport. Less of a sport focused cohort. More distractions for athletes.
- Integrating with students who don't understand and may resent them. Teachers who will not know how to accommodate the student-athletes (despite "training," they won't be able to give them the special attention they need). No transport to training.
- Concerns about Bowness High (our daughter attended school with these kids for years), and public school does not allow for the number of absences her sport requires
- "Acceptance by the hosting school of the way the NSS approached teaching student athletes and accommodating their specific needs.
- The complete inconvenience of going to a different area the class sizes the teachers and the poor accommodation of the teachers
- There are some great challenges within option A. The challenges include that many students are unable to function within the online courses, and may not be able to take the class in school because of the their sports. Not having all of the NSS staff move to the new school with us, will pose great challenge. This is because the NSS staff is a large part of what makes the school work. They offer up their whole lives towards helping us succeed in high school, whilst balancing high performance sports.



- "-Student-athletes will have to plan around the extra time for transportation to/from school.
- -The incredible teachers and staff will be lost.
- -Student-athletes will not get the individual attention from teachers that they need when they are travelling"
- Student athletes will be forced to choose between their education or their sport.
- Ridiculous to expect students to drive themselves to Winsport during school hours and after. Many of them do not have cars/licences and parents are working.
- "- more challenging access to WinSport. Inconvenient to travel to training facility.
- - WinSport needs the draw and the involvement from the school to continue building strong support of the facility and programs."
- Athletes do not get what they need. This is against the CBE's mission and vision to support the individual needs of all learners. Large class sizes, no access to teachers to support them when they are away for extended periods of time would be detrimental to their success. Students would be forced to take courses through ADLC which would defeat the purpose of NSS.
- Everything.
- It would be hard for students to be able to revive the same amount of individual support when working in a full sized high school class full of students who are on significantly different timelines. NSS works so well because of its small classes of focused students, led by teachers and staff who understand their difficulties in school due to sport.
- "Many students will be located away from their sport facility which will increase travel time, increase demands on parents for driving or increase the financial demands of parents that need to pay for transportation of their student-athletes. An increase in travel time between sport training facility and school will drastically take away from time that could be spent in class which will negatively impact student success.
- Student athletes are not concerned with having a large variety of options. Most students come to NSS to succeed in their core courses in order to graduate and move onto their sport future or post-secondary school of choice.
- The needs of a student-athlete will not be met within a mainstream high school classroom. The average high school classroom in Calgary is overcrowded and these teachers cannot be expected to further adapt to meet the needs of the student-athletes when the teachers of NSS have years of experience in managing student needs. Even if a few of the NSS staff are moved with the students, it is too much to ask of the mainstream high school teachers as they have many more students to care for compared to the teachers of NSS. The small class sizes at NSS is what allows for student success and is why parents are willing to pay to send their student-athletes to NSS rather than place them in a mainstream school. "
- Bowness is not a central location.
- This option will most likely not provide the academic nor emotional support they NSS student require.
- It makes minimal sense to move the students off of Winsport.
- CBE loses its distinct role as the educator of future champions, the credibility afforded it by a culture bulky upon an Olympic legacy, and demonstrates instead a focus on teaching to the middle; prioritizing convenient cost cutting over unique, student-centric programming. The challenge is that either option clearly devalues athleticism, and pedagogical



differentiation. At \$1.8mm, why not explore options to increase enrollment to 180-200 students? This would bring costs to the mean.

- Pursuing elite sport on top of school is extremely time consuming, commuting between school is training is not possible for many student athletes.
- Loss of one on one with teachers. Small and localized environment. Can't walk to training facilities and have easy access to high demand training.
- "if students are integrated with general students, I can't see how a Teacher can accommodate the needs of both groups of students.
- If an athlete misses several weeks of classes a time, I don't believe they will receive the support required to succeed.
- Having no transportation options available for athletes to get to and from and from Winsport is not acceptable. "
- "All travel, including to and from the school and WinSport, would be the responsibility of the family.
- For athletes training at WinSport they now have an increase in missed class time in order to travel to training facility and for those without a vehicle and drivers license they are now required to organize rides to get to/from training/school. This will directly impact figure skaters, hockey players, luge athletes, skeleton athletes, bobsled athletes, gymnasts, ski jumpers, alpine skiers, freestyle skiers and snowboarders as well as others. "
- This does not work for a high performance athlete. This program is innovative and delivers incredible value per dollar spent. I would much rather see an increase to the cost of the school and have it remain where it is. Winsport's proposal to eliminate the vast majority of the rent and operating cost fees should be accepted and the program should be run for an additional year until parents/Winsport/teachers can develop a long term plan for the school that makes sense for all of the stakeholders.
- The students are separated. Less likely accommodation for students who travel or need time off.
- For me I would not be able to go to Bowness because of how often I need to use the wine port facilities. Online school would be the only option which would result in no grad at the end of the year and make learning more challenging as I wouldn't have the help I get now.
- Travel to and from training at the gym before and after school takes a toll, on both the athletes/students, and their parents (as many parents are driving the athletes around). Many sports have before and after training so it is a lot of commuting. To training, to school, back to training, to home. Having the school at WinSport eliminates half the commuting time.
- "Current NSS students don't have the time due to their extra training schedule. So there is NO advantage for the opportunity to participate in high school clubs and extra-curricular options by moving to Bowness.
- No yellow school bus transportation would be provided. All travel, including to and from the school and WinSport, would be the responsibility of the family.
- What happens to the grade 9 student athletes?"
- Students would be away from other athletes and mixed into a more 'typical' classroom approach. I feel this would decrease the effectiveness of the NSS structure, and also may be viewed as a bias towards NSS students with getting different opportunities that regular students (including leaving school for training and competitions). I also think that moving



"some teachers" to Bowness High School is very vague and unclear, and the benefit of the teachers at NSS now are they are very aware of the needs of the students, and demands of sport, and placing the students into a regular classroom would lose this understanding.

- You are taking every opportunity away. There is no guaranteed support or accommodation. How is there a plan to support students when there is going to be 40+ kids/ classroom - teachers can barely support a normal high student let alone student athletes. Putting students at risk of decreasing training - how do you plan students who don't have car or don't drive to get to their training. WHERE IS GUARANTEE TEACHERS ARE MOVING AND GOING TO ACCOMMODATE STUDENTS. What teachers are moving? What teachers aren't? I think you are just saying things to make this sound like an option when putting student athletes at risk. There is reason students choose NSS because normal schools could not accommodate their needs
- everything stupid
- Loss of high performing culture. Loss of teachers. Lower quality educational opportunities. Schedule issues given travel time.
- Won't deal with our time away as well
- "- Students are not coming first, education is not the central purpose
- - Self-transport will not work for students. Many students are too young to drive, parents unable to pick them up, etc. This causes students to miss even more school because they will "
- There are many challenges for option A. The first is that it will be far away from Windsport so it will be harder for certain people to train here. Also, the class sizes will be an issue when the students will be away or will be at training. This will be hard when the students are trying to catch up on missed work. Lastly, the other school will make it hard for teachers to pay as much attention to the sports school students.
- It makes everything about our sport life harder. It doesn't matter that there are better options at Bowness High School because we will be training in our option and gym periods.
- The challenges that we are facing is that how are we supposed to not have this school and lose our teachers when they're the ones that are helping us graduate and have a positive environment when we are gone for certain amounts of time.
- me not graduating
- Having teachers that don't understand athletes, although you say you understand, you don't.
- "Almost everything.
- The CBE has stated that other teachers will be able to accommodate student-athletes. I can personally testify to the inaccuracy of this claim. The CBE is condemning the greater population of the National Sport School to drown in the overfull classes of their public education system. The CBE has clearly demonstrated that they have no care for the challenges of student-athletes. The arrogance and stubbornness of the CBE leadership is consistently visible in their inability to recognize the opinions and suggestions of the NSS stakeholders (including the WinSport organization). This is not an option, our fate was decided before the CBE walked into the room to gather our advice. "
- Busing/transportation to there training facilities. Moving.
- "- complete disconnect in facilitating athlete/education process
- - social alienation



- - logistical access to training/competitions
- - psychological stress/distress from logistical training/competing limitations"
- Everything, like students having to quit their sports for a school shutting down for no apparent reason
- This option still lacks a lot of the support and access we need and have at the current location. It also integrates us with different types of students which can increase hostility and inequalities.
- "No training facilities so doubtful students will want to attend Bowness. More school time lost for travel.
- Transportation is an issue for those with no license or vehicle. Self transportation is a ridiculous idea
- Location and transportation-logistics and time spent traveling to and from school to training rather than in class or at training not ideal....
- Not as close to training facilities. Less flexibility to accommodate absences and training schedule.
- I would propose an option C where NSS stays at Winsport because students have to get between school the gym the ski hill the ski jumps or luge facilities etc before and after class without having a car. From bowness I don't think there is a bus going to cop, so I don't know how students will get back and fourth to and from the gym as most students work out before and after class but don't have a car.
- The transport to and from school as well as training. Absences for long periods of time won't be as flexible or lenient (grades will drop). Possible changes in training schedule for athletes. Conflict between public school teachers and the athletes due to training and competition schedules. Pay school fees and extra gas on top of training fees and winsport access fees.
- "The major issue is the teaching staff understanding the needs of these athletes who can miss 165-194 days of school. Elite athletes, especially in winter sports ie Luge, Bob Sled, Skeleton, Skiing, have to travel to Europe for weeks at a time. There are current athletes attending Bowness and they ARE NOT ACCOMMODATED by the school nor the teaching staff.
- If the students are going to be blended into a regular classroom the Bowness staff are not going to accommodate those athletes.
- Transportation to and from Winsport and the location of Bowness an issue
- "Equipment, tight schedules, facilities and support.
- There is a great deal of equipment that needs to be handled and often it is quite dear to the athlete and too expensive to replace if stolen or lost. Where would it be kept? And, some equipment is too large to store at a regular school.
- The schedules are tight, the Student-Athletes need to be able to get to the High Performance Centre and back to class. How could this be accomplished when they are at Bowness without transport?
- They require the Athletic Facilities to properly train and Study.
- A teacher with non-athletes is not going to be able to give all of his/her attention to the students that need extra help on their own timeline. The Student-Athletes will quickly be seen a bother and a tax of the teacher's time. This is a special bunch at NSS that operate differently than at traditional schools. Years of effort, planning and practice have made them



experts at managing this type of Student. Maybe they make it look too easy, but this is not a task that every teacher is equipped to do.

- Bowness is not a practical solution.
- **\*\*What a shame that the CBE can be so top heavy in spending and take out their misspending on the front line (teachers and support staff) and the students. \*\***
- **OPTION C**
- **\*\*The solution is to Keep NSS Open and run the program at Winsport. I believe there are almost 15,000 signatures on a petition to keep the school open that support this idea.\*\***
- The transition year is always hard. Keeping the students engaged and fully supported during the transition who thought they had found their home at NSS is really important. The change could be really exciting, the expanded course offerings, extracurricular and student populations do have positives to be supported. Elite athletes often have unique mental health challenges that really need to be recognized with the appropriate resources available.
- The current NSS population would not remain together - they would just be absorbed into the regular high school population. Students would not be given the academic support they receive at NSS - the teachers already have large classes, the NSS kids would just add to their stress. The amount of school time missed for training cannot be accommodated in a regular high school. Travel to and from training will take time these kids already don't have and for those who aren't old enough to drive, it will impact their family life with parents rearranging work schedules to drive their children. Or kids just won't be able to train. There will be a huge amount of social stress moving kids into a high school esp. if they are in their last year of high school. They will not have the social support they have at NSS because they won't be in the same classes even if they are in the same school. This option places a massive amount of stress on the students.
- No bus transportation to the school even though the rest of the Bowness High School students are eligible? No transportation to and from Winsport? How are the kids supposed to get to their practices and workouts when it's 20 below outside?
- Having some students in the class that must attend and others who are missing a ton of days may be confusing for the students who must attend at Bowness. There will have to be clear lines and rules. This could also impact the NSS students and Bowness.
- "Loss of easy access to WinSport for training in sport, diet, psychology and exposure to National and International sport athletes during training. Loss of mentoring by teachers who are intimately familiar with the athletes program and training and plan course load with the student to accommodate the education and sport training/competition program.
- This survey was very poorly designed and clearly is not focus on a parent's perspective....I am very disappointed."
- "Our athletes are spending every minute outside of school dedicated to their sport. When they are not on snow, they are in the gym, trampoline, sports Psych, nutritionist, Physio etc. They have no time for these complimentary courses that you mentioned ie mechanics. or time for extra Curricular activities and clubs. To become an Olympian or top level athlete, it takes more focus, sacrifice, drive and dedication than most adults will have in a life time. To become an elite athlete, these kids will train for the amount of hours per week that would be equivalent to a full time job. They live their sports. The lessons they learn through training and on the road will set them up for success in life. <https://hellogiggles.com/awards-events/olympics/how-many-hours-do-olympic-athletes-practice/>



- Are you aware that 68% of Women executives played high level sports. The link between leadership and high level sports is well documented and undeniable. Yet girls are dropping out of sport before the age of 14 ... why?
- Why they drop out:
- Safety and transportation issues. Sports require a place to participate “ and for many girls, especially in dense urban environments, that means traveling to facilities through unsafe neighborhoods or lacking any means to get to a good facility miles away. And if there isn't a safe option like carpooling with other families, the only option for a girl and her family may be to stay home.
- SO YOU ARE STATING THEY ARE ON THEIR OWN TO GET FROM BOWNESS TO WINSPORT TWO TO THREE TIMES PER DAY FOR TRAINING?
- Concerned about the negative history of Bowness High School
- Kids drop out because of Cost. School sports budgets are being slashed every day, all across the country. Fewer opportunities within schools.
- With-out the Support of NSS, the kids fees will go up drastically and many will be forced to drop out of sport.
- They drop out because of a lack of positive role models. Today's girls are bombarded with images of external beauty, not those of confident, strong female athletic role models. To some girls, fitting within the mold that they are constantly told to stay in is more important than standing out. Peer pressure can be hard for girls at any age; when that pressure isn't offset with strong encouragement to participate in sports and healthy physical activity, the results may lead girls to drop out altogether.
- Not just the girls but all of the athletes find their people and their support from like-minded athletes at the National Sports school. As you heard time and time again at the meeting at Winsport. They need each other, and regular High School does not work.
- Most have tried and failed to thrive through the regular systems.
- "The main challenge of this option is the location. NSS students use the facilities at Winsport EVERY DAY and many several times per day. This includes the various training centres and gyms, the ice rinks, the gymnastics centre, the ski hill, training ramps, trampoline centre, Ice House, climbing centre, ski lodge, ski park, team shops and the Olympic Sport Hall of Fame. Students used these facilities before school and after school AND during school hours. MANY of the sport organizations provincial and national bodies are located at Winsport including administration, coaches, medical consultants and trainers. Travel from another location is VERY time consuming, expensive and not practical. (Eg. Bowness is about 45 minutes by public transit involving 3 different routes and walking on both sides!)
- NSS students have chosen NSS for the location and the live teachers and their accommodation. On-line learning is different. NSS students generally aren't looking for more “options” as they train for their sport EVERY day. "
- Teachers in a regular high school or “integrated”high school will not have the time these kids in sport require. Teenagers require additional support as they move into adulthood, these kids who participate in sport require more support than others. They fall behind in schoolwork, homework, social lives are sacrificed etc. Attending a sports school allows these kids to be surrounded by like minded students who understand the demands of sport



and school. They do not suffer the loss of friendships while attending a sports school. I DO STRONGLY believe this will change with option A.

- NO OPPORTUNITIES for B. we Choose Option C, Keep the school open for these high achieving athletes and scholars.
- This option does not support the needs of the students at NSS. These are special need students, requiring specialized programming. Online learning is not the answer nor is integration into a regular school environment. As a matter of fact, most of these students have suffered through these options already and failed. NSS specialized programming was the only viable solution for them to be successful! The students being together in the same school does not meet the specialized needs of these students! This option completely misses the point. The entire benefit of the NSS is the flexible, supportive environment allowing elite athletes to succeed both in sport and in school. The CBE is forcing these students to choose school or sport with this option.
- "location - removing students from having close proximity to their training facilities
- Class size - impossible for kids to stay on track and access teacher assistance when planning travel time, Teachers don't have time with 35 plus students to work individually with them as done in current school.
- Social challenges - being away for weeks at a time then returning to a large class environment with mostly none NSS students provides a difficult environment for relationships to be formed."
- "- Possible bigger class sizes meaning athletes would not get the attention they need to catch up after being away for sport.
- - Possible increase in fees for athletes who train at Winsport.
- - Younger athletes would have to find ways to come and go from s"
- This option defeats the purpose of having the NSS - a better plan is to find a creative solution to have NSS at Winsport.
- Getting to and from Winsport will be challenging, especially in the winter. My son trains on snow and works out right where the school currently is. Bowness H.S. is also quite a large school, and the staff may not be attuned to the multitude of specific needs of these athlete-students.
- "The student body of NSS will be spread amongst the population of Bowness and the cohesiveness and community of NSS will be lost! The teachers will have a difficult time attending to the needs of the student athletes with their excessive training and/or competitive schedules. They will not understand the flexibility and patience needed and while juggling the other students in their class the importance of this will be lost!
- - Bowness is not a convenient location, as there is no direct transit route from Cougar Ridge and our child isn't old enough to drive. Both parents are working, so transportation to/from school and WinSport at various times throughout the day would be ext
- "No bussing provided to Winsport
- Huge class sizes place enormous/impossible pressure on teachers to accommodate students who miss half of their classes due to sport. My child will get lost in this large school environment. "
- Bowness or another CBE school isnt a consideration for us. We would return to Rockyview schools



- Getting to and from the facility, as well as not being a strong student when asked to work without little guidance.
- "The logistics of the location as opposed to Winsport is a challenge.
- Not only is this not what NSS wants, NSS would be integrated into the existing program with no special treatment for missed time etc etc
- Do your homework CBE this is not a good solution "
- Students who train at Winsport will have added challenges of getting to and from Winsport. This is not convenient.
- "Dismantling of NSS over time by dissolution as more and more children simply choose local school given diminishing advantages and increasing challenges of attending NSS.
- Lack of NSS culture as student and staff incorporated into normal program.
- Student athletes made to choose between success in academics vs. athletic performance whereas current NSS program ensures both are successful.
- Lack of support of NSS staff and student as no apparent plan for a principal or vice-principal to oversee this program.
- Increased difficulty for transport of students to training for those with Winsport as a home base.
- I don't feel that there is enough understanding of the importance of these athletes having a safe and unique place to be focused on this very difficult journey. Bowness is at the end of the day, a reasonable second option but I don't feel they will get what you are putting forward. They will inevitably be a group of different kids and like will see some us and them behaviour. I sure hope that I'm wrong.
- "Lack of fitness training facilities at Bowness.
- A tight-knit support network of peer athletes who understand the unique challenges for student-athletes.
- As willing as the teachers may be at another school, the realization is that the individualized plans for the student-athletes will be too time-consuming - either the student-athlete will suffer or the other students in the class will suffer (or the teacher will suffer as they are being asked to do more with the same).
- moving players for and back throughout the day as WINSPOORT is our home ice facility
- "The environment at windsport is ideal for students to combine their academic training with sports training (including fitness, sports psychology, training facilities, etc.) Calgary loses a unique education platform damaging our ability to lead the national and global sports community "
- "It is the mindset of NSS vs CBE public school. NSS Students have tight schedule to study and they need Teachers attention as a priority within school hours or perhaps outside school hours. That would be challenging for the teachers in Bowness school.
  - My student attended Gr6,7,8 in CBE school, usually other students did not understand why my student asks for help from the teacher and needs it immediately.
  - Other students did not understand why come late to school, how sport is that important. Even the students that were trying to support advised to quit sports because it is making teachers unhappy."
- \*NSS is exactly what all teachers, parents, and students fight for: 15:1 student to teacher ratio, academic excellence, motivated students with an extracurricular focus in sport, well balanced and happy! The other schools can't provide us with this .



- Regular school is not conducive to the pursuit of excellence. Period.
- At NSS it is a wonderful program for students to remain in competitive sport and successfully complete High School. All the students are facing similar challenges with achieving the balance and the staff at NSS have to date been very supportive. I feel that when the program is relocated a lot of this support may be lost.
- "No bussing to and from Bowness! Many students (including mine) do not have a driver's license or a vehicle - how do they get back and forth to Winsport???"
- My student trains at noon as well as later in the day...she would miss too much class time from a "regular" high school!"
- The odds of Option A working are very low. Students will disperse to other schools. Bowness teachers will be unlikely to accommodate the flexible schedule that high performance athletes require. Any transportation solution from Bowness to WinSport will not apply to athletes pursuing other sports not located at Winsport- and there are many. The only viable alternative is staying at WinSport and reducing the costs and increasing the enrollment.
- Transportation to and from Winsport for training. Sport Psyc access. Larger class size. Longer school day. Loss of specialized facilities access during the school day. Loss of high level sports minded cohort and teachers.
- I feel that if the program was moved to Bowness or any other school it will be greatly compromised. My son is in grade 11 and moving schools for his grade 12 year is less than ideal. We chose the program at NSS due to the smaller class sizes and accommodations for the athletes schedules. My son is dyslexic and already struggles enough. In a large class room that the cbe has not managed very well at all, I fear his academics will suffer tremendously and he will have to choose between school and his sport. Many high level athletes have emerged from this program at NSS. To lose this one of a kind opportunity for our student athletes would be devastating. It will prove that all the talk from our boards of making decisions in the best interest of our children is fraudulent.
- Athletes are expected to 'blend' with standard CBE curriculum students, proven this does not work, lack of support for travelling students, my son spent more than 50% of schooltime away because Winsport closed the ski jumps; no teacher in a 'normal' program can support a student away for over 50% of the time, my son was operating on an 8 hour time difference this year and his teachers replied within an hour most of the time to his questions - tell me a Bowness teacher will do that when they have multiple other students and classes. Also my son has access to a sport psychologist at school and CSI resources that he will not have at Bowness or any other school.
- Viability and effectiveness of the program are in jeopardy; the location is too good to lose, as is the incredible staff
- Location, lack of support from staff, merging students into regular classrooms removes the unique culture of NSS. Student athletes need to go to school with like minded students and have teachers that support and understand them
- Regular Teachers will get tired of students missing so much school and won't give them special attention.
- Say goodbye to podium performances. "
- "- Training and other facilities are offsite requiring transport to/from school and extra logistics &/or cost. Public transport options seem limited.



- - Integration & accommodation for a small portion of the school population."
- "This Option forces students to leave their existing school, home, network, facilities against their will with virtually no notice period. These children are at a very sensitive time of their lives and tearing them away from their existing community and program could have serious repercussions on their emotional, mental, and academic development during these crucial high school years. How could the CBE ever contemplate moving them without at least another year or two of preparation?"
- NSS provides students with an opportunity to excel academically while pursuing their passion of sport. The combination of these two pursuits allows NSS students to pursue their academic goals in a setting that allows them to coordinate their sports and resulting flexibility requirements. In any other school, they would massively disrupt the other students and teacher while likely failing to meet acceptable academic standards.
- It is appalling that CBE is even considering proposing such an option without providing the NSS community with at least another year of preparation and IGNORING other creative solutions that have been proposed including the virtual waiving of hundreds of thousands in costs by Winsport!
- The pursuit of any Option besides providing NSS with at least another year to prepare and have CBE consider/accept other cost saving proposals is destructive to our children and unacceptable."
- Absence from school. Flexibility within the classroom to reschedule tests and assignments. Support for students who miss a lot of school. These questions were asked in the online feedback but we have no plans for how this will be managed. Lack of sport counsellor. Girls more than twice as likely as boys to give up sports in a normal high school setting. Lack of facilities and staff at Winsport and difficult to transfer between sites. No on site concussion program, sports medicine and physio. Lack of dedicated resource to NSS students.
- The students will lose the privilege of small sized classrooms & individual interaction with their teachers.
- "The students lose the proximity to winsport facilities, and will miss more class time because of this
- The students aren't together, my daughter is struggling socially in her regular cbe school (grade 8) because of her absences and would benefit from being close to others with similar schedules/interests.
- It's very hard to accommodate the absences the same in the larger school environment. We have visited and discussed this with different potential high schools including the bowness program and we have concerns based on their feedback that regular absences cannot be accommodate. For example our daughter misses 50% of class time but maintains a 85%+ grade average and we were told she would not get credit for these classes In high school because she misses too many class times even if her grades are high. She wants to have the classroom connection that she would lose if we are forced to homeschool these classes. The students also lose access to the sports medicine experts, dieticians, trainers etc when they are not at the winsport location. "
- Challenges for option A are travel between winsport and school. A lot of athletes start to compete at elite levels of sport prior to driving, meaning a lot more has to go into getting athletes to school, to sport, back to school. Another is the fact that a lot of the students attend NSS for the fact that it is a small school population, with more 1 on 1 time with



teachers and the prospect of school sports and clubs do not necessarily even apply to students at high level sports because of their time commitment with their own sports."

- Location is too far from our house
- -integration into regular program at Bowness will not adequately address unique needs of student athletes -without NSS being on site, most advantages of the current program/location are no longer "
- Sport and education in the same facility is what makes NSS valuable and unique. Moving to a different location makes no sense. In order to accommodate modified schedules and give one on one attention to every unique athlete - this needs to happen in a small school - not within a large school like Bowness. The trustees are saying they don't want to lose students but they will because many elite athletes (like my son) can not attend a large school. We already tried this at a much smaller school - Springbank high for the global sports academy - and although global claimed to operate as a small school within a big one A it did not. It was the larger school dynamics (student and teacher milieu) that dominated and ultimately did not fit for elite athletes.
- Everything. CBE high schools are not able to accommodate the flexible schedules required of these athletes. We've already tried this option... it didn't work. If children are all moved to bowness high school, cbe will lose a large number of children. Parents will look for other options.
- -regular high school teachers at Bowness will not have time to accommodate ski racers that miss 3 weeks at a time at school nor should they be forced to - there is just not time in the day to meet the needs of students who need to be taught 3 weeks of mis
- Transportation to and from Winsport would be impossible or largely inconvenient for most students. Students would spend more valuable time on transferring between sport and school which would result in either not having time to use the Winsport facilities to its fullest potential, or not having enough time to study, or accomplishing both - studying and athletics - but neglecting the time needed for the body to recover from activity. Another challenge is that teachers that have 30 students in class of which only a few are from NSS, will have to take his or her time away from the rest of the class to focus on an athlete that has just missed 3 weeks or a couple months of school. It is not fair to expect that from the teacher and it is not fair to the rest of the students in the class who attend the classes year round with not excuses. Students that are not high performance athletes can't understand the time and effort that it takes to become one. It is easy for them to destroy someone else's dreams. When student athletes are in school in which all students have the same passions and values - they support each other when they win and when they loose.
- It will not be successful I don't believe as there are too many challenges to work out. Needs to have own classes in space of Bowness
- Dissolving the framework that has allowed NSS to operate successfully in the past and for these student athletes to succeed in school, sport and beyond. It is evident through the details written in this proposed option that there is no true understanding of what NSS provides student athletes. The individual attention would not be what it currently is, preventing these students from achieving the academic success they have in the past. Teachers dealing with 30-40+ kids in a classroom cannot provide the essential attention and caring environment both inside and outside the school. They simply won't have the capacity. These students don't have time for extra curricular activities.



- Students at NSS often miss weeks of school at a time and as a result require greatly modified deadlines to the average student. In this proposed model, NSS students would often be in classes without a former NSS teacher. I find it hard to believe that NSS students can expect the level of accommodation and remote support they require from a regular Bowness high school teacher. Student peer support has always been a strength of NSS, if students are not in the same classes, this peer support will suffer as a result. NSS students would also lose many of the NSS teachers who have years of experience with the needs and demands placed on NSS student-athletes. This model will also create logistical and transportation issues for many students that didn't exist while the school was at WinSport.
- I don't believe that a flexible program will be achieved when Bowness has large class sizes already. Because the student athletes have large demand on their time due training schedules, extra classes are not considered a benefit. I would rather the program focus on allowing the kids to get a solid education on the core subjects.
- -Distance from COP  
-lack of transportation between Bowness and COP  
-availability of storage for +++expensive sports equipment at Bowness  
-large class size at Bowness  
-reduced access to supports available at COP site (sports psychology, physiotherapist"
- It's evident from the details of this proposed option that there is no real knowledge of what NSS is truly all about and the benefit it provides student athletes.
  - Course selection. When students are away sometimes up to two months out of the year and the intent is solely to graduate and do it with the best marks they can. The interest isn't in a wider course selection or options. They don't have the time, it's irrelevant and doesn't actually provide any benefit for the majority of student athletes.
  - Flexibility and consideration for time spent away. How can there be an expectation upon teachers who are managing 30+ other students in a class to be able to actually care enough and accommodate students who are away all the time. Or provide them the assistance inside and outside of school hours and days when they need it? It's not feasible to think that a teacher would have the capacity to provide what's needed. Which isn't meant to assume it's because they don't care, even if they do, how will they have the time? Do you think other students will react well to some of their peers getting extra and special attention? Will these teachers show up to students competitions because they care? Will they answer texts about homework on a Sunday night? Will they teach these athletes how to be ambassadors for their city and country and how to conduct themselves in front of the media? Will they be there to celebrate in the incredible, athletic victories of these kids? These are all the things that make NSS so much more than a school.
  - You now want to move teachers who were previously teaching classes of 10-15 student athletes, to teach classes of 30-40 students and expect them to then be able to give the same level of care they were previously providing?
  - You cannot guarantee a welcoming and caring environment for students. It's about more than "TA support". It's about being surrounded by peers who understand your goals and lifestyle and support and celebrate you. Being surrounded by 100 other high-level athletes is not the same as being lost in a sea of hundreds upon hundreds of students. If you put them in different classes from each other, you're driving an even bigger wedge between the



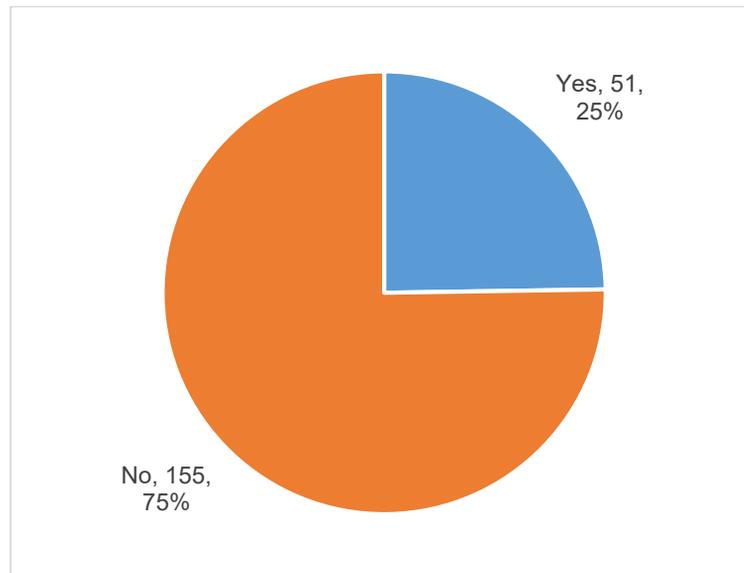
community that's built through a school like NSS. Every kid who came to NSS came because the current public system did not work for them.

-They do not have time for extra-curricular options or clubs.

- Taking the sport out of the sport school. Moving the school would take away what the school is about. It is clear that the cbe didn't take the time to understand what really happens within the sport school. Making kids transport their selves to winsport??? Unreal. There are so many negatives I could be here for hours talking about it, but it's just not right. In a time where mental health is so important, putting athletes into a normal school wouldn't work. This is very upsetting that the cbe has this as an option.
- As class sizes are already increasing, bringing additional students with high-needs into them would not be fair to any students (whether current or NSS) nor would it be fair to teachers. In a class of 30 + with some who are gone for 6 months of the year, I do not believe it is fair for the well-being of the teacher to expect them to be able to accommodate those students while still providing them with quality instruction if they also have to manage 25+ other students. If transportation is not provided, students who train at WinSport before school would miss much more of the morning classes than they already do. Similarly, students who leave last period early to make it to practice would have to leave much earlier from Bowness. Therefore, for the students that are at school (as opposed to out of town) would still be getting much less face-to-face instruction than when they have their training a 1 minute walk away. You would have to ensure that every single staff member at Bowness that has NSS students is aware of their academic needs and accommodations and understands the necessity of it. Every teacher must be on the same page to ensure the success of the students in any course and environment.
- Travel to practices
- Unknown location. Possibly far from sport related activities and training. If school is relocated to Bowness - difficult transit access.
- Time and transportation!!!! More time getting to training and more time being spent away from the classroom!!! MENTAL HEALTH ASPECTS ARE HUGE- kids will by blend in well. They need to be with like minded kids



**Question 6 | Based on the information we've provided on Option A, do you think you/your child would remain enrolled in National Sport School?**



**Question 7 | In considering location of National Sport School for Option A, rank the following factors in order of importance.**

1. Proximity to WinSport
2. Course offerings (CTS options, complementary courses, etc.)
3. Proximity to home
4. Extracurricular opportunities (sports and clubs)
5. Access to Calgary Transit

**Question 8 | What are the opportunities for Option B?**

- none
- None
- It would be closer to home, however, would not offer any of the key benefits that the current NSS/WinSport arrangement allow for thus creating significant hindrances for academic and athletic success.
- Nothing
- N I e
- None
- None. This will be the end of sports for my son. plus my Daughter, a competitive figure skater was hoping to attend next year for grade 9.
- "Very few, if any. If we thought this was a good idea, our some would have stayed in his designated school.
- No expectation in this option is put on administration more than they do now. "



- There are no opportunities at all with this option.
- Absolutely none. Terrible idea.
- Close to home
- NONE
- Less travel time for student athletes from their homes
- This is ridiculous. If attending our designated schools was a feasible option for our children then we would already be doing it.
- None
- This also is an option for CBE to fire teachers and fight UPC policies.
- "Reduce costs for CBE. Save CBE admin staffing positions over students well being. "
- This has worked historically in the past for teachers that were able to understand and support an athlete trying to do school and train full time
- They could attend in their designated location.
- None
- ZERO. Option B and the 'opportunities' you cite clearly shows you, CBE Board, and you, CBE Trustees, have no idea what the purpose, culture and format NSS currently has. Families transfer from high schools with ' a larger selection of courses, clubs, extra curricular activities and sports' because those items are not anywhere on their priority list. The priority is core courses taught at the highest level and the opportunity to train in their elite sport.
- none
- I can't think of any.
- None
- NONE!
- If Option B is used then I will probably leave the Cbe
- this is not an option, closing our school is not giving us an option
- None
- Close to home
- NSS needs to remain open at Winsport in its current form
- This is an unacceptable option
- There are none. Option C - to develop cost saving solutions at WinSport by accepting their offer for a one year lease at \$1 and find other cost saving measures to allow the school to remain another year while a reasonable solution can be found.
- The only positive thing about closing NSS is that maybe if parents are actually given time and the proper amount of engagement, we could open a charter school to meet the needs of athlete.
- There are no positive opportunities for Option B. To ask this question is absurd - if students were going to be better off doing this then they would not be at NSS
- I don't see any opportunities here.
- "none
- my son switched from nss to ernest manning for grade 10 and thought he would get better options. Instead they were all taken and he had to take options he did not even want. "
- "I don't see any opportunities in this option.
- I would like to suggest that CBE has missed an option that has come forward -- keeping NSS at Winsport for a token fee of \$1, as proposed by Winsport, and there are many



opportunities with this model. It would significantly cut the costs of NSS and still stay true to the Olympic legacy."

- No good opportunities.
- None.
- "Again, we are in shock that this is classified as an option.
- Not an option
- It is hard to see opportunities when compared to the current location of NSS and the level of dedication shown by the teachers and the flexibility afforded to the student athletes
- This is NOT an option for the International Hockey Academy (IHA) As part of the CSSHL (Canadian Sport School Hockey League), under Hockey Canada ruling, ALL participants must attend the same school.
- "The opportunities are very low - only perk is possibly return to IB or to french immersion, but not in Calgary if this is the option.
- The only real opportunity is to forgo both A / B and to go for C - extend the lease (free lease) for one year at a minimum and make a strategic decision rather than an impulsive decision."
- This is not an option in my opinion. This option says that Calgary is not supportive of developing athletes of the future, that you do not care about developing leaders of the community and that you are not AT ALL focused on your mantra of focus on students first. This is a terrible option and should not even be considered. You cannot cancel a program that has been so successful for 25 years. This proves that CBE is focused on the dollar impact first and foremost and not the future of students who have a real ability to represent the City, the Province and the Country as a Canadian athlete in their sport. This options is proof of a knee jerk reaction to the Alberta provincial budget and has absolutely no creative thought involved.
- This is also a no positive option. We are presented with two terrible options, disengaged 'options' made up by a group that clearly does not care about the future of Canadian sport and the future of young people striving to excel in school and sport.
- None
- I do see any opportunities to Option B. Designated High School do not accommodate student athletes the same level as NSS. Totally different environment. Why else students choose NSS. It is because NSS understands, accommodates and values athletes.
- This is not an option. As parents we are all well aware that we can send our student to our local school.
- None.
- Option C: program continuance at WinSport in its current form. WinSport has proposed a one year lease extension to allow for more time to effectively study and find an alternate solution. NSS works best at its current location in partnership with WinSport and CBE has an opportunity to extend the lease for a year (as per WinSport's offer to do so for \$1) to allow for all involved to seek a permanent, cost-effective solution for NSS to remain onsite at WinSport moving forward.
- NONE!!!
- "We have experience in this option. It results in a losing situation for the student that results in failure in academic, extra costs for tutoring and then loss of time to repeat certain academic courses.



- They're is strong evidence to show that this option is demoralizing for all involved."
- I don't see this as an "opportunity". We close your school and send you wherever you want to go? The opportunity is for the CBE to save money. The students already had this "opportunity" for the last 25 years and had very specific reasons why it did not work.
- No opportunities
- None
- None.
- None
- This means that most of our high level athletes will have to quit school or quit sport. Most of them will not be successful in regular schools.
- Freedom to not attend a high school. Students could turn to online if they prefer. However, I remember my experience with online school, lowest grades in my schooling career. I only ever found success at NSS.
- This is not an option. There are NO opportunities with this option. The opportunities listed are not reflective of the needs of athletic students. You will see students not graduate as a result.
- This is not an option. It's an easy solution for a programmer. The reason these kids are at this school is because there is no flexibility in the regular school system.
- There are no opportunities with this option. My child will get lost once again in the system, his mental health will be impacted by enormous class sizes, no practical extra help from teachers and no support to help him balance his sport training.
- Going to a school closer to home
- opportunities? HA. Good one. Im genuinely laughing out loud in my classroom right now. Our extra cirriculars are our sports.
- equity among all students across the city - not a specialized group - students who want to have extra curricular activities regarding their sports should not have special perks and benefits of their own school
- There are absolutely NO opportunities in Option B that support students, staff, families or the general sports community.
- not having to go to Bowness high.
- "-option to play on school sports teams (although most student-athletes are to busy to do so)
- -more CTS options
- -more extracurriculars"
- NOTHING
- NONE
- No opportunities.
- There are no opportunities with this option!!!!
- None for NSS students/staff. CBE can allocate funds elsewhere.
- none
- There are no opportunities for this option.
- None, would not do, would return my son to Hockey Academy outside the province or private school in Calgary.
- none



- We are student-athletes with very busy lives. Clubs, Extracurricular activities and school sports DO NOT MATTER to us WE NO NOT HAVE TIME for them. The opportunity you are providing use is 200 high school dropouts. Does the city really want that?
- "possibly attended
- Not having to go to Bowness High school
- It gives less opportunities
- you get to go to a school much worse than nss.
- There's absolutely nothing good about this option.
- nothing
- you would get to meet people near you and there would be a larger community.
- no opportunities
- No opportunities
- For very determined athletes this makes their opportunities for success very slim.
- none
- Nothing.
- There are absolutely no opportunities for Option B and it absolutely does not take in to consideration the needs of the student athlete.
- There are no opportunities here. Closing the school in this fashion should not be an option. Students have been a part of CBE environments before and no flexibility has been provided. I see no reason why this would change. Online schooling is the only option for many of these kids which would be a shame.
- There are no opportunities in closing with option B.
- Similar to option A, students will still be provided with some accommodation.
- none
- Cost savings
- None
- There are not opportunities for option B. The NSS students don't have time for regular school clubs, extracurricular activities and sports. Again, no understanding of the NSS student and the program.
- None whatsoever - in a country where obesity is the epidemic how can you not want our children, the future of this country, to be top shape. Who will represent us at international events podiums. You need to appreciate and understand the needs of these athletes - that can not be achieved with the current environment at hand.
- Closer to my home.
- "Additional options
- Closer to our home
- Lower fees
- None
- Zero, why even ask
- less costs for athlete families, school proximity to home. students can be with their friends away from sport.
- more CTS opportunities. School teams and clubs
- None
- "Normal school
- Proximity



- None
- Our family has relocated to Calgary to allow our son to participate in NSS. Closing the school offers no opportunities, though it clearly forces us to reconsider our future in this city.
- More students in schools so more money for the school.
- None
- None
- None
- None
- allow for a charter school to be started to support High performance athletes
- CBE saves money
- Closer to home
- None.
- This cannot be considered an option, only a school closure.
- My son would most likely go to Bishop Carroll school.
- none
- There are no opportunities! The athletes are totally at the mercy of the school administration and the individual teachers if the athlete wishes to continue in their sport.
- "Not an option
- Will pull my son out of CBE"
- None, terrible idea for athletes.
- None, designated school is Bowness
- No opportunities exist. The option B is not a viable option from students-parents perspective.
- Nothing
- I believe that there are limited opportunities offered within Option B. One opportunity that is beneficial to the students of the NSF, would be the fact that their designate high schools are closer to home, but may also end up further away from training.
- None. Some students at the National Sport School live an hour or more away and their parents cannot drive them to and from training (specific to students who are not able to drive).
- Zero
- None
- There are limited opportunities with this option. Students currently have the ability to attend extra curricular courses at other schools while maintaining the unique educational experience.
- none
- Nothing
- N/A
- none
- None
- This makes absolutely no sense.
- Families who have relocated to Calgary for this unique school may return to their places of origin, impacting the CBE enrollment and the Calgary economy. Those few students privileged enough to afford private schools and sports academies may pursue those



options. Others will resort to online learning and home schooling. Some will abandon their athletic pursuits out of necessity. And some will adapt just fine to a regular school setting.

- Not a viable option
- None, not a good idea whatsoever. It would ruin the athletic goals of many.
- This will crush all of the Student-athlete's future to succeed in both sport and academics.
- This does not work for a high performance athlete. This program is innovative and delivers incredible value per dollar spent. I would much rather see an increase to the cost of the school and have it remain where it is. Winsport's proposal to eliminate the vast majority of the rent and operating cost fees should be accepted and the program should be run for an additional year until parents/Winsport/teachers can develop a long term plan for the school that makes sense for all of the stakeholders.
- I don't like this option
- Would have to quit my sport, this is not an opportunity this is making nss students chose between school and sport
- None!
- Very little, as students would be going to their designated school already if that was the best fit for them. They are not there for a reason.
- There is none.
- just keep us where we are
- nothing
- Also a bad option, ends sports for most people.
- Nothing!
- Nothing.
- Nothing.
- even worse idea
- Again... none. I wish CBE could be more like wolf creek.
- "Nothing.
- Option B removes the entirety of what this province and country has worked to achieve. Option B is merely a way for the CBE to burry a problem that was brought about by their own incompetence. If this is how the CBE is operated then they deserve to be removed by the education minister. "
- i go back to all my friends
- There are no opportunities for Option B
- students being able to keep playing their sports as well as keeping up in school
- Ridiculous question.
- This is not even an option
- Students go to bishop Carroll or online which is self directed learning ( so all children with adhd and learning disabilities will suffer) or drop out of their sport or fail school
- There are none. This would be the lowest form of representation for the educational rights of high performance athletes. They require a completely different and personalized academic program to allow them to succeed in both categories. Thus, putting them in public high-schools would not benefit them at all since the majority of the regular students do not need as much rigorous course planning.
- There is no opportunity for this option for the students besides CBE having fewer costs. Bowness or other school would increase enrolment



- "High Schools are full and not any more capable to provide a suitable school setting than Bowness.
- This is not a good option as it does not provide the support that the Student-Athletes require."
- I don't like Option B at all.
- Again the only opportunity I see here is the opportunity to fail at either school or sport or both. The NSS students do not have time for extracurricular activities and sports. They have already invested 1000s of hours into a sport they love to do.
- As parents, we collectively pay about \$1 million for our child athletes to attend NSS. What other school has that type of parent support? Should you not be looking at closing schools that have a lack of parent involvement and support, rather than the one with the most support.
- Don't close a school that is doing great things... There are no opportunities for this option.
- The only advantage is the student could attend any school of their choosing. No other obvious benefits to a high performance athlete.
- None
- None. The kids will suffer a tremendous loss.
- ZERO. WE choose Option C keep NSS where it is
- None
- none
- None
- No opportunities with this option.
- This is a horrible option, I am not sure I see any opportunity!
- For our family, none.
- We arent CBE so will return to Rockyview.
- He could be with his friends
- This is an even worse idea than the last
- Children back in their community
- Cost savings. While the availability of broader course selections may seem like an advantage to administrators, these students already have made a decision to focus their academics to core courses so that the rest of their attention can be directed to their athletic goals.
- Closer to home. Maybe connected to more long term friends.
- While I would very much like to provide you with balanced feedback, this option has a minimal upside.
- Not an option as our athletes come from all over Calgary, Alberta, Canada and the world
- "No Opportunities , we have been in through this option in Gr6,7,8. We would never want to go back to the same situation.
- Because of the mindset, teachers did not accept late attendance and were not willing to help or answer questions outside of the normal sequence of students or school hours. "
- none
- "We travel from Canmore which is CRPS not CBE so none.
- My child's older sibling dropped out of high school to remain in competitive sport"
- None!!!!!!!
- None



- Option B is not an option that I can support
- "None
- Option C, stop playing politics, go for the one year extension that Winsport has offered for \$1."
- None; this is a terrible idea, do not do this to so many promising young student athletes.
- None whatsoever.
- No opportunities. How do you expect us to miss school, and perform while having stress about what goes on at home while we travel and compete?
- This is a stupid question.
- This alleged Option is absolutely offensive and destructive to the mental, emotional, and academic development of these high school students.
- Not many, we left this because the school couldn't provide eh flexibility and support required for elite level athletes.
- None
- None.
- Nil.
- I don't like this option either
- Proximity to home is only benefit
- N/a
- Leaving the CBE and finding another school system. Ie private, charter or homeschooling
- A private or public school is not an option for an alpine ski racer. I have had 3 daughters attend the National Sport School (all attending a mix of public and private school during elementary and junior high school) and I see huge value in a program such as NSS . There is no other option for alpine ski racers in my mind. These athletes are all high achieving kids in both sport and academics and deserve an environment where they can be highly successful in their sport and academics.
- None
- Only would be if there is time to create a charter school
- I see no benefits for student-athletes in this option.
- None
- Nil
- None
- Is there an option C?
- No opportunities. Why is this even a question??
- Proximity to home.
- Choosing one school for remaining three years of high school ( no fear of closure)
- THERE ARE NO OPPORTUNITIES FOR OPTION B!!! This will now work!! More thought needed to be put into this

### Question 9 | What are the challenges for Option B?

- "This option would be a deliberate and conscious decision that would lead these students to fail in school, fail in their sport or fail in both.



- We would move our child back to vista virtual online school and she will probably not graduate or complete her schooling.
- "-The distance from the designated school to WinSport results in significant challenges related to time, access to training and associated services, quality of programming...
- -My child is a competitive freestyle skier. Learning and training at WinSport is"
- There is no way athletes can keep up with normal cbe high school program with their training and travel schedule. They have to choose quite their sports or not graduate from high school. No future for this option either
- Many location location
- Come on really
- You will single handedly crush many dreams of many students and athletes. Many will end up leaving their sport and it will hinder their health, state of minds, and allow them more free time to get into trouble, bad habits, etc.
- This does not work for some of our student athletes. My son is on the national team, leaves for 3-4 weeks at a time. I sat down with his designated school before grade 10, at a school that prides themselves on accomodating athletes. I was told, " well, we won't say no, but given his schedule I think he will have a tough time succeeding academically in this school. Some teachers are accommodating, but not that accommodating"
- Challenges are too long to list - why close a fantastic program with 25 years of success that is continuing to grow each year????
- Incredible amounts of challenges. These athletes will for sure have mental health issues if attending their designated high schools. There are so many challenges for these athletes for either option.
- "Designated Public school is over capacity. Kids would get lost in system and not be educated as well.
- Kids won't be as well accomodate. "
- "There is an OPTION C that the CBE is not willing to look at.
- This option was presented by the parents at the meeting of Nov 18 2019.
- Students are not supported to achieve their best
- Student success rates drops
- Many will leave CBE"
- "Many students will be forced to quit their sport or drop out of school.
- Lower student enrollment for CBE."
- "-teachers that aren't able or willing to accommodate students who are away for their sports
- -teachers and programs that don't work well with distance learning
- -sports training is currently an unexcused absence in regular programs
- -large class siz"
- "Lack of teachers who understand how to support the elite student-athlete
- Lack of a program that knows how to support the elite student-athlete
- Lack of the school body our son has learned to thrive in, compared to the other CBE schools that have all failed him.
- Please find another option - A and B are not viable and completely ignore what NSS is all about!"



- There would be no National Sports School. These athlete scholars would fall back into a system that cannot accommodate their schedules. It is unfortunate that the CBE fails to recognize that, for a very modest budget commitment, they could maintain a program that could be a showcase for the Board.
- "Kill opportunities for athletes from lower income families to thrive in their sport. Making sport only accessible for those who can afford private schools.
- Many student athletes will no longer be graduating high school. "
- No sense of community perhaps but I think that would be lost in option A too.
- Even if say flexibility and accommodations, we found regular CBE schools do not understand the extensive requirements of these athletes. We found this at Bowness HS IN G10 and first semester of G11. Teachers have too many students to be provide level of support required by these students.
- "Complete loss of the benefits of the NSS learning and supportive environment
- Loss of easy access to Winsport facilities, programming, support staff, athletic environment
- social isolation due to loss of support network of likeminded and similarly goal oriented peers"
- As noted in my last response, students would be set up for failure in this environment. They would not be able to excel and there would be a large group of students who would not make it through grade 12 and would not be eligible for university entrance when finished their support. This will put a strain on the educational system as they have to upgrade later on.
- Clearly NSS, its 25 year Culture of Excellence and opportunity for elite athletes to train and represent their country while achieving high academic standing in core courses will be eliminated. It is disingenuous, an outright lie in fact, to state that CBE students would continue to receive the flexibility and attendance accommodations for sport commitments. That does not happen at regular CBE high schools as attested by teammates who attend those schools and are routinely punished in marks and otherwise when they miss class for early morning training or competitions by teachers' refusal to allow an extension on an assignment or to allow a test to be taken at a different time. You are flat out wrong in the assertion of anything to the contrary.
- teachers not understanding our training schedules, large class sizes. my designated CBE high school has lots of fights, and is not a safe environment for student athletes
- Our designated school is Western Canada, a great school and would love for my son to go here, but we have been told previously that they would not be flexible in scheduling for sports.
- Like many parents of NSS students, we recently met with the principal of our child's designated high school as we are concerned about next year. We were advised that, in no uncertain terms, there are too many children at the school for any student to receive flexibility for their attendance. Again, good on paper, but will fail in execution as schools city wide are expected to change their attendance policies to accommodate a handful of students. It simply won't work.
- Kids are back to missing a ton of school and not having teachers that understand and go the extra mile to help
- Can't accommodate student athletes



- The challenges are that 1) teachers and class expectations do not support sport students. They are marked late, absent, not accommodated while traveling, will miss lessons due to teachers not wanting to repeat - that is why we parents switched our children in to this school. Sport students will have a higher failure rate. 2) The students would be influenced by those outside the sport environment, thereby decreasing their motivation to do well. 3) The students have a unique community that extends outside the years they participate, by removing NSS and further moving NSS out of Winsport, the CBE is damaging the elite sport community the students develop. 4) The students have access to support facilities and personal that raise them higher than most sport participants. This school is one of the flagships of excellence that CBE has. Why would they destroy something they could hold to the public as a trophy school? As well, note, that at no time, ever, did CBE show financials to justify moving it... the athletes that have gone forward in the 25 years of the school and those who are currently in the school, they will do nothing but slam the CBE for poor financial planning. This could turn into a huge PR catastrophe as the school has produced some incredible high level public figures and Olympians. If the government needs another excuse to take over the Board of Trustees, this would be it - we parents, students, and graduates from NSS, we all would turn to the government and demand that NSS remain open and where it currently is at COP. This is a strong possibility with powerful people (think of the types of parents and the students, now adults, who have gone through this school who have become powerful people) our voices will be loud and many.
- I would suffer extremely to keep good grades that would get me into university off of academics alone.
- "I already tried to make it work in my local school. My grades really suffered trying to do both my sport and do well at school and when I moved to NSS they went right back up and I even fast tracked a subject so am sitting a diploma this semester. Now going into Grade 12 I will have to work even harder to make it work for both my sport and schooling. Closing my school will mean I cannot do both to the highest of my abilities
- I want to have Option C - NSS works best at its current location in partnership with WinSport. Winsport has offered to extend the lease for a year for \$1. It is essential to take them up on this offer and keep NSS in its current location to allow for all involved to seek a permanent, cost-effective solution for NSS to remain onsite at WinSport moving forward.
- I only have one more year of High School so the impact for me is in my most important year. "
- Same as for Option A
- Over crowded school already... Western Canada High
- "NSS needs to remain open at Winsport in its current form.
- This group of students are no different than special needs group, they need this program and they need it to remain the way it is, and where it is. Both options allow for life altering experiences. Many of these athletes are here because they don't fit in anywhere else. They are at NSS because they can thrive here at its current location in WinSport. Both options will leave room for mental illness and sport/school drop out. Both options are telling this group of students "we don't care" Remaining open for another year, to allow time for a proper plan is needed. "
- Still unacceptable
- "Disastrous for the student athletes.



- Only Option C as noted above is a real option. "
- "It is sad that the CBE does not value sport as education. When designing curriculum and planning for students, teachers are taught that the whole child matters. Supporting mental health and well-being is equally as important for achievement. Losing this school means students, who have trained for their whole lives and set graduation plans with teachers will be put in a position to choose between graduation and sport. We tried the mainstream CBE and it failed our student as an athlete, until grade 9 at NSS.
- Option C: Keep NSS at its current location, recognizing the value of sport.
- Interesting that CBE is proud to support and take credit for their olympians but can't see the value of the school. How do you think they got to the olympics? "
- "Many students have already tried to make academics and high level sport work at their local school, it does not work and will not work in the future. Teachers in these schools do not have the understanding of the challenges national level athletes face, or the ability to provide the flexibility that travelling athletes require. Providing courses online is not a suitable option for travelling athletes, they need to be able to attend classes whenever they are able and work remotely when they cannot.
- Instead, I choose Option C - NSS works best at its current location in partnership with WinSport. Winsport has offered to extend the lease for a year for \$1. It is essential to take them up on this offer and keep NSS in its current location to allow for all involved to seek a permanent, cost-effective solution for NSS to remain onsite at WinSport moving forward."
- "The NSS students would lose an entire support network, which would absolutely have a negative impact on their learning and training.
- Not all schools and teaching staff have an equal understanding of accommodating elite athletes, and then it becomes luck of the draw for the athlete-students.
- The NSS students would still be training, and wouldn't have opportunities to fully engage in the extracurricular. They already have their extracurricular.
- I just think the student would be more lonely away from their friends and peers.
- Speaking from personal experience with one of nieces who attended her designated junior high prior to NSS, she struggled with teachers understanding she had to leave early everyday, snide remarks from peers, and having her academics accommodated, even though assurances were given. Once she went to NSS, she flourished. The students train 30+ hours a week, they get injured, they deal with losses, and not all schools would know how to help the students learn to cope and then manage their time. "
- my son transferred to Ernest manning after one year at NSS and had huge class sizes, he felt socially isolated and if your sport is not a school-sport it is very hard to meet friends especially when you have to spend so much time training. Its very difficult to spend time/engage with other students. The teachers where good but he literally had no friends and did not one thing outside of school over the whole year. He left after one year and went back to NSS in grade 11 and is happy, instantly has lots of friends again and is engaged in his school/classes and doing well academically. If they are moved to Bowness and the only thing different is the physed class then what's the point. They already have their sport and so the PE class is not that much of an advantage. My concern is that they will be thrown into all the regular classes and have to fend on their own when the travel. The teachers will not have the time to be flexible with the NSS students .



- As a family that has lived through their children going through their designated schools it has not worked. You explain the athletes situation and the administration is on board at the beginning of the year and the athlete comes across teachers and or support staff that are less than accommodating.
- Extremely short-sighted with missed opportunities for talented student athletes. We could just afford the approximately \$5,000 a year fee, and we were happy to do so, but we certainly could not have afforded the equivalent of other programs, such as Edge, etc. You would be absolutely closing the door on talented athletes and their ability to complete high school successfully while competing. Our son is now on a national team and he completed high school with honours; this would not have been possible within a mainstream high school program.
- EVERYTHING!!!
- My student would not be able to graduate high school. Probably have to quit her sport.
- It is harmful to the student to move schools mid highschool with no transition, time, or plan.
- Not an option
- "This option would not give a supportive environment
- The students' ability to reach the upper echelons of their chosen sport would be severely curtailed and without NSS, Calgary and Alberta would have far fewer representatives at National, International and Olympic level competitions. This would be very sad for Calgary and the whole of Canada
- The challenges are, IHA cannot have option B. This would mean our program going out of business. Please note, IHA is owned and run by myself and my husband. We do NOT have funding from any outside sources, other than the student-athlete tuition. Once again, Option B is NOT an option for IHA.
- "Accommodations have proven not to work in traditional classrooms as missing 3 weeks is hard to make up when there are so many kids in the class and heavy reliance on team-based curriculum. Access to sports - extracurriculars for these students is very, very low as they are so focused on their 'sport' that they don't have time for others. Not having peer group that understands them will be detrimental.
- The challenges for both A & B are too great and the only logical and educated decision is to forgo both A / B and to go for C - extend the lease (free lease) for one year at a minimum and make a strategic decision rather than an impulsive decision."
- This is not an option in my opinion. This option says that Calgary is not supportive of developing athletes of the future, that you do not care about developing leaders of the community and that you are not AT ALL focused on your mantra of focus on students first. This is a terrible option and should not even be considered. You cannot cancel a program that has been so successful for 25 years. This proves that CBE is focused on the dollar impact first and foremost and not the future of students who have a real ability to represent the City, the Province and the Country as a Canadian athlete in their sport. This options is proof of a knee jerk reaction to the Alberta provincial budget and has absolutely no creative thought involved.
- Beyond devastating. If we all wanted our children in a community high school they would be there already! Over 10000 people signed a petition to keep the school at Winsport. Minimally it is ruining the futures of young people; destroying a community of sport and passion for elite performance for Canada; tearing apart the successful fabric of a high



functioning high school with amazing teachers willing to work in a state of flex to help athletes achieve and graduate; breaking the social connections that high performance athletes have created in a safe and understanding space.

- Not an option
- Well, Option B will not work for student athletes period. That is why NSS was established in the first place.
- You are closing NSS and eliminating elite athletes their ability to compete at a high level while attending high school. Many will be forced to choose between their sport and academics. Some may not finish high school or have the option to go on to university if they continue to pursue their sport as the current level of support and flexibility offered at NSS will not exist. If high level athletics combined with academics is valued then this is a loss to not only our city and our province but frankly to the country as well.
- Everything to do with option B is a challenge. Our school works and provides what we need to succeed. Closing the school would be abandoning our students and leaving their needs behind. Many of us have tried and failed at regular public high schools. NSS in its current form provides the best of both worlds regarding sport and school. Closing (option B) or relocating (Option A) would be catastrophic for our community.
- Traditional schools are not set up to accommodate these student athletes. Teachers do not have the time or abilities to be able to assist each student with their own unique educational needs. NSS teachers and staff have the knowledge and experience in coaching these students not only to be the best student or athlete they can be but the best person and community member as well. It is important that these students are given the opportunity to excel in both school and sport and in a traditional school environment that is not possible. Many students, including my daughter, now attends NSS one because it is an AWESOME learning facility and two because her old school told her she could not continue to miss school even though she was achieving excellent marks. The students in NSS also benefit from interacting with other students with the same motivation and drive and understanding of what it takes to be an elite athlete. They are respected by their fellow students and cheered on to become stronger and better. Success feeds success in and out of the classroom. PLEASE DO NOT TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY AWAY
- "This option puts unnecessary pressure on teachers, students, parents and tax payers.
- The cost is repeated courses, time and tax payer money."
- "This line feels very untrue: "CBE students would continue to receive the flexibility and attendance accommodations for sport commitments." The main reason our students come to this school is because this level of personalization and flexibility are not possible or available in their designated schools.
- Online learning has already been tried by a large number of our students and it has not worked for them. There are many reasons why cbeLearn results do not compare to NSS results. "
- "Calgary, Alberta other provinces and Canada need the National Sport School for student/athletes to perform with their education as an equal to their sport. Winsport is an International hub of sport excellence closing the school is unacceptable.
- See option C at the end of this survey."
- Student athletes are at risk of failing and not graduating because their school and support structure was taken away



- I train exclusively at COP for my sport, every morning I drive 30 minutes from my home in the northeast to train and having to drive an extra 30 minutes, 30 minutes of class time I'm missing, would be a big challenge for returning to my designated schools
- As mentioned earlier, students will have to choose between participation in sport and their education. Regardless of which choice is made, the other will suffer greatly.
- The main challenge is athletes will have no support towards their education while travelling and competing. At NSS class sizes are small and each students needs are met. by the teachers. The flexibility around NSS reduces stress for student athletes. Other CBE schools with 25-30 plus kids per class will not have teachers able to support each students needs.
- The same challenges as Option A exist for this Option. Location, lack of support, lack of flexibility, teachers that are not equipped to deal with the challenges of having multiple students in all different spots in the course. All of them need individual and personalized face to face teaching after long absences. Their training times will not be supported easily by a normal high school timetable. Online is not as effective as face to face. NSS students will have to choose between school and sport. These students are at risk for not completing high school.
- With a larger school environment, students will not get any special help or accommodation for their very busy sporting lives. Students who are gone for weeks at a time would be expected to return up to date with their peers? This is completely unrealistic of these student athletes. They work for success in all aspects of their lives including their education and their sport. In this decision you will be asking them to give up on success in either one. This option doesn't help with the location issue. You say accommodations would be made for travel and sport commitments, but honestly without proof or evidence, I will not be convinced the teachers will accommodate for the minority of student athletes among their large classes.
- NOT AN OPTION - closing the schools effectively eliminates opportunities for student athletes to successfully graduate from high school while maintaining the ability to participate in sport. The CBE is being incredibly short sighted with even suggesting this option. This is a program that SHOULD NOT BE CUT. There is a third option that should be considered - negotiate with Winsport for a lower to no cost lease. I'm sure that Winsport would not like to see this program leave.
- "Students and teachers are not invested in a common goal.
- Option C. Take the 1\$ lease agreement and work within the existing framework of excellence. Put consultants and directors back into the classrooms, offer reasonable retirement packages to staff. "
- Everything imaginable.
- Regular programs are difficult for these athlete/students. Many would have to choose sport OR school. This is not a positive situation for these children.
- Not getting accommodated for an average of 3-8 weeks of school missed. This would cause a major decline in the success in student athletes as teachers at these high school would not have enough time to put extra effort into that student. The class sizes are way to big to have specific energy targeted towards a limited number of individuals. The outcome of going to your designated high school would be choosing between school and sport. That has an immense impact on the future athletes representing our province and country.



- Schools do not offer the flexibility required to attend class with students and accommodate the time away. Yes on-line is an option but we tried that and it was terribly isolating and is detrimental to the students mental well being. Kids have to choose sport over school or vice versa because regular school can not offer what they need. My daughter is an excellent student and is excelling with her current situation with both school and sport. She is a member of the NextGen team and will attend the Olympics at 16 years old in 2022. As she is so young this school is the only chance for her to be around kids her age. Her school will suffer being in a regular school and her options after sport will be limited. This option is detrimental and does not set them up for success in life after sport.
- If you close the school there's a lot of students who are gonna have to quit their sport; the thing they love to do the most. You are asking us to give up on our dreams and go to a normal school and be normal when we are not.
- disruption to classes with students coming and going for training - extra staff required for tracking these students attendance
- The students will not be given the support they need to continue on with their sports
- As said before the NSS functions at its full potential at Winsport with the current NSS staff. Students have worked hard to be where they are at in their sport today. The student-athletes at NSS are not your typical athletes. Many students are provincial champions some are even national champions. Many of the student-athletes at NSS have the potential to compete at the Olympics within the next decade or so. The biggest challenge with Option B is not having the NSS. This will not only affect students academically but athletically and emotionally too. It is unfair to shut a school down that has such a high success rate. The students here at NSS have found their niche. They know what they want to do with their lives. Without the NSS as is, student-athletes will struggle to finish high school, they will struggle to complete sports goals. It is unfair to take that opportunity away from them.
- not going to winsport, for school.
- "-larger classes
- -farther from Winsport where many NSS students train every day
- -different teachers who do not know NSS students as well
- -all students at NSS currently have a plan for how on how they will finish high school and that will change if they"
- high level athletes have zero opportunities. Thank you cbe
- Not a good option as it does not provide the same opportunities as NSS
- We would lose 217 students to other jurisdictions. Student Athletes will struggle to complete their high school courses without the assistance of NSS teachers. Class sizes too large, no facilities to allow for training, no transportation to Winsport.
- students will not be able to stay caught up with school work and with sport. They will end up missing too much training and not stay with there sport not supporting or helping Canadas Sports team.
- NSS students may be forced to choose between school and sport. Expecting teachers across the city to accommodate for missed school at this extent is naive - the teachers don't have the time or resources to redesign a course schedule or give special attention to one or two NSS students. This is not a feasible solution! And it also does not take into account future student athletes who will not have access to a structured program designed for their success in both school and sport.



- It's stupid, WinSport staff said they'd give us the lease for \$1, I don't see a need to close or move
- These students are at risk of completing high school. They will be absorbed into the system and will not have the same personalization or one-on-one support that is offered at our school. Absences will impact their ability to stay on top of their courses in a regular program. Teachers already have too many students in a high school class. They do not have the ability to meet these student's needs as well.
- "Same as A, simply a downgrade of the exsiting experience.
- Would happily pay more to continue NSS as is. "
- none
- All of us DO NOT graduate high school
- I would be behind in school constantly because of my traveling and it would be a lot more difficult
- Not being at winsport
- I would be going to bishop carol because it is a self directed school that would be good for sport but NSS is the better option because i have friends and the schedule is really flexible and it helps me lot with my sport
- not access to winsport.
- "Kids are going to struggle in sport or school because of the closure of NSS because of how much stuff we all have, and also how would EVERY teacher make sure that we get "accommodated". From past experience I know not all teachers would help.
- nothing
- it May be flexible but could effect our grades if they teacher does not understand.
- also cant get help from cbe they way we do here at nss,cant get to nss in under 90 minutes.
- Everyone will have to go to a different school
- Students missing lots of school will have lots of challenges staying on top of school.
- everything, nss is in the perfect spot for so many people it is so convenient for training at the gym and skiing at the hill and minimizing the time of missed school and i haven't ever gone to a school that feels like the teachers actually care about us untill nss, i love this school and it would be a huge bummer if u guys shut it down
- See answers for option A.
- NSS needs to remain open at Winsport in its current form.
- Absolutely everything about Option B is a challenge. The needs of the student athlete would fall by the wayside completely.
- There is no opportunity, option C needs to be implemented in a form which the school is kept open and hundreds of students don't lose the chance to follow their dreams without sacrificing their academic success.
- This options remove a model that has been very successful for 25 years. We understand that WinSport has provided an option for a free lease for one year. As parents, we would ask that CBE work with Winsport to extend the lease for one year. This would provide time for CBE to redesign the NSS program to be more cost effective. Conversations around ways to reduce administration and teaching costs could be held. Should those discussions not succeed, then Option A could be revisited as part of the CBE's broader program for High Schools and redistribution of students intended to occur for 2021.



- First and foremost, a school that has been a staple in Calgary as a primary location for student-athletes will be lost. Secondly, entering into a larger student body where there may very few to no other students utilizing this system may cause these students to feel isolated within their new school environment. The advantage of attending NSS is that they are attending a school with students that have similar school experiences. Moving students to another school, especially since they are all currently enrolled in high school is asking them to essentially start over with students who do not have the same schedule as they do. This may be very overwhelming to these families.
- Regular schooling system, which does not support the special needs to the athletes involved at NSS. That is the reason they left general schooling in the first place.
- My son would go to a private school that better accommodates him missing 70+ days of school per year than a regular Cbe school can.
- My children were ski jumpers. They would not have been able to do this as they miss most of fall and all of winter. Correspondence would have been their only option
- Many NSS students would leave the CBE and return to their former school district. As much as other schools state they can accommodate the needs of student athletes they don't understand the work and commitment it takes. Many NSS students started in a regular school and were not successful due to the complexity of their needs. No transportation to Winsport is a challenge. A tumbling timetable affects training schedules. Later dismissal will cause more students missing more time during the day. Class sizes will eliminated the personalized needs of these students. Flexibility for many different starting points and ending points will be eliminated. Diplomas not offered 4 times a year will limit flexibility. A sense of belonging and community will be lost as most students do understand the commitment of elite sport. Special attendance modifications will not work for a small group of students. All students want equity and if athletes get special attendance modifications all students will expect the same treatment. Very little thought and planning has gone into closing the program, these students will get lost in the shuffle as they did before the school was created. The needs of an athlete are very similar to many other students who are at risk, closing the school with decrease the academic success these students are experiencing. This alone goes against the mission of the Calgary Board of Education.
- Students do not receive flexibility and attendance accommodations or extra support in these schools! That is the whole point. They have tried these schools and are forced to choose between high level sport and education. This strongly discourages our elite athletes to pursue their sports.
- Full on challenges from school administration to teachers. They will question over and over why these students need to be treated any differently from other students. Teachers have enough of an over-load at the moment asking them to provide flexibility will be next to impossible,
- "-Over capacity schools could never accommodate student athletes in an effective way and most student athletes would not graduate high school.
- -Teacher to student ratio would be too large and teachers, even if they wanted to help, could not support the s"
- "Unreal expectations on teachers to accommodate extended trips by athletes
- No Sports Psychologist



- Larger class sizes
- The perception of preferred treatment by other students and parents for NSS students
- That these exemplary students do not have the opportunity to pursue both their academic and sport goals. My daughter has missed 52 days of school so far in this school year and maintained a 90% average. How is this possible without the staff of NSS. Teacher respond to her in their own time when she is in Europe and the time difference does not allow them to FaceTime directly. The teachers go above and beyond to make sure these students are going to graduate and maintain their national team status.
- Students unable to remain in sport! Give up on a ton of hard work, discipline and team work and the ability to full fill the dream of representing our country in sport
- "transportation to training sites, will the new schools/teachers be as accommodating.
- not being at school with teammates, loss of high performance culture"
- Too many students will leave the public education and in our case leave the province which will result in lower tax revenues for the province. The net benefit our family gives to the province of Alberta far exceeds the costs associated with this program. Closing or relocating NSS will hurt CBE financially and will also hurt the province. I would suggest you look at extending the lease for at least one year so you can better understand the full financial picture of CBE actions against NSS.
- This is a fairy tale. Students would not be accommodated in the same way at all. You are deluding yourselves. Parents and students know this and that's why we chose NSS in the first place. If normal schools were willing and able to provide the support necessary to these hard-working student-athletes, then there would have been no need for NSS in the first place. The need has not changed.
- Closing NSS would be devastating for all student-athletes. Not only are you taking away their school, but possibly their quality of education. I know for a fact that many of the kids at NSS would have to quit their sports to be able to do decently at a normal school. I don't think CBE understands just how important having NSS is to student-athletes. Without the extra help and assistance for students at NSS, we would either have to quit our sports or not do very well in school. Quitting our sports could mean throwing away a career choice. Or, if we keep doing our sports, we could be throwing away our chance at being able to go to university/college if sports don't work out. Closing NSS is a very bad idea because it would mean us having to throw away something we love/want to do well in just because CBE wants to take the easy way out instead of finding a way to keep the school running at Winsport.
- Less flexible
- Less adapted schedule and plan to meet athletic demands
- "Blending kids back into mainstream school is not an option.
- Online works if you are in internet based locations, but that is not always possible. Luge competes in small towns in Germany where internet is sketchy at best.
- Will CBE teachers be available after hours to support traveling athletes?"
- The CBE gives up on a very successful legacy of developing leaders through the pursuit of excellence in sport.
- Many students do not come from Calgary so do not have a designated school. travel to training would be very difficult if not impossible. Overcrowded schools that became



'designated' will not have the time or ability to deal with student needs. You will lose students to the Catholic Board.

- Students will be stressed out over making either the school or the training schedule. There will never be adequate time for both.
- "Extra pressure on teachers in designated schools. The student athletes need more attention due to amount of time missed due to training and competition.
- Additional pressure on students to keep up with a non-custom class and testing schedule."
- As the parent of a high level athlete that flourished at NSS, my son would not have been able to accomplish what he has accomplished if not for this gem of a school. The fact that he graduated with good enough grades to be accepted into Queen's commerce and Dalhousie Commerce is a testament to NSS and the teaching staff. All while missing 55 days of school while skiing all over the world. If we want to be competitive on the world stage for events such as the Olympics, then schools such as NSS are important.
- This is an huge step back for these student athletes. We tried this in a traditional school setting and it did not work because of attitudes of staff and students
- disruptive to my child's mental health and facing the unknown, as she knows we spend so much already supporting her sport
- "Same as option A - totally unrealistic for these athletes to receive the support that they need.
- This in no way provides the program flexibility that student athletes NEED.
- Further from training facility, high teacher student ratio, teachers can't adapt to athletes schedules, athletes fall behind and have to leave sport and their dreams to get caught up at school.
- Student athletes do not need more class options and extra curricular. They need small classes, teachers who are able to work and be flexible with them, and to be in an environment with like-minded individuals. Athletes athletic and academic performance WILL suffer. Schools with classes of 40+ will do more harm than good to student-athletes! They will not be able to succeed in either of their endeavours. Allow NSS to remain an independent school!
- Travel becomes even a larger concern for all parents. Winsport has all the facilities intact. Students will lose the opportunities presented by NSS and its course flexibility, access to Winsport onsite, and direct support for the students. It would be nice if CBE would tell us what the actual reason was for presenting this closure, rather than disguising it as a financial reason, which it clearly is not.
- "Teachers would not be able to work with my son the way they have at NSS. I found most teachers in the regular school setting were not understanding at all and would work against him.
- The way the students encourage each other will not be the same. My son has his classmates to help him as well. They will come home after school and work on school work often.. That whole dynamic will be lost. "
- "loss of friends, loss of teachers
- "Teachers will not/cannot devise a specialized program for the student athletes.
- Depending on whether the student athlete is more committed to the sport or more committed to their education, one will suffer at the expense of the other. This isn't remotely a workable option!"



- I would think and amplified version of Option A.
- "Same as stated earlier except worse
- NO accommodation, these kids are missing 50 to 70 percent of the school
- Year
- Until a plan is developed, I am not risking my sons education
- He will likely leave CBE and may relocate to a private school or a school in the US
- Unfair!"
- Our experience is that other schools do not offer the flexibility for training and competing for our sport. Some athletes will have to quit sport, or differ studies.
- Everything listed here as a solution is never going to happen. No school will accommodate these kids' needs in the right way, no matter how much "training" they have on this.
- Same as A - our daughter cannot attend Bowness High
- Not a good option. It will remove for ever diversity within the programs offered by the CBE schools. It will eliminate the opportunity for kids to develop and reach a top outside the main education curriculum.
- Everything
- I believe the opportunities offered with an option B are limited. This is because many students attend the NSS over there designate high school, because they are unable to succeed within the classes at their designated high school because of their sport commitments. Many students will not be able to graduate on time as they are not able to take all the courses needed to graduate in time. Many students miss classes throughout the day and will need spares in those periods in order to stay up caught up in classes. Having students from the NSS move to their designate high school may make it so that they are closer to home, but could move them further away from church training facilities. This poses an issue because many students at the NSS train out of the women's with facilities such as the gymnasts hockey players skiers and figure skaters. having students from the NSS move to their designate high school may make it so that they are closer to home, but could move them further away from chair training facilities. This poses an issue because many students at the NSS train out of the win sport facilities such as the gymnasts, hockey players, skiers, and figure skaters.
- Students will have to attend their designated school which for some is on the opposite side of the city. It will take 2 hours for students to get to Winsport to train. This results in less time at school and training.
- Student athletes would have to choose between training/competing in their sport and their education. Accomodation for their schedules is extremely difficult, putting their typical classroom schedule in disarray.
- Students would be unable to participate in their sports at the current elite levels in a normal cbe program
- "- these students attend NSS for the unique educational experience and the small class sizes that allow for individual instruction which is key when students are away from school for training purposes.
- - closing the school is a poor decision. "
- We relocated from Cold Lake, Alberta a year ago so that our son could attend this amazing school and thrive in both his sport of alpine skiing and school. He started talking about the school when he was 11 years old. It was the only school he wanted to attend. Getting into



the school was a dream come true. Your mission and vision at CBE states the following: Our 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. Our Values Students come first. We believe that everyone can learn. Each student is unique and worthwhile. We acknowledge, recognize and celebrate the diversity of our learners. Success for each and every student is the goal of our work. We are not alone in our stories as families. Our athletes need this school to recognize their unique abilities and gifts and thrive academically. The school exists to help these unique individuals reach their potential. Their needs will not be met when they get “‘integrated’ into the regular 30-40 person classroom. That’s really what this decision was about. Option A and B tells these students that what they do and who they are is not worthwhile. We will have to relocate our entire family to another community or put us in a position where we cannot afford and send him away. NSS provides a school for athletes based on their ability and not their parents pocketbook. Is that NOT THE POINT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION! We need to know how to change this decision as parents. How can we advocate on their behalf? How could this decision have been made without consultation or discussion? We want this school to stay open and stay at Winsport.

- Everything
- I went to a regular Hugh school until grade 11. It is possible to balance sport and school to an extent, but when a student misses months of school at a time to compete in various places around the world, there is no way in my opinion they will be able to get a good education. Student athletes are trying to make a living with their sport, but a good education is extreme important in case the athlete is injured or doesn’t make it as a professional.
- This is not a valid option. The CBE policy for absences is incompatible for the required absences for training at an elite level in any sport.
- significantly less support for student/athletes with demanding competitive and training schedules.
- This option is hard to comprehend in that it hurts the future of so many young elite athletes. Many Olympic medals, successful athletes and leaders in Calgary are directly connected to NSS and what the school offered them during their high school years. Closing NSS will close the doors for young athletes to reach their full potential.
- "No athlete development, Canada losing its place on the international stage.
- Student athletes becoming isolated from social groups due to increased absence at the school and not developing good social skills and feeling abandoned"
- CP government is the challenge. Private schools receiving funding from CBE is a challenge. This is not the solution.
- None for the CBE, other than severing some staff. Significant hardship for the families and students who rely on this program to support their athletic endeavors. A terrible loss of a world-class program that has a wonderful legacy of past champions. A watering down of our society at a time when future leaders need so badly to be developed. Just have a look at the accomplishments of NSS alumni, in sport, academics and professional life. There is nothing average about this cohort.
- It would not be possible for students to pursue both a high academic and athletic standard while attending their designated high schools.



- Strips student athletes away from athletics, specifically high demand sports in which many days of school have to be missed. As someone who attended another high school, they were really restrictive of days missed with my alpine skiing.
- "The list is huge.
- Traditional schools can not accommodate Student-athletes.
- With the CBE budget being cut and class sizes to increase, how can a teacher be expected to monitor students that miss several weeks of classes at a time.
- Transportation
- Possible bullying
- Huge loss for student-athletes, risk of more drop outs, risk of increase mental illness for NSS students caused by increase of stress, also decrease in elite athletes from Calgary especially winter sport athletes
- This does not work for a high performance athlete. This program is innovative and delivers incredible value per dollar spent. I would much rather see an increase to the cost of the school and have it remain where it is. Winsport's proposal to eliminate the vast majority of the rent and operating cost fees should be accepted and the program should be run for an additional year until parents/Winsport/teachers can develop a long term plan for the school that makes sense for all of the stakeholders.
- Obviously all the athletes lose each other as well as lose the opportunity for flexibility of their education
- With the amount of school I miss for sport nss at winsport seems to be the only high school possibility that isn't online.
- "Most student athletes cannot do high school at their designated school and compete at any competitive level in their sport. This option will force student athletes to choose between sport and school. As a result we will lose some of Canada's best athletes who choose to focus on school, and we will have athletes poorly set up academically upon retirement to transition from sport to other career/further education.
- I likely wouldn't have been able to go on to get a MSc without the NSS."
- "Negotiate in good faith with Winsport for the school to stay. Who cares about the CBE's inability to negotiate there Administrative meeting spaces with Winsport?"
- You are moving student athletes that are now at a disadvantage with their learning due to their unique training and competitive schedules. There is no CBE advantage. "
- "-students aren't at their designated school for a reason
- -large class sizes decrease the ability for 1 on 1 support, which is a crucial part of NSS education, as students are not in class as consistently as 'regular' students are
- -teachers won't have th"
- Teachers will actually accommodate student athletes, create separate plan for them, different assignments and due dates to ensure they complete courses and finish high school. School cooperation. Impact on students emotional and social well being.
- its dumb just give us some money to stay we now you have it
- none of these are valid options for schooling as they do not allow us to participate in school and sports
- Total disregard for disruption on current students, friend groups, culture. Short-sited, in 3-5 years when the budget gets better going to look like a poor decision, almost impossible to bring back once it's gone. Students likely drop out of high school to pursue sport full time.



Future kids don't pursue sport because don't have the resources. Doesn't save CBE much money. Teachers aren't going to be fired, just moved, Winsport has offered free rent so not saving on those costs.

- Most people would have to stop doing there sports
- "- Students will not be accommodated the way the need to be
- - Even further away from Winsport for most students
- - The use of CBe-learn did not/does not work for a large majority of our students. They have not experienced success. They require in-person t"
- The class sizes will be too big to focus on sports school students. Also, the proximity to Windsport will be a problem. Lastly, "flexibility" for the sports school students will disappear and it will just like being at a normal high school.
- Completely dismantling the National Sport School has no benefits for me. If NSS doesn't stay at WinSport, I will probably billet in Whistler.
- I would struggle and have a hard time graduating because I am gone many times during the year and I'd miss tons of work with being in a regular school.
- This is a challenging situation for me
- The teachers not being able to allow us to excel in sports.
- I have already said enough. I will quit my sport
- Same as previous page as all students will be streamlined into mainstream education
- nothing
- See answer above.
- Again this is not even an option I would consider
- Further away from training facilities. No accommodation of training schedules and absences.
- Anyone who cannot do self directed learning will fail school or fail their sport. Plus Carroll is not located by a gym. If they take online school they will be deprived of a teacher role model and the socialization school offers.
- The transport to and from school as well as training. Absences for long periods of time won't be as flexible or lenient (grades will drop). Possible changes in training schedule for athletes. Conflict between public school teachers and the athletes due to training and competition schedules. Pay school fees and extra gas on top of training fees and winsport access fees.
- Some athletes would have to travel greater distances and possibly quit their sport altogether. The disruption and stress to the teachers, and ultimately the student - has CBE even bothered to investigate how this is going to affect all these athletes. What happened to the focus being on the student NOT THE BOTTOM LINE!!!
- "Equipment, tight schedules, facilities and support.
- As I stated with Option A...There is a great deal of equipment that needs to be handled and often it is quite dear to the athlete and too expensive to replace if stolen or lost. Where would it be kept? And, some equipment is too large to store at a regular school.
- The schedules are tight, the Student-Athletes need to be able to get to the High Performance Centre and back to class. How could this be accomplished when they are at Bowness without transport?
- They require the Athletic Facilities to properly train and Study.



- A teacher with non-athletes is not going to be able to give all of his/her attention to the students that need extra help on their own timeline. The Student-Athletes will quickly be seen as a bother and a tax of the teacher's time. This is a special bunch at NSS that operate differently than at traditional schools. Years of effort, planning and practice have made them experts at managing this type of Student. Maybe they make it look too easy, but this is not a task that every teacher is equipped to do.
- Splitting the Student-Athletes up, with set them on a course where they are alone. What a terrible idea. These kids have worked so hard and they are being given the short end of the stick.
- **\*\*What a shame that the CBE can be so top heavy in spending and take out their misspending on the front line (teachers and support staff) and the students. \*\***
- **OPTION C**
- **\*\*The solution is to Keep NSS Open and run the program at Winsport. I believe there are almost 15,000 signatures on a petition to keep the school open that support this idea.\*\*\***
- All of what makes NSS an important option for elite athletes will now be lost.
- Really the same as option A - huge amount of stress will be placed on students. They would obviously not be with their friends and in my child's case would be entering a new school for their final year of high school. The classroom support given at NSS is not available elsewhere. Getting to/from training takes up time that my child already doesn't have - when they train 4+ hours a day, everyday, every minute counts and travel time takes away from training and homework time. NSS has a strong supportive, committed community of like minded individuals. It would be devastating to the students for them to lose NSS.
- NSS fill a unique requirement. The separate school board has made Bishop Carol work with no parent \$, why is it that you can't make NSS work, especially since it's heavily parent \$ subsidized?
- All students who rely on this school to progress in sports and continue to progress afterward will not be able to.
- "I would guess that most teachers and principles would not have a compassionate outlook on athletes needing to pursue a passion in sport and thus would make it a challenge to get support after a training or competition absence, that CBE could structure in a single or common sport school.
- This would be a very poor option. The camaraderie of being in a common school setting would be lost.
- There are so many things wrong with this. My son is currently in a regular CBE school. He is a special needs child that is getting very little accommodation with even his coding, as there are children with so many higher needs according to the school, (he is twice exceptional) I can't imagine how down the list being an athlete would be considered. No codes, no accommodation. This is a reality.
- "Regular CBE teachers and school cannot accommodate the flexibility needed for high performance athlete students. I have experience with an older child at a CBE high school and even missing for a medical appointment or a surgery my son needed was VERY difficult.
- NSS students are NOT interested in the larger selection of courses, clubs and extracurricular activities. They do not have time with their training - even now with NSS



being at Winsport and especially not if they are not at Winsport. This should NOT be put forward as a benefit.

- My daughter would likely attend Bishop Carroll High School or move to another province to accommodate her sport. "
- Kids will be forced to choose excelling in sport or excelling in school. They cannot do both at a regular high school.
- The students would be put in a very difficult position. How will a teacher in a regular High School deal with athletes whom have been away for 4 weeks training and competing.
- This option is completely unacceptable
- Graduation rates for athletes will go down - students then are forced to choose sport over school when an appropriate program is not provided for them
- "Bigger class sizes means that athletes will have to spend more time outside of class trying to catch up individually.
- Most Students Athletes are already very busy with school and training to have time for clubs, extracurricular activities and sports so this would not be a benefit.
- At NSS currently you can take part of extra classes that might not be held at NSS through online or at a surrounding school.
- It creates a harder time for CBE employees and teachers as they will have to take time out of their day just to help one or a few students.
- Online learning is often very difficult as you do not have the support of a teacher there to help you along when you are confused on a concept.

This option also defeats the point of NSS and fails to meet the needs to this particular group of students.

- Calgary is known across Canada as a winter sport training centre. The loss of NSS would compromise the future of Canadian winter sports. I think that this is an option (B) not worth considering.
- The students will be challenged to integrate into regular classrooms with teachers, and students who do not understand their schedules and needs. This is not at all acting in the best interest of each unique students!
- "As residents of Cougar Ridge, our designated high school is now Central Memorial, which is an impossible situation considering that our child trains and accesses the facilities at WinSport throughout the day. We moved to Cougar Ridge specifically to be closer to WinSport and NSS. The trip on public transit from our home (or WinSport) to Central Memorial is at least 90 minutes each way. It is simply not an option for our child to attend his designated school. Private school is not an option for our family financially.
- Or child is a high achiever in academics and sport. He plans to pursue post-secondary education in sport physiotherapy, and has a real chance to represent Canada on the world stage at the Olympics. If our child cannot attend NSS at WinSport, he will either have to consider completing his critical senior years of high school via distance learning (and risk not having the grades he needs to get into a post secondary program of choice), or billet with a family in Whistler so he can continue to train and attend school. Neither of these are ideal options and would result in considerable added hardship for our child and our family."
- "My child would be expected to attend a new school where she doesn't even know one other person for her grade 12 year.



- Large classes -would be impossible to attend to the needs of an athlete who regularly misses school due to sport commitments "
- There is no flexibility for student-athletes who miss significant periods of time for sport. Look at your own policies on excused absences.
- Because he's with his friends there is more distractions, too far from the facility. Teachers won't make accommodations and will fall behind.
- This doesn't work for anyone
- "No way of my child getting to Winsport for training
- We would move back to the separate school system and they won't accommodate the travel schedule
- My child will quit his sport "
- Obliteration of a highly successful and nationally regarded school for our local athletes. NSS was created and many students came to NSS specifically because flexibility and accommodations were not available in standard CBE programs despite all good intentions.
- To not be schooling with other athletes within their discipline as well as with other athletes in general would be a road block to peer support and positive progression. Going backwards with some of the teachers I believe would also be an issue. Not all teachers buy into this program and still have their "entitled kid" opinions. I have heard it in discussions with numerous athletes and parents who had exercised this option in recent years. I feel the program would not last over time and would lose its success rate.
- "Sport and the pipeline of future high-level athletes in the Province of Alberta significantly diminishes. Many of the sports that the students at NSS participate in are the only athletes in the sport in the country (i.e: Luge, Skeleton, Bobsled, Speed Skating, Ski Jumping, Nordic combined to name a few).
- Does the CBE want to be a catalyst for this?
- As well-intended as the CBE and teachers are with supporting athletes, it cannot be sustained outside of a dedicated program and it will force the students to suffer and make a choice to leave school or the sport. "
- keeping the athletes in the same school and classes
- Same as option A.
- The same challenges which we went through before and moved to NSS to eliminate.
- \*students / families will be forced to deal with school drop off because these children are so driven and focused to do sport. You don't understand that NSS provides them with a balance of academic and academics that are healthy for every child.
- "Not an option as outlined in previous answer to option a.
- We will find a private school to accommodate our child "
- As stated
- Everything!!!!
- "NSS is a unique school that offers flexible programming and schedules for high performance athletes. It is easy to say that other schools will accommodate athlete's special schedules and demands but it is very unlikely they will. Teachers at other high schools are too busy with all their other responsibilities and face time pressures that will not allow them to accommodate athletes' needs. Our son tried Option B in the past and it was a failure. If we want high performance role models in Canadian sports we have to protect this program. Approximately 170 National Team members and Olympic athletes have attended NSS.



Sport in general offers enormous benefits such as improved self-esteem, discipline, leadership development and improved mental health. These are critical to student's development. Also the academic standards at NSS are ranked very high compared to other CBE schools.

- NSS is willing to make staff reductions to reduce the average cost per student below the average cost CBE high school. WinSport has offered free rent for a year and probably in the future! "
- Forcing students to choose between sport and school. Severe reduction in high performing athletes in Alberta. Fewer athletes graduating high school.
- "Negatively impacting both the students academics and ability to participate in their sport.
- Putting additional and unnecessary stress on young student athletes. They have enough pressures already.
- Large class sizes and less academic supports. Teachers are overwhelmed and can't keep up with the students they have
- Impact the amount of students who graduate and go on to post-secondary education"
- "Are you kidding me?????????????"
- I guess it boils down to the fact CBE isn't measured on the number of sporting medals Canada gets, but it is measured on the number of students passing high school. Get rid of NSS and your pass % will decrease by the number of students at NSS currently."
- You will comprise the athletic, educational, or both prospects for countless students now and in the future
- As stated earlier, CBE does not currently support student athletes in the regular setting( see cbe attendance policy) and teachers and schools rarely support student athletes as they do not understand the needs of these kids. Some schools outright refuse to support athletes ( Marshall Springs is one such school) so choice B will put a student in the position of having to choose between school and sport.
- This completely shuts down any future generation of sport success, in Canada.
- This is a stupid question.
- "This Option forces students to leave their existing school, home, network, facilities against their will with virtually no notice period. These children are at a very sensitive time of their lives and tearing them away from their existing community and program could have serious repercussions on their emotional, mental, and academic development during these crucial high school years. How could the CBE ever contemplate moving them without at least another year or two of preparation?"
- NSS provides students with an opportunity to excel academically while pursuing their passion of sport. The combination of these two pursuits allows NSS students to pursue their academic goals in a setting that allows them to coordinate their sports and resulting flexibility requirements. In any other school, they would massively disrupt the other students and teacher while likely failing to meet acceptable academic standards.
- It is appalling that CBE is even considering proposing such an option without providing the NSS community with at least another year of preparation and IGNORING other creative solutions that have been proposed including the virtual waiving of hundreds of thousands in costs by Winsport!



- The pursuit of any Option besides providing NSS with at least another year to prepare and have CBE consider/accept other cost saving proposals is destructive to our children and unacceptable."
- Absence from school. Flexibility within the classroom to reschedule tests and assignments. Support for students who miss a lot of school. These questions were asked in the online feedback but we have no plans for how this will be managed. Lack of sport counsellor. Girls more than twice as likely as boys to give up sports in a normal high school setting. Lack of facilities and staff at Winsport and difficult to transfer between sites. No on site concussion program, sports medicine and physio. Lack of dedicated resource to NSS students.
- Huge loss for athletes students.
- "The students lose the proximity to winsport facilities, and will miss more class time because of this.
- The students aren't together, my daughter is struggling socially in her regular cbe school (grade 8) because of her absences and would benefit from being close to others with similar schedules/interests.
- It's very hard to accommodate the absences the same in the larger school environment. We have visited and discussed this with different potential high schools including the bowness program and we have concerns based on their feedback that regular absences cannot be accommodate. For example our daughter misses 50% of class time but maintains a 85%+ grade average and we were told she would not get credit for these classes In high school because she misses too many class times even if her grades are high. She wants to have the classroom connection that she would lose if we are forced to homeschool these classes.
- The students also lose access to the sports medicine experts, dieticians, trainers etc when they are not at the winsport location.
- We have been told that our designated cbe high school is very unlikely to be able to accommodate our daughter, and have been told we would need to homeschool which is not the best fit for our daughter. "
- Students come from across the country to attend NSS with it's facilities and opportunities at winsport and the ease of intertwining school with sport. Shutting down NSS is only going to damage student-athlete's futures.
- My daughter won't has the flexibility of her schedule at school.
- -The current teachers at NSS have a unique understanding of the flexibility required to be successful both academically and in sport simultaneously. It's not fair to expect educators outside of the NSS program to understand/adapt to athlete needs - partic
- Option b should not be considered until CBE has adhered to the stated process for school closure where engagement is to take one year.
- Designated CBE schools can't meet the needs of our athletes from NSS.
- My daughter's designated school is Western Collegiate High school. They will not accommodate kids who miss weeks of school at a time. My daughter attended West Island College until the end of grade 10, and they also could not accommodate kids who miss weeks of school at a time. The stress of trying to balance school and sport at either of these schools would create too much anxiety and would be completely overwhelming for a student athlete. If NSS closes, my daughter would have to give up her dream of going to



the Olympics to represent Canada in Alpine Skiing. Skiing at this level is not doable at a regular CBE school.

- The same challenges as I explained in Option A.
- Loss of an exceptional program that is important to students, athletes in Alberta and Canada and future amazing citizens !
- "If this open is chosen and the NSS is disbanded and all current students returned to their designated schools, it would not only negatively affect the student-athletes in pursuit of their academic and athletic goals but also hurt the community at large. Canada's Olympic team's performance would be greatly hindered without the presence of a school dedicated to producing future Olympic athletes. Outside of sport, countless NSS students have gone on to become outstanding role models to younger children and to our society at large. Furthermore, many have become accomplished professionals, exemplary citizens and make significant economic and charitable contributions to their communities.
- I cannot express enough how big of a mistake I believe option B to be. "
- We have tried to attend a regular program, and it is not possible to attend a regular stream and allow our daughter train 30 hours a week in gymnastics. Our designated school is Ernest Manning. With 40+ kids in the core subjects, I know that there is no possibility of her being able to attend a regular stream and have the support and flexibility her sport requires on a daily basis. There would be no way a teacher could support one student with the need of a flexible schedule.
- Unfortunate loss of opportunity to allow students to optimally achieve excellence in academics and reach their sportinglife goals simultaneously
- See previous response - Bowness High School is my grandson's designated school
- "-High performance athletes do not do well in traditional school settings, which is why the NSS was started
- - this will force our kids to choose between competing in their sport and finishing high school
- -athletic training is considered an "unexcused a"
- Dissolve the opportunity for a massive number of student athletes to either reach the highest possible level in sport or graduate. For many, this is the dilemma. Cause a severe hit to the performance of Canadian athletes, crush the Olympic dreams of athletes because they couldn't put the time they needed into their sport. Or greatly affect the post-sport futures of these individuals by preventing them from having the opportunities they need to get good grades in high school. Affecting their post secondary opportunities, if they are even able to graduate at all. The idea is inconceivable.
- I think the challenges of CLOSING THE SCHOOL are very very obvious. Well maybe not to the cbe, because it's very clear they really don't get it, but to everyone else it is very very evident.
- "Yes this option may provide students the environment to explore clubs and extracurriculars. However, if they compete in high-level athletics (which means intensive training and travel) but also do not have the accommodations to get to their training (ie. their designated school is in Canmore and they train at WinSport), these students will never have the time to do extracurriculars. That is not something these students need.
- Can it be guaranteed that every teacher who ends up with a former NSS student in their class will make those extensive accommodations for them?"



- Separate from other athletes, risk of isolation, and not being understood. Understanding of their needs may be missed.
- Accommodating athletes' schedules and frequent absences
- "MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES
- THESE KIDS WILL STRUGGLE TO GRADUATE OR WILL QUIT THEIR SPORT- has anyone even put some thought into the research and the benefits of sport?? These kids are our future generation. It is proven that athletes are very disciplined to become strong leaders and are very successful. It is obvious the people making this decision is not an athlete themselves or have had children who are athletes as they would be more understanding of this situation. Sport is going to become obsolete. Our future is at risk. This has been tried before and it does not work. There are many other smaller schools that could be up for discussion. NSS is a growing school with potential for huge growth
- TRANSPORTATION- parents work and kids cannot drive. More class time will be missed. Access to winsport is not easy Time is essential "

### Question 10 | Please share any additional comments you may have about the future of NSS.

- I see moving to Bowness as a valid option if there is a designated vice-principal, NSS continues to be an entity, and the faculty has a clear understanding of the needs, stresses, time constraints, travel time that these athlete/students endure. The decision to close NSS would lead to athlete/students FAILING in school, FAILING in their sport or FAILING in both.
- Option c to remain at winsport for a min 1 year to have time to assess option. This is not a fair process.
- Option c sat at winsport for one year to assess
- Option C: maintain the nss at winsport. My child tried online schooling last year and struggle to complete it. This year her marks are excellent and she is responding to the way school is taught here. Both options presented is basically asking her to choose between school and athletics. We will leave the CBE with either option and there's a good chance she will struggle to graduate and if she does graduate her marks won't be high enough for her to continue her education when she eventually retires from her sport.
- Create an Option C: Extend the lease at Winsport and allow the program to continue for these youth that have committed to a healthy and active lifestyle, some of whom will be representing our city, province and country on the Olympic podium IF they continue to have the opportunity to thrive at NSS on WinSport grounds.
- Keep as it is. Otherwise, 200 students can't succeed with their sports and school work.
- Option c status quo
- Option C: keep the school open at winsport. Closing the school will have detrimental effects for all these students.
- Option c please remain at winsport for one year to have time to decide kids are beyond stressed ..parents are confused...we need time
- I strongly urge that there be an option C put out for the continuance of NSS at Winsport. There are many supporters who would do anything to keep it operating.
- It is short sighted to close a one of a kind program in the country that partners with an organization like WINSPORT. By moving the "program" to Bowness you are closing the school. There are a few innovative programs in CBE, but this one has demonstrated year



after year to produce strong athletes and students who represent our country on the world stage. It does keep some kids in school, instead of dropping out to follow their sports dreams. In the words of my son “ I would have died in high school without this program...and to be able to train and walk into class 5 minutes later, it is amazing”. He wanted to attend regular high school, but he knew he would not have been set up for success but failure. The administration at his regular school basically told us this. An IB program also services a select elite group of children to help them reach their potential in academia. Are you looking at cutting these excellence programs as well? I thought the CBE supports excellence in a number of fields....by moving this program from WINSPORT and ceasing for it to be a school by itself, it is saying to those kids pursuing excellence in sport that their talent is less important. I can guarantee you, without this school and the teachers my son would not be graduating high school with honours grades and on the national team...he would have been lucky to pass. Do we need to be so short sighted and cut a successful program, located where the best training facilities are in the world for some sports?

- I cannot begin to explain the impact that closing or moving NSS would have on my child. FINALLY he has found his place. A very valid and cost effective option has been presented in the offer from the Leadership of Winsport - this MUST be considered. The primary role of CBE and any board of education is to operate in the best interest of the children/students. Closing or moving NSS would be a colossal. We are guiding, leading and educating Canada's future Olympians at NSS, along with many students who will become the faces of Canada. Please make the right choice here. NSS must remain open in it's present location. Don't allow the students to suffer for the mistakes and money mismanagement of others. Plain and simple - it is NOT right.
- NSS is needed! Athletes need this school. The proximity to Winsport is what helps make this school so great.
- Why have you not considered other options to decrease the 4 extra teaching positions? Why has the process been so adversarial by nature?
- The National Sport School is a tremendous selling point for both the CBE and the city of Calgary. Athletics needs to be supported more than ever before; it fosters healthier people and diverse communities.
- I am very upset by the two “options”- that we have been presented with. Option A has numerous challenges associated with it and we have not been provided with enough details about what the program would look like at Bowness. I have lost confidence in the CBE and it's ability to meet its mandate to meet the unique learning needs of each student.
- Given the financial challenges with running NSS, it is understandable that changes need to be made. Please consider other options as A and B will not work for our son, and are not likely to work for the many other elite student-athletes who have probably also moved here for NSS. There must be another option.
- NSS cannot solely be viewed as a cost reduction or a budget problem. There are many benefits that the CBE is either overlooking or ignoring that NSS provides, in particular positive mental health benefits being in the proper environment. If it's a student teacher ratio issue then CBE needs to do more to promote NSS. If more students knew about it there would be double the current population.



- I feel very cheated that this was not told to us BEFORE we paid the fees for this year. I would have made different decisions. I personally don't think winsport is facility that I would continue to support- so proximity is a non issue. Facilities are good but winsport as an organization is not at a level where I feel I should continue to support them financially.
- There should be 2 schools in Alberta designated for sports performance. 1 in Calgary and one in Edmonton. NSS is established and sickening that CBE and provincial govt are playing politics with the highest athletes in Alberta. The teachers should stay with this program as much as possible as their knowledge of best results and accommodation for the NSS students. They could be integrated with the students wherever they go as a group
- The survey lacks the Option C component which is to accept the \$1/year lease offered by Winsport therefore providing time for the NSS community to come up with a viable, cost effective (lower operating costs) plan so that the CBE can continue to offer the unparalleled program supporting athletes while ensuring excellence in academics (which is unique across the country and could be better marketed to increase the student population and grow the school).
- The National Sport School plays a significant role in not only long-term athlete development but also in long-term development of our future leaders. The school sets students up for success. Many of these students, because they've had to work exceptionally hard and learn in different ways, excel later on in life. Many of the students have ADHD and learning issues and the national sport school does a fantastic job handling these learning styles. I foresee that many students, if they end up in the public system or if they end up in your scenario A, would have to have modified learning plans and require smaller classrooms and would cost the system more in the long run.
- We are very aware of the new government's education budget announcement and the impact it will have on all students. At the same time, we remain unconvinced that the CBE is powerless in this situation to keep its current schools open, including NSS, and to continue providing the very best educational experiences to its students. What power does the CBE hold? It has the power to reduce its own administrative costs substantially. Numerous articles reflect the cost overages in this Board, above and beyond any school board in the province. The Board members seem to have forgotten that they hold their positions solely for the purpose of providing education for the students of Calgary. Without the students, they have no jobs. In this brief note I will address only the highest ticket item on the CBE's administrative budget, its ridiculous (in this economic landscape) downtown lease of office space. I see from the link below, that the lease extends to 2031 and that the Board feels there is nothing they can do or they will be 'sued'. I put it to you that there must be a clause in that lease allowing the Board to extricate itself from the lease agreement by paying a penalty. Is that not so? If not, then the Board can still apply to the courts to set a reasonable penalty and let them out of the lease term. No one expects the Board to walk away from its lease obligations. At the same time, hiding behind a 20 year plus lease as an excuse to withhold millions of dollars from the classroom is unacceptable. It is also unacceptable to repeatedly in this survey and FAQ hold out the small class size and unequal per student allotment received by students of NSS as a reason to close it down. This has been the case since day 1 and was budgeted for by the CBE accordingly, recognizing the special needs of these students. If, at some point in the last 5 years the CBE had determined that this unequal treatment was against CBE policy, the fair and equitable and in fact transparent



course of action would have been to provide parents, teachers and stakeholders with the time and option to pursue forming a charter school. By leaving the decision to the final hour, the CBE has effectively rung the death knell of the the National Sport School in the face of parents, stakeholders and teachers who would gladly have taken the charge and secured a Charter or Private designation. Frankly, the board of the CBE does not deserve these students. Moving NSS is not an option for most of the parents and students attending this high school. The reason this sport school is highly valued is its location at the Calgary sport hub: Canada Olympic Park. A great many of the students train right at the Park (gymnasts, skiers, hockey players, figure skaters, sliding athletes, track athletes who do dry land training at the Performance Centre, etc. etc.). These student athletes train before and after school and are driven to and from by parents for most if not all of their high school careers. It is of no help whatsoever to move them to a different school location, thus requiring parents to drive the athlete to and from COP and to the new location multiple times per day. These are elite athletes who train for our province and country 18-30 hours per week and, because of the staff and location of NSS, are able to maintain excellent academic averages. <https://cbe.ab.ca/about-us/budget-and-finance/Pages/dollars-and-sense.aspx> Kids Come First article re CBE administrative costs <https://kidscomefirst.ca/2017/01/17/education-funding/>

- keep the school
- It's a shame that there is no option being presented to keep the school open in its current location .
- The National Sport School is unique to Calgary and the Calgary Board of Education. It has evolved over 25 years to its current state. It has produced more Olympic athletes than any other school in the country. That in itself is incredible. Congratulations. This is something we should be proud of in this City. Rather than amalgamate or close it, I recommend the CBE be leaders in education and do something completely different: expand it. Create a path for kids to do more, do better. To be active. To use sport to help children chart a path out of low-income households. To be part of building champions. To celebrate success and be part of their story. CBE, do better. This is your opportunity to do so.
- Option c - keep has open for an additional year so that other options such as a charter school can be explored.
- No financials shown to justify moving the school. No alternatives that are \*better and less expensive\* than currently held by CBE for NSS has been shown. And in a public forum – Winsport offered a free lease and no response was given by CBE people present. Just the thought of lessening, moving, or destroying NSS has enraged many.
- Option C would be the plan that would work the most for students at Nss. Staying at winsport is a key facility for all athletes because of it's location along with facilities it offers. A way of cutting the budget of Nss would be to lay off unessential employees, this includes the sport physiologist
- Please can we choose Option C - NSS works best at its current location in partnership with WinSport. Winsport has offered to extend the lease for a year for \$1. It is essential to take them up on this offer and keep NSS in its current location to allow for all involved to seek a permanent, cost-effective solution for NSS to remain onsite at WinSport moving forward.
- Appreciating that you require a cost-neutral solution, we recommend working with the NSS staff and parents on an Option C , which for now should involve students staying at



Winsport for another year. For the regular CBE student, we can see why you came up with option A and B, but you are not dealing with the regular student! Perhaps a one year transition is not a sustainable solution but for families like ours who moved from the other end of the city for our daughter to train and attend NSS/ Winsport, it will give us time so her life isn't completely disrupted in her most important year. She is hoping to pursue her sport representing Canada. We are certain this will not be possible if she is yanked out of her school in her most important and final year of high school. The one-year Winsport lease will be \$1 and perhaps you can figure out some way to cut costs in that situation.

- NSS needs to remain open at Winsport in its current form. This group of students is no different than any other special needs group. They need this program and they need it to remain the way it is, and where it is. Both options allow for life altering experiences, that will have major impact on their lives. Many of these athletes are here because they don't fit in anywhere else. They are at NSS because they can thrive there at its current location in Winsport. They feel accepted, and successful. Both options proposed will leave room for mental illness and sport/school drop out. Both options are telling this group of students "we don't care" Remaining open for another year, to allow time for a proper plan to be put into place is needed. Don't give up on these children please. Let them feel hope and acceptance, while other resources can be found to allow NSS to remain open at WINSPOORT!!!!!!
- CBE has presented only 2 options both of which are unacceptable they need to go back to the drawing board and come back with a plan that is a win for all involved and isn't just a win for CBE
- Option C is the only option. This school must remain at WinSport. There are cost saving measures to be found to make this work: - \$1 lease from WinSport - Teachers taking on more to reduce the teacher numbers - etc
- This can be done and for the sake of these student athletes needs to be done. CBE talks about values. These hardworking, dedicated student athletes needs must be valued!!"
- Keep NSS at its current location, supporting students who have planned and trained for life. We teach our youth to find their passion and strive for success. Now, we need to support their path for success.
- I urge CBE to consider Option C - NSS works best at its current location in partnership with WinSport. Winsport has offered to extend the lease for a year for \$1. It is essential to take them up on this offer and keep NSS in its current location to allow for all involved to seek a permanent, cost-effective solution for NSS to remain onsite at WinSport moving forward. Options A & B are not supported by the parent and student body as well as all other stakeholders including NSOs. Please allow NSS the time we need to find an alternative way forwards by keeping the school onsite at Winsport for the coming school year.
- I truly hope the NSS stays open, and that the school is able to establish itself as its own learning environment. Two of my nieces succeeded in their sport, one even competing for Canada, and placing 4th. They are now in university, and their experiences they had in their sport and with NSS still has such a positive impact in their lives.
- I teach a young student, who is (was) aiming to go to the NSS, and she, and her family, are devastated by this news. This is someone who is six years away from being at the school. The NSS is a mighty school that provides the support and love our athletes need to excel in their sport, and in their lives.



- Why would the CBE not take the \$1 lease option from Winsport to allow a more thorough engagement process to assess what would work best for these students? If the CBE is truly looking out for students and their best interests, this would be the option to consider. This allows all stakeholders the opportunity to discuss and present the most beneficial options.
- Despite the budget problems and the time you have to make changes it would still be a financial win if CBE could adopt Option C . It would be saving money in the end with creative and community /stakeholder engagement and could provide the great student support that NSS provides at a cost neutral per student scenario, given a year to pull it together. Please give winsport, the teachers and the parents the time to make it cost effective and still maintain the excellence that it currently provides its students
- Option C , is the best and just solution. Keeping the school open an additional year with a reduction in resources enabling the school to cost no more per student than other CBE schools. This would provide stakeholders adequate time to find a solution for the school including the option of creating a charter school. This school has had 177 Olympic athletes enrolled since inception and it is extremely irresponsible to close the school without allowing stakeholders adequate time to find a solution for the student athletes.
- Having multiple children and many athletes going through the NSS, the program has been essential to their education as well as their sport lives.
- Our son completed grades 10 to 12 at NSS and is an elite short track speed skater. We are not a wealthy family, but we were able to find the fees for NSS and it made all the difference for him. He trained at the Olympic Oval, so there were transportation issues, but we figured them out and city bussing was pretty good. His marks kept increasing over grades 10 to 12 in direct proportion to his school absences increasing; the NSS model has developed very good independent study habits, which were supported by exceptional teachers who understood the value of both academics and athletic pursuits. There were not many options for courses at NSS, but all the core academic basics were available -- not always at a time or semester that worked best, but it was always manageable. He was absent more than he was present at school in grade 12, due to his training and competition schedule which included several long trips away within Canada and to Europe. He was able, within the structure of NSS to complete all of the required high school diploma core subjects in 3 years including all of the grade 12 maths and sciences with a high 80's average. He is very well situated for post-secondary and couldn't have done this without NSS. He is now part of the national Development Team (identified as a World Cup and Olympic potential medalist) and has qualified again to compete for Canada at the World Junior ST Championships in Italy in January.
- Option C: NSS stays at Winsport - this is the ONLY acceptable option.
- Thought of the CBE to integrate with another school board.
- Option C. Keep NSS open at Winsport! How is this not an option?
- "Personal reasons aside, we feel it is very short-sighted for CBE to shut down a National treasure of a school. This is part of Calgary's heartbeat. it has a pulse, and it is a draw for people to come here, and therefore pay taxes here. At least provide some time for people to bring forward cost neutral solutions. Get creative, You need to. There will be no room in 3-5 years to put students. With a world class sport institute like Winsport offering you free rent, take it. Grow this little school. Make it a selling point for this city, and for the CBE. We need to diversify and draw people in many ways. Ask parents to contribute. Look to the City and



the Calgary Olympic bid committee to support you, as they benefit. Find support. Be OPEN. It's out there with 11,000 people signing a petition within days.

- If this needs to happen for reasons we do not understand, have the decency to transition a child properly with a 24-36 month notice window in order to mitigate that damage that moving schools mid highschool does to students. do the right thing and work together with the NSS community and provide an option C. You are leaving yourselves open to time spent and money in appeals process."
- The NSS program must and will prevail!
- There are alternative options which have been presented to CBE. To my knowledge, the former Principal has proposed a solution where the number of students enrolled is expanded sufficiently to cover all costs with the school remaining at the Winsport site. I strongly support this initiative and fervently hope that it will be seriously considered as a viable option as in my opinion this school shines out as one of Calgary's and Alberta's most successful sports programmes ever, given the number of Olympians that have come out of the National Sports School
- This survey was disappointing that it did not allow for discussion around alternative options. With the commitment of a free lease from Winsport, it would be irresponsible and impulsive to close NSS after less than 60 days of consultation and consideration. The only reasonable and strategic decision is to forgo both A / B and to go for C - extend the lease (free lease) for one year at a minimum. This will ensure students at NSS and students at other schools are both successful.
- I encourage the CBE to really listen to the parents, students and sponsors that have raised serious concerns about the NSS. Money is important and we all know you have tough decisions to make, but you should not make decisions hastily. This process has not allowed for the requisite consultation process, it is not considering the students at the NSS and the stress that a rash decision will have on their futures as students and as athletes. You hold a decision in your hands that has the ability to impact 200+ kids' lives in a very serious way. The manner in which you have communicated thus far is dictatorial and feels like a check the box exercise where decisions have been made already. This does not give parents, students or the staff any comfort that you truly care about what happens to these kids. Does the CBE really want to leave a legacy of not supporting athletes of the future, some of whom may represent Calgary and Canada at the Olympics? Please look at all sides of this and not just the bottom line.
- Anyone who has any respect for the future of student athletes and the investment they have offered to sport understands why we as parents want NSS to remain at Winsport. With Winsport and the staff at NSS willing to make changes and concessions it is unthinkable for the CBE to go forward with relocation or closing. The CBE neglected to offer an acceptable option to families, staff and students...Option C - work harder to keep NSS at Winsport. Option C - work with Winsport and take up their offer for lease for 1\$ for the 2020/21 year to create a better and more thoughtful, engaged plan for the future. Do not risk the health and well being of students, staff and families at BOTH schools by making a very disengaged and frankly, disrespectful decision. Offering of two unacceptable options shows no respect the community of NSS stakeholders.
- The whole idea of NSS is to support elite athletes in a way the cannot be supported in a regular program. It has proven to be an excellent program.



- Please reconsider and keep NSS at Winsport, even for another year extension. Parents happy to fund the operating cost of the lease even if it is against CBE policy. Please give us at least another year for parent engagement process instead of shoving the two options down our throat.
- NSS has been found to be the best model of its kind in North America. Allowing athletes to attend a physical school with amazing teachers, together with like-minded students at Winsport with access to training is what makes this school so successful. The CBE has created this amazing school and I believe it is rash and shortsighted to insist on closing or essentially disbanding the school if moved to Bowness without working to pursue a solution to allow NSS to stay where it is. There are very real financial considerations to be made, but the CBE can if it is open to creative solutions work with stakeholders to find a cost neutral solution for one year to keep the school open at Winsport. Winsport has offered a dollar lease for next year and is willing to work together with the parents and CBE to find more financial solutions. Please work with us to allow the NSS athlete student body to stay intact at Winsport.
- Please rethink your options and allow the stakeholders etc. to influence the options. All CBE did was make two non-viable options without addressing our school or stakeholders in that process. We need this school to succeed and we need this school for our future high-level athletes.
- Option C: program continuance at WinSport in its current form. WinSport has proposed a one year lease extension to allow for more time to effectively study and find an alternate solution. NSS works best at its current location in partnership with WinSport and CBE has an opportunity to extend the lease for a year (as per WinSport's offer to do so for \$1) to allow for all involved to seek a permanent, cost-effective solution for NSS to remain onsite at WinSport moving forward.
- We feel as a family that CBE is not offering an option that is acceptable to the students and families of NSS. This was done with very little notice and does not provide the school or the families with enough time to prepare for something that might work to ensure continued success of our elite student athletes. The facility of Winsport and the National Sports School are advocating for an OPTION C which sees Winsport offering a one year lease for \$1 and for the principal and vice principal to teach within the school thereby lower the cost per student ratio. I struggle to understand how NSS is costing the CBE so much money when we as parents pay a \$5000 tuition to attend school and with a population of close to 200 students (the enrollment is always increasing due to the need of the student athletes) I do not know where that MILLION dollars goes???? No other standard public CBE school has that kind of tuition - so I would like you to help me understand how the NSS student cost ratio is so high. I have severe hesitations enrolling my daughter into a traditional school as I know there will be huge challenges and hurdles. As mentioned previously, she was told in a traditional school that she would have to reduce her training because they were not able to accommodate her missing so much time. Now at NSS, she is balancing her school work - with support from her teachers - and just today she had a GOLD medal placed around her neck and the Canadian anthem played at the Youth A World Cup Luge race in Innsbruck, Austria. The school, the athletes and their families NEED TIME to ensure the choices that are made do not harm the students abilities to succeed in the classroom and in sport. PLEASE ENTERTAIN OPTION "C" to allow for an acceptable solution for all.



- Instead of closing NSS, I would suggest exploring how this teaching model of remote learning could be applied to other students. It would prepare students for post secondary experience: independent learning is the norm at colleges, technical institutes & university. Remote work is also prevalent in the work force. I would suggest CBE challenge itself to think in 2020 terms.
- The CBE mission statement is “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.” For years, teachers have been constantly sent to PD sessions about personalization of learning. Here we have a school that truly does it right. We are the 'poster children' for flexibility and personalization. But we cost too much. Shut it down. It's a sad statement about the state of our education system. These students will go back to being forced to choose between high level athletics and completing school - not at all “keeping with their individual abilities and gifts.” It looks like it's time to change our mission statement.
- Option C is to work with Winsport's proposal to operate the school for 1 more year at Winsport for a lease of \$1. This will allow the proper time to make the right long term decision on the school and the athletes. 25 years of sport and education excellence deserves time to make the right decision for our community.
- My son Colten is a 13 year old student athlete that started attending the NSS this year in grade 9. Colten trains 24 hours each week as a high performance gymnast at the U of C Gymnastics club. Colten's training requires him to miss school on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and Wednesday afternoons to train. He also trains Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings as well as Saturdays and Sundays. Colten was struggling to maintain his grades in a tradition CBE school environment and as his parents we were not sure if he could balance his grades and his gymnastics passion. We heard from other athletes families about the NSS and what a special place it was for student athletes . It all sounded so good that we were not sure it could be true. We took a chance and from the first interaction with NSS staff to Colten's first report card (this week) the NSS exceeded our expectations. During this semester Colten has added 8 hours to his training schedule and has increased his grades to have an 80% gpa, we never thought this was possible. This is all due to the special NSS family, teachers, leaders and students. You need to be a parent of one of these high performance athletes to truly understand the amount of time and effort these kids must put in for their sport. The teachers at NSS understand and know how to work with these kids to help them excel academically and athletically. Traditional schools and teachers should not be expected to understand these special kids. This is why the NSS was created in the first place. I would ask that you please reconsider closing or changing our school. The parents are willing to pay more if that is required and WinSport is willing to help and be as flexible as required to keep the NSS at WinSport. The WinSport facility provides access to world class facilities, coaches and extended athletic community that can not be achieved somewhere else. WinSport is the perfect location for this special school. There are other options and we would really appreciate the opportunity to find a solution that works for all parties Thank you
- NSS was established by the CBE to help at risk students. Students should not have to choose between school and sport. This model has been fine tuned in my many years here. We have tried many different methods and we know what works best for this group of



students. It is a combination of location, extreme flexibility, knowledge of the mental and academic stresses, the various supports provided by Winsport that helps these students succeed in sport, university and life. NSS needs to be here. These students are important too. This is a dedicated staff that is willing to go to great lengths to ensure that these students get the support that they need and achieve success. I feel confident that we could come up with an option that would save the CBE money and also allow these students to flourish.

- Location is crucial to us. Our schedules are complex and with the location at Winsport, we live our best lives and create the best versions of ourselves. If you want specifics, I wake up at 4:00, drive half an hour to Winsport for figure skating practice at 6:15 and train till 9:45. I am in school by 10:00 and finish at 2:50. I'm in the gym at Winsport by 3:00 and home by 5:30. In order to function at 4:00 I have to be in bed at 8:00, leaving 2 and a half hours for homework, dinner, and preparing for my next day. My schedule is tight as it is as a Junior Ice Dancer preparing for Nationals and this is just one of the many busy schedules of athletes at NSS. We don't have time for additional work or travel. Please try to make a third option in which we won't have to sacrifice our location at Winsport. Thank you.
- We feel very strongly that NSS should not be cut from the CBE program offerings nor should it move from its current location. The school has been in existence for a long time and for a very good reason - the successful graduation of athletic students who are exemplary examples of Canadian achievement in both athletics and academics. It is absolutely appalling that the CBE would consider closing the school and there are parents, educators, students and sports organizations across Canada that see the benefit this school provides. Please don't be short sighted and close the school - there are other options to fund the school and reduce costs without closing it or relocating it. Negotiate a new lease with Winsport. Keep our student athletes in a program that offers them the flexibility in scheduling, the benefits that Winsport has to offer, and the academic excellence that is provided by the teaching staff. Keep the school where it is.
- Option C. Take the 1\$ lease agreement and work within the existing framework of excellence. Put consultants and directors back into the classrooms, offer reasonable retirement packages to staff and look at shuffling your top end instead of pulling the carpet out from beneath those younger less expensive teachers.
- Where's option C??!! We need more time, give us another year to help make this work. Support the community, Winsport has been so faithful and supportive of CBE. How about give back to the community, take up the opportunity to rent the space for \$1, support our athletes and future Olympian's, before they all leave to attend the charter and private schools. Listen to the students, parents and teachers. Believe in option C!! Please consider this option, my child's academic, physical, emotional health is SO important.
- I am very disappointed in the CBE. This program helps Canada support our national athletes. These kids are going to be leaders in our country and they deserve a program that supports both athletics and education. My daughter was in regular junior high school and her teachers struggled to support her, they try their best and with 40 +students in high school, this is almost impossible. Parents pay a lot of money for the lease, Why can't this continue? Many people will be thinking of moving outside the CBE to get a program that supports their child.



- Closing down NSS would be a major disappointment to the sports and athletics in our community. It would result in student athletes needing to choose between sport and school. Having competitive sport in a young individuals life teaches them so many things that school cannot.
- I understand that you feel you have done your due diligence by holding meetings and offering two options but you have not listened to the parents, students, alumni or sport organizations. These are not options. It is my understanding that Winsport has offered a one year lease extension for \$1. This would provide the community supporting the students time to provide a more viable option for students in the future. This is a program that has been supported by CBE for over 20 years and has educated more than 10% of this countries Olympic athletes. This decision doesn't just affect the CBE or the Calgary kids. It discontinued the Centre of education for our national athletes and will come at a cost to the country as a whole. I ask that you please consider another option for one more year and keep the location of the school at Winsport.
- I pretty much said what i had to say in the previous questions. So all I have left to say is if you care at all about us, you'll choose option c.
- If these children and their parents want this then they need to pay for it. It shouldn't come as a cost to public education. Not all children have an opportunity to develop their sports skills and therefore their schooling should not be disrupted by these special requests nor should their funding be taken away from them to accommodate a select few.
- Neither option is what I would like to see happen. I would prefer for the school to remain at Wlnsport for at least another year until a permanent solution which takes into account the athletes needs, can be found
- Winsport is working to keep the NSS as is at Winsport. This is the best option and honestly the only ethical option while looking at the well being of the student-athletes. Students are thriving academically, athletically and emotionally currently at the National Sport School. From my understanding, CBE's primary goals are the students and their well beings. This is not something that should be taken lightly. Student-athletes will struggle to adapt to regular high school life. Here at the NSS students have found their niche. They feel like they fit in and they BELONG. That is something that they will not find anywhere else.
- I am unhappy with the options CBE has presented
- All the staff that currently work at NSS know the students very well and they are vital for the success of student-athletes. All NSS students have planned out what their time in high school will look like with their TA's. They know what courses they will take and how they will get their credits. NSS can ensure that all students get the courses they want when they want them while still maintaining small class sizes. NSS staff is also able to give the required support to all students because of the small class sizes. Closing NSS or re-locating it will mean that its students will lose small class sizes, class availability and flexibility as well as the amazing teacher-student relationship and support. Students may also have to change their high school plans. All of this will affect student-athletes abilities to catch up on school and graduate on time. The location of NSS is another reason why it is so great. So many of NSS students train at Winsport every day so the fact that NSS is located there helps students miss less school because of the reduced travel time. I owe all of my recent success not only in school but also in sport to NSS. Without it, I would not be where I am today I am not sure what I will do if NSS is re-located or closed.



- please keep it open
- Option C- which sees NSS staying at Winsport for at least one year or until a permanent solution can be formulated. The CBE should work with stakeholders to find a cost-neutral solution during, at minimum, a one-year transitional period. For 2020 Winsport has kindly agreed to offer the building lease for \$1, this would reduce the running costs substantially. The cost of the teachers will be similar since the NSS teachers will be transferred to other schools within the CBE
- Please do not close the school and terminate the wonderful program that the teachers at NSS have worked so hard to create for student athletes. Thank you for consideration...
- All of the students at NSS love and embrace the spirit at NSS. All of us would not be able to be as far as we are in our sports without our school. We also need our teachers who understand the struggle of missing school and why our sports mean so much to us. You are asking us all to quit our sports and become normal when we are all very different most of us are physically gifted not academically and for most of us our sport is how we will get into university. Speaking for my self I injured my self not long ago and there was a question if I would ever be able to do my sport ever again and I cried for 3 days straight. so getting rid of our school would cause depression in all of us 215 kids.
- Option C - look for external stakeholders or funding opportunities. I appreciate that the budget is tight for CBE and would agree that there are other schools and populations in Calgary that need better educational support. However, I think this program should be saved - it is unique, progressive, and successful. CBE should allow for the opportunity for the NSS community, along with Winsport, to figure out how to do so.
- CBE hates people that want to excel in sport as well as school
- This school has so much heart. The staff operate like a big family and pull together to help these students be successful. The teachers have D2L Shells that provide instruction and distance learning that is not used in the regular program. Online learning does not provide the students with the hands-on support and day-to-day teacher attention that our school has provided. This is our 25th anniversary. We were not given options. Both Option A and Option B are the same from my perspective- the program will be closing and/or will be absorbed into Bowness High School. Many students will find other options. Our successful program will be lost because of money.
- Continued problem in Alberta and Canada of heavy tax burdens and reduction in services. Both my kids have attended private schools previously as there seems to be more energy spent in the public system with the misalignment and bickering between educators and government/administration and not enough about the students best interests. The well being and interest of the students seems to be a secondary thought from my previous experiences with the public system. Our family would be on the low end of the income bracket to have two children in private schools but have done so, because of the poor education in the public system and the general lack of interest in the students education and future. It truly seems the teachers and acting principal put the students success first. Our work world is now global, we have to compete with the best of the rest of the world, too bad some of my over \$100K a year tax burden doesn't go to something useful like NSS, instead of the numerous accounts of wasteful spending in Alberta Education in general.
- don't move
- "I know you guys are trying to manage budget cuts so here is how you do your job.



- You have received a 32 million dollar budget cut. There are 226 CBE schools that means that every school must cut there budget by \$141,592.92
- The average salary for a teacher is 60,000 if you wanna take the route of taking away from schools like you are doing, instead of decreasing budget cuts from the board of directors, you must lay 2.3 teachers off from each school.
- In NSS has given us the lease for \$1 that saves you a \$99,999 dollars right there. That you means you have less than a teachers salary to cut from our school. You have already fired 2 of our teachers. So NSS is doing our share and helping your budget. Schools like NSS and Louise Dean, Should not be completely cut from the CBE program because it's easy for the board to do so!
- I really don't want the school to close plz don't close the school
- I am unhappy about the options you have presented and therefore you should create an option C. Because our school is so small, would closing it really help the budget?
- If you shut the school down future: olympians, world cup athletes, national contenders and inspiring people could lose their opportunities to go where they want to go in life because this opportunity will be shut down
- so where is option C the options provided are absolutely unfair? you're removing the teachers who are part of our family and destroying and a home and a family for over 100 people not including Winsport. you guys are the ones who wasted 250 million dollars on you guys and you take our school down because of money. you guys should be the ones struggling with money. I feel that we should start expecting funds from people to save this school. instead of building more schools just keep this one open and build fewer schools. imagine your kids here if I was your kid I probably would never speak to you again. just thinking about this makes me want to cry. NSS is a school I felt i belonged in. hope this makes you think more, about this. I pictured having happy highschool years but glad to know I'm going to have bad ones.
- please keep Open
- please don't close nss you will ruin sport opportunities and not as many canadians will be as good at sports as they could be
- keep it open, we lost the olympics, we are losing the xgames and now the sports school it seems like calgary dose not care about sport anymore.
- If you want to know what these kids go through and how hard these kids work daily - CBE should follow the average student athlete around for a week.
- It was very difficult to comment on Option A or Option B. I think the struggles of both scenarios will be with responsive pacing of a student-athlete. Many student-athletes need support and flexibility as they experience success in their sport; this is requires a school to be aware of ongoing and emerging needs. This is something that may be difficult for a traditional school to understand and develop.
- NSS needs to remain open at Winsport in its current form.
- "If NSS was ear marked by SASS for review in 2013 and again in 2016 why were no appropriate permanent housing options studied and discussed at those times? CBE communications continue to tell parents and students that Winsport was only to be a "temporary" location. Why wasn't the research on costing and permanent housing started in 2016 so that by the end of the lease this go around there was a viable option made available?



- What happened to the money that was raised which was intended to assist with permanent building at the Winsport location? I realize this may not be enough to build a school but is it enough to cover operating costs for 1 or 2 years at Winsport until alternatives can be investigated in an appropriate and timely manner?
- Without this specialized program students will either drop out of school to pursue their athletic careers or drop out of athletics. By closing this school you are telling them that their needs are inconsequential and that the greater population is more important than they are. This program has THRIVED for the past 25 YEARS! following through with option A or B would be a tragic disservice to the sporting community and the students that have chosen to attend the school.
- I strongly encourage the CBE to continue to look for ways to continue the NSS on the Winsport site. At minimum the CBE should allow a 1 year extension and cooperatively work with the group of parents to investigate the transition of the NSS to a charter capacity or any other creative solution that might be possible in order to keep the NSS in place at Winsport with minimal disruption to the students."
- We are very disappointed with the way CBE Administration has approached this program. A minimum of one year notice should have been provided to all parents. There are ways to redesign the program to achieve CBE's cost savings without sacrificing the many benefits of the NSS. We would ask that the Board not proceed with school closure at this time but rather would with NSS leadership to redesign the program in a sustainable long-term manner. Our students have special needs just like ESL kids, kids with learning disabilities and behaviour issues. It is not acceptable to ignore these special needs simply because the CBE does not value the importance of athletics. Without sports our daughter is a different person and would face other challenges in life including mental health issues. While there is some cost associated with the program as it is, other unintended consequences will come from the closure or relocation of the school. Parents are willing to support the evolution of the school as needed to meet CBE's goals. Please give yourselves, teachers, parents and most importantly students, the opportunity to evolve the program rather than dismantling it for short term reasons.
- "This country's most important people are the youth right now and they are the future of Canada, without them achieving in school, it is nearly impossible for us as a community to improve this nation.
- My eldest son graduated from NSS , my middle child is now attending the school and my daughter was looking forward to attending this school as they are all athletes with busy lives.
- So please put in your mind before deciding a big decision like this. "
- "The NSS has been an asset to student-athletes on their pathway to success in both athletics and academics. The NSS provides students with the balance required to maintain academic success while participating in meeting the demands of sport. Their assistance when participating in sport has allowed the Alberta Gymnastics Federation (AGF) to remain a prominent force when participating at both the provincial and national levels.
- Closing the NSS will eliminate the school itself and its unique sports system, one which cannot be replicated at a larger high school. Providing opportunities for athletes to compete and obtain an education is paramount for their development and growth. Any lessening of



this could have a dramatic impact on the long-term development of not only AGF athletes, but on all athletes involved in this potential closure.

- We strongly support the National Sport School and trust that you will give serious consideration to continuing their operation."
- There was a reason that NSS was formed in the first place. With the additional amount of students in the CBE system, as of recent, how does anyone figure it would benefit the athletes? With bigger classrooms and teachers not being able to support the travelling students, it is a ridiculous thought that these athletes could attend the mainstream schooling structure...and maintain any sort of training regime. Their physical and mental health well being, will be severely put into jeopardy, as they struggle to juggle schedules and travel requirements.
- It would be a significant loss to Calgary, ALBERTA and CANADA to lose a program that has produced so many international athletes while allowing them to continue with school.
- I appreciate that NSS caters to a small group of students. But they are people who represent the CbE, Alberta and Canada on a world wide stage and do it well. The life experiences they gain from their training, travel and competition build incredible skills and being able to support education is for them is critical. They are often very smart kids as well and have gone on to be teachers, doctors, business leaders and amazing role models. Please don't eliminate this option. And please keep these student athletes together
- As an educator we ask our students to be creative when faced with a tough decision. The two options presented represent very little creativity and thought. It is very disappointing what is presented here by the Calgary Board of Education is not what we expect of our students. Other options to save money can and do exist and no have these been considered. A small number of people have made the decision on the school without truly understanding how important and necessary it is. A decision based only on saving one million dollars of a 1.2 billion dollar budget is very short sighted. The school needs to exist as its own entity trying to blend it into another school does not make any sense. I would think living up to the mission statement would be something we strive for (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).
- 25 years this school has been operational and it is the only one of its kind. Without this school my son would be failing but instead his grades are all in the 90s because of the support of the staff. My son is on the Alberta Freestyle Park and Pipe ski team and will have to quit skiing on that team if NSS closes. It will just not be an option for him anymore. Is the importance of sport, passion and performance not understood? Many of these kids are Olympic hopefuls, but more importantly, with so many things that can lead our teenagers astray in the world and the mental illness in this age group being too high, why would we not want to continue to support these elite athletes and great students in continuing to pursue their passions.
- "NSS should continue to run out of the WinSport Location as that is the best place to continue running this successful program
- Kids don't come with one-size-fits-all learning needs and we want the best education for them, after all they are the FOUNDATION of this country! They are the future generation that will carry on running this country, with its doctors, teachers, mechanics, coaches, engineers, etc "!



- A good school is a school that's right for my child and after dealing with mainstream schooling for 9 years I needed to find a school that would support and help elevate and allow my child to excel in school just as much as he excels in Sport.
- Finding that balance is tricky but we finally attained it at National Sports School (NSS). The fact that we have a very successful "program of choice" within the PUBLIC CBE system, that has excellent teachers and a great location/partnership with Winsport just solidifies the government's mandate for supporting CHOICE. As such, CBE needs to step up to save NSS from closure.
- Education should not be a privilege but a right to every child in this country and having a medium that can help students become National athletes representing Canada internationally is just as important. Please review this decision and don't lose the foresight of the future and this generation that is struggling to make a positive impact on our society. They and their parents are working very hard to show the uniqueness of our talents and brings us all up as a society nationally and internationally.
- Some other factors to consider keeping NSS at WinSport as the BEST location for this great SUCCESSFUL program:
  - - WinSport is home to several National and Provincial sport organizations. Student/Athletes often have meetings with coaches and being onsite allows these meeting to take place without disrupting the school day
  - - Access to dieticians, biomechanics, high performance trainers and physical testing facilities are instrumental in an athletes success and is part of the students daily routine
  - - Having the National Sport School located at WinSport is not only a benefit to the student/athlete but parents have reported the benefit to them. It allows parents more time and improved lifestyles having their children in one location to access education, training and medical needs. The family spends less time in the car driving and more time on task.
  - - Sports medicine (G23) facility that is located in the Markin McPhail Centre has a direct referral process for the students of the National Sport School. Student can access Sport Medicine doctors, Surgeons, Physio-therapists and massage during the day and this allows students to be in class more with the convenient location.
  - - Access to the Canadian Sport Institute (CSI), allows students the opportunity to train beside current National team members
  - - Exposed to sporting excellence: national teams, international teams, all types of professional athletes, and major sporting events
  - - Allows the students to experience that is will take to be an athlete at the next level.
  - - Several studies have also shown that athletes that specialize early in sport have deficiencies in some areas of physical development. Being on site at WinSport allows students to access sports beyond their speciality, which improves their overall athleticism
  - - Proximity to the Canada Sport Hall of Fame gives students many opportunities to be ambassadors for sport. Student/athletes are often asked to speak at the Hall of Fame to school and community groups ."
- The positive NSS community has been cultivated throughout its entire existence! For 25 years, the school has found what works best for student athletes to succeed in sport and in education simultaneously. They have worked out the kinks of such a unique program and enrolment only increases with time. As a student athlete I beg of you not to consider either option as it would destroy education for student athletes who already have to deal with the



stresses of sport. Please do what ever is in your power to keep this school community intact at winsport.

- The visionaries that built the NSS demonstrated innovative thinking to develop a program that effectively allowed high-performance sport and academics to thrive. I am very disappointed with how far away this decision is with the Mission and Values of the CBE. If the long-term plan was to close NSS after the lease expiration it's strange that no planning was made or communication provided to families that have physically relocated to be closer to NSS. Personally I found it insulting that the stakeholder engagement session provided little engagement, had misinformation regarding the lease, and operating costs of NSS, avoided answering questions by participants and students. Alos This survey was difficult to find. Our 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. Our Values Students come first. We believe that everyone can learn. Each student is unique and worthwhile. We acknowledge, recognize and celebrate the diversity of our learners. Success for each and every student is the goal of our work. Learning is our central purpose. We believe that learning empowers students to achieve their potential. Attention to continuous improvement, high expectations, innovation and relationships will enable all students to reach their potential. Student learning is at the heart of everyone's work at the Calgary Board of Education. Public education serves the common good. Public education is essential for a vibrant democracy. The principles of democracy drive our accountability to the public and the public's participation in our work. Our school system is owned by and accountable to Calgarians and therefore, the Calgary Board of Education is accountable to Calgary taxpayers for using resources wisely to meet students' learning needs.
- We are advocating for OPTION C. Maintain the status quo. Keep this program going to allow these Canadian athletes to develop and go to school in a meaningful environment with like minded students. Other students did not celebrate her successes like the NSS team.
- Leave the school as is! The teachers commitment to the athletes is outstanding. The location is second to none. The results of past graduates speak for themselves and it gives highly motivated student athletes the best chance of success in both academics and their athletic pursuits!
- with the increase in online learning, is the sport school in its current capacity really needed? where students are trying to learn all the time. when are they able to just focus on their sport? NSS or new school should be re structured to let athletes take away from school to just compete where there is no pressure to stay caught up, or keep in touch with teachers. then be able to make up the missed days in their sports off season. maybe taking a step back and look at how the sport school functioned for its first 10 years when it was more successful and offered a different learning path then all other school. not just filling in the gaps with online learning
- The net benefit our family gives to the province of Alberta far exceeds the total costs associated with this program. Keeping this program open as-is will actually save other schools from closure and many CBE and other provincially funded jobs. If NSS is altered or closed we will move back to Ontario.



- The quest for excellence in sport should be supported and regular schools cannot provide for this with the absenteeism required by these students. NSS was created to fill this need and that need has not changed. Closing or 'moving' the school will mean that this need is no longer met and the student-athletes will suffer both in school and in sport due to it. This is a bad idea, please don't do it.
- If NSS is shut down or moved it shows that CBE isn't interested in trying to help create excellence and just wants to create people that all lived the same life in a normal school. Student-athletes are so different than normal kids because they have the skills that most kids don't have such as, discipline, work ethic, communication, and appreciation for what they have and where they are. Student-athletes experience so many different things such as traveling alone at younger ages, I can guarantee that many of the students at NSS have more life skills than many adults do. I believe that you learn much more important skills and life lessons outside of school, and sport is a place where you learn those things. From how to handle failure and self-advocacy, sport is like having a job that you don't get paid for. Doing sport helps you meet such amazing people that know where they want to go in life and have goals and determination. Kids that you meet in sport are so much different than normal kids that you meet in school. Sport helps you stay out of trouble because when you are so busy with your sport all the time, you don't have time to do stupid things. Without NSS, so many kids might take the wrong path.
- I hope we move
- Without NSS, my daughter would not be competing at the World Cup level and have a high school diploma for post secondary when she retires from sport. To suggest otherwise is naive on the part of the Board members. To suggest that you have a child in the regular school and you can "relate" as one member said at the presentation said, is ridiculous! I have twins who went through school (Queen E and NSS) at same time. It was night and day between the regular school support and NSS. Take the free lease from NSS and use the following year to figure this out. Put our kids and their education first without putting a square peg into a round hole solution!
- It is absolutely heartbreaking that the Board, and those advising them, appear to place such little value on the unique skills and work ethic of this student body, and on the importance of creating a cohort of like-minded individuals in pursuit of mastery of their chosen discipline. This isn't an average program and ought not be compared to average programs. Frankly, the options presented are a demonstration that the CBE is giving up on differentiated programming for exceptional students.
- I believe in Option C. Keep this very important school at Winsport. Parents will find a way to keep NSS open. Open minds for all including CBE. Let parents raise the money to keep the school open. It is only \$1 million, and parents could raise this in months. This school is no different than specific programme Science, Arts, Bilingual schools.
- Hopefully the CBE will look to the future of our athletes
- NSS is a unique learning environment offered by the CBE. The closure of this school would force many elite athletes lose the convenience of the WinSport location, and schedule flexibility. These athletes have to frequently travel, and regular school schedules can't accommodate their sports demands. Many students also train right at WinSport, so moving the location would entail a greater commuting time. As a former performance athlete, I can see just how beneficial NSS is for athletes trying to achieve top performance in sport



without the price tag of a private equivalent. Furthermore, student athletes are currently in the midst of competition season and a potential school change is adding extra stress to an already stressful time. This school change is causing a lot of uncertainty and anxiousness about the future which isn't in the best interests of the students. NSS is a close-knit community of students in a particular circumstance that requires more resources than a typical student would require. Although the operating cost of the school is high, it is a necessary accommodation for these performance athletes. I urge the CBE to consider the many complications these student athletes and all those affected by the NSS closure will face.

- NSS serves a vital role in the development of high performance athletes in the city. Without a CBE option, the only choice for these type of students is in the Catholic or private systems, which is a disservice to the students, families, teachers, and community as a whole.
- I think I've said it all. I feel it is a cop out by the CBE to close the school. Hiding behind budget cuts instead of finding a suitable solution. I am extremely disappointed in everyone involved with this decision.
- you must not have such knee jerk reaction to budgets when you are talking about the health and well being of students. The amount of disruption and emotional toll you have placed on these kids is beyond comprehensible.
- It is irresponsible for the CBE not to consider another option, option "C", which is to keep NSS open at Winsport in its current form and to identify savings opportunities.
- I had student athletes in NSS for 11 years. I cannot say enough good things about the program and how it's unique delivery method creates amazing kids. Have you considered raising the user fee as an alternative to canceling the program?
- Why can't we make NSS a charter school? We will pay more in tuition, and I heard Winsport has offered to reduce rent to keep the athletes at this location. These athletes need this school. You are crushing the dreams of these national level athletes. You need to do better
- I am a parent and educator and it is very disappointing when so many different students can be supported and accommodated in public education. Athletes have specific needs as well but they are not supported or accommodated for their passion, dedication and commitment to excellence. Athletes needs and supports are often overlooked and closing NSS is proof of this.
- Allow NSS to remain an independent school! No other system will work, Winsport is offering FREE lease! The CBE is foolish to even consider closing the school when such an offer exists. Students WILL have to sacrifice their academic or athletic goals if NSS is closed or relocated!
- Options A and Options B are not options, therefore neither are acceptable. There needs to be a continuation of the NSS school, it's programs, and it's relationship at the Winsport facility for at least one more year. It is clear that financial reasons are not the rationale for this attempted closure, due to the lack of disclosure of NSS finances. Parents already pay to offset the extra cost (if there even is one). By allowing NSS to operate status quo for a minimum of one more school year, other options (which are actually options that may benefit students) can be pursued by NSS and it's parent group. NSS is a thriving, growing, school environment which is supportive of athletes who have rigorous travel schedules



while training, and competing and makes us of a facility generously provided by Winsport for very little cost. My son, personally, has been able to succeed at both his academic and athletic development. The school needs to stay in place, and the idea that Bowness, or any other high school for that matter, can adapt to the level of NSS through on-line learning is not reality.

- Very sad situation. A very special dynamic was created at NSS at winsport and It's a shame that it has come to this. Our family is Very disappointed.
- This is a specialized school that caters to the elite athlete and their sports schedule. Closing this school would be an extreme dis service to to community and to the kids that attend. The anxiety that this is causing to the students is detrimental to their mental health and to their success in school and sports. If CBE is truly about the student, they would consider all the options to keep this school open at its current location.
- The CBE's decision to offer only these two options is very shortsighted.
- I'm not sure that your numbers add up regarding the extra cost associated with running NSS, especially relative to the extra fees that parents pay? I would really appreciate more clarity on where the extra fees go as well as how the extra cost per child equates.
- "You need to take winsport up on it's offer of a \$1 lease option for next year and properly craft a plan that will transition our school community to a suitable location and program ( at worst) . At best, you will find a way to work with Winsport, NSS staff and student / family community to find a way to make NSS financially viable on a go forward in its current location.
- You cannot give up in these kids!"
- The NSS has a great history of success from both a sport and educational perspective. It would not serve Calgarians well to close the school.
- This is extremely sad and short sighted.
- Present Option C: keep students at WinSport. Or AT LEAST go back to the way it was at William Aberhart (sp?) or Ernest Manning and keep the school independent of the other students.
- We need a reasonable option - or at least one year transition taking advantage of Winsport's generous offer to lease NSS for one year for \$1 - so NSS and it's students can be safe and continue to learn the only way they can while pursuing their sport. NSS will find a way to balance their budget if given time.
- The NSS approach allowed my kid to surpass her potential academically and in sport. We moved around CBE schools and we found resistance in allowing kids to follow their Olympic dream while keeping pace with educational requirements. NSS was the school that supported that. It will be a great loss to remove this type of programs from the options offered by CBE. Our kids deserve to have a variety of options to choose from based on their interests. That how we keep them motivated, engaged, and appreciated.
- Nss is the great program that it is because of all the great teachers and the great space the school is in
- As a current student of the NSS I believe that it is a very necessary school in Calgary, as there is nothing like it. Students of the NSS work very hard in both their sports and school, this is a very difficult balance. Many high school students find that school is stressful enough on its own, as athletes we now have to balance that workload with our highly competitive sports. I am a competitive water skier for team Alberta, and miss up to three



weeks at a time of schooling in the winter and early spring as I am a summer sport they cannot train in Calgary throughout the winter. The NSS helps me with the willingness of the teachers to give up their time as they are so devoted to helping their students succeed.

- Option C, continue the program at NSS for a defined amount of time sufficient for a charter school to be developed. Put NSS on notice that it will be there until June 2022 and no longer. It's the only fair thing to do. If the school requires more funding ask for parent to pay what is required in order to provide appropriate notice of closure. Appropriate notice is not 6 months, I suggest a minimum of two years notice.
- NSS has been an exceptional programme to allow talented athletes to excel in both their sports and schooling. There is none other in Alberta and possibly Canada
- The National Sport School is a very special place for all the student-athletes as well as the staff. Taking this unique environment away will only cause harm to everyone in the sporting community.
- As a parent of a NSS Alumni student, we moved our family to the community with the closest access to the school. This allowed my child to train at WinSport, study at the school and be responsible for getting to/from school without additional transportation costs. My child thrived with the small teacher/student ratio and the ability to work independently while away for training/competition. Losing the school would be a detriment to the high performance athletes it is geared towards. Moving the school to a location away from WinSport will take a toll on the unique dynamics of the student group, it will create a gaping hole in the draw of WinSport for high performance athletes. Please find a way to keep the school at WinSport - Do not close the school, do not move the school. The city needs NSS, WinSport needs NSS and the students need both NSS and WinSport.
- NSS located at Winsport is an ICON school with the Calgary Board of Education. Athletes from around the country come to this school to train in their sport and get a quality education. This community of learners thrives at NSS and are surrounded by teachers and administrators who support them in every way. These students come to this school based on their abilities, drive, work ethic and potential as future representatives of Canada in their sport and ambassadors and leaders of tomorrow. The statistic speak for themselves! 43 Olympians in 2 decades! There is pride and publicity in this school for CBE. I've never in my career as a teacher met students who 'love' and 'take pride' in their school like these young athletes. It is the first time many of them have had a community of like-minded, goal-focused individuals to go to school with and cross-train together at Winsport. To appreciate each other. NSS takes the 'unique' approach of understanding what these kids need. And yes, it IS different and needed.
- Raise the costs. Do whatever needs to be done to keep it open. The support it provides to these students and athletes is priceless.
- I realize this is out of the question, but NSS should remain at winsport if it is going to retain its ability to produce incredible athletes and students.
- There needs to be an Option C as both Option A and B will have a drastically negative impact on the success of student-athletes. I am a graduate of NSS. My success in both sport and school would not have been possible without NSS. I achieved Honor roll grades all four years of my education while competing at a National level and placing in the top ten in Canada in my sport two of those four years. My success in sport paved the way for my career in coaching which in turn allowed me to put myself through my first university degree



debt-free and to begin to pursue my second degree in Education this last September. The teachers at NSS are the reason I wish to become a teacher myself. Their kindness, selflessness, perseverance, and investment in their students' academic and personal well being is unmatched in all CBE schools I have attended. Without NSS my life would look completely different and disbanding the school would negatively change the lives of countless student-athletes that have yet to come. Keeping NSS at WinSport would be the most ideal situation, but if that proves impossible, the CBE should investigate an Option C that would keep NSS intact within the wing of another school, such as when NSS was inside of Ernest Manning High School. Options A and B are not viable options.

- Somehow keep the school going.
- Keep NSS at Winsport to show Calgary's commitment to athletic development. This would allow the most flexibility and development for olympic hopeful athletes. This support is necessary for athletes to become the best and to maximize Canada's potential on the international stage.
- You need to review the possibility of keeping NSS at Winsport for ATLEAST next year, possibly for the foreseeable future.
- The options presented speak to the demise of the NSS, making this question disingenuous. If anyone on the Board truly cares about the future of NSS, additional options must be tabled and more time must be allowed. The program represents a small portion of your \$1.3b budget, and thus it is exceedingly difficult to find credibility in the Board's position that this program MUST be closed. Please stop calculating the value of this program using the average cost per student as the sole metric.
- NSS needs to stay in its current location. These kids need to stay
- Proposed option C: keeping NSS at Winsport
- Propose an option C to help keep NSS at winsport!!
- The NSS has been around for 25 years and the number of success stories is countless. The Graduation rate is extremely high. If the NSS closes for good, student athletes will have very limited options going forward. I'm afraid many athletes will be forced to choose between the sport they love and school. Participation numbers in sport will suffer and that will start the downward spiral for other social issues.
- Option C: give NSS one year to find a better long term solution.
- Neither of these options work for the high performance athletes at the school. This program is innovative and delivers incredible value per dollar spent. I would much rather see an increase to the cost of the school and have it remain where it is. Winsport's proposal to eliminate the vast majority of the rent and operating cost fees should be accepted and the program should be run for an additional year until parents/Winsport/teachers can develop a long term plan for the school that makes sense for all of the stakeholders.
- Best experience of my life as a very successful student/athlete. The adults that graduated from the NSS are leaders within the community. It would be an exceptional loss to the future of Calgary if these athletes/students are not fostered.
- Nothing matters more than nss at winsport, Cbe needs to open up an eye as many parents are willing to pay more and winsport is willing to offer their lot for 1 dollar. Cbe needs to reconsider as they are not making a considerate choice



- I believe maintaining NSS in its current form at WinSport should be high priority to provide our young athletes the opportunities to excel in both their sport and academics. The NSS is so important for the future of our young athletes.
- PLEASE keep NSS open. It truly offers a one of a kind learning experience, that CBE should be proud of.
- OPTION C. Give NSS another year to allow the the opportunity to come up with a solution. Telling the school and community with less than months notice and telling them is shutting down is not effective or an option. You made a decision you did not allow for options - CBE can fund this school for one more year. Winsport is willing to help. Make it happen. That's the option.
- keep us where we are.
- keep our school if you really care about student athletes
- Option C - keep students at Winsport, shrink size of school and increase tuition rates. Teachers taking no pain? Many in private sector have no jobs at all, and CBE appears unwilling to reduce wages or fire underperforming teachers. You haven't shown any analysis of the saving or the gap needed to fill to keep the school open. Doesn't appear you have evaluate the options to keep it open. Utilize private sector partners? Give the school 3 years to evaluate long-term plans. This came out of nowhere.
- NSS should remain at Winsport. Winsport has said a number of times that they will waive the lease. Yes, there is an additional cost for the added teachers, but without the smaller class sizes, extreme personalization to be successful. These students are at risk of graduating. The values actually need to be valued.
- The "flexibility" for the options will disappear and after a while, it will just be a normal program that they is flexible... because it will be too hard for the teacher at the other schools and they will dismiss and get mad at the student for missing work and school.
- #savenss
- I believe NSS should stay because NSS has helped me stay on track, and the teachers help me when I am struggling when I am gone for training and or competition.
- Concern about future without the school
- Again I think you people should model yourself off wolf creek, there they are doing it right,
- If the CBE is willing to move this school then what is the difference between that and leaving it where it is. WinSport has already offered to remove the cost of the lease. If there is any advantage to the CBE in moving it then their assurances that there will be no significant changes is false. In case you are wondering, that was to do with option A. Option B is simply an embarrassment and an insult.
- KEEP IT OPEN!!
- Why is maintaining the status quo not an option. It appears CBE is negating the uniqueness of these students...they are a rare breed, who require special needs to fulfill their academic and athletic goals.
- take this into actual consideration
- I don't feel there is a reason to comment about the future of NSS since you have already made the decision to close based on the 2 options you provided. It's a shame that our voices have not been heard.
- I want Option C - keep NSS open for at least one more year. WinSport has offered a lease of \$1. Cost of staffing can be reduced through reducing teaching staff and allowing



WinSport to provide support staff. You are not going to save \$1 million by shutting down NSS. You can get the cost per student in line with other schools by taking other measures and still allowing these children to pursue their sports at NSS.

- Option B is not an option for many kids. I cannot imagine my life without NSS. I would not be having the academic success in uni I am having today because I would probably had to delay high school for several years.
- OPTION C: Have the NSS remain open for an additional year with the Lease Agreement from Winsport of \$1 to thoroughly investigate the options instead of trying to find quick savings for the budget of CBE. If CBE is about the health and safety of the student the Administration needs to step up to the plate.
- There should have been an OPTION C to keep NSS open and running at Winsport. I feel that the NSS family of teachers, students, former students and parents have been treated unfairly. The way that this was presented was in an after the fact manner, It did not take into account the efforts that could have been (and can be) rallied to keep the school running. That said, there is a LOT that can be done that does not reflect the 2 unacceptable choices when there should indeed be an OPTION C, to keep NSS running as it is, and located where it is.
- I choose Option C - we all understand that finances do not allow NSS as it currently is funded to remain as is. What we do not understand is why other options are not being explored to allow NSS to operate as is with changes made as to how the program is funded. It is also not fair that these changes will happen on an accelerated timeline compared to changes at other schools/programs. I do not expect my child to be given "more" than any other student at any other school. I do expect my child's school community to be given the same opportunity and consideration as any other program in the city. Taking the offer from WinSport to extend the lease for another year gives everyone time to explore other options and make the best decision for these students. It is not fair at all that their futures will be sacrificed without fair consideration .
- In terms of the effect on the overall budget of the CBE, closing NSS does not solve the provincial budget reduction. Why not reduce the budget by the same % in ALL CBE schools? The oil and gas industry has adopted pay cuts either directly or indirectly to all employees. Why is the CBE not doing the same? The NSS fills a requirement that will always exist. The question is whether or not the CBE wants to be a part of it.
- NSS provides a great service to the developing athletes of Canada. A student doesn't have to choose between education and their sport. It would be a loss to Calgary and to the country to not keep NSS functioning. Inspiring teachers and administration with a sport background who can academically coach these athletes is key. Clubs extracurricular? Our athlete - student only has time for his sport and school and family.....
- Our athletes are spending every minute outside of school dedicated to their sport. When they are not on snow, they are in the gym, trampoline, sports Psych, nutritionist, Physio etc. They have no time for these complimentary courses that you mentioned i.e. mechanics. or time for extra Curricular activities and clubs. To become an Olympian or top-level athlete, it takes more focus, sacrifice, drive and dedication than most adults will have in a life time. To become an elite athlete, these kids will train for the number of hours per week that would be equivalent to a full-time job. They live their sports. The lessons they learn through training and on the road will set them up for success in life. <https://hellogiggles.com/awards->



[events/olympics/how-many-hours-do-olympic-athletes-practice/](#) Are you aware that 68% of Women executives played high level sports? The link between leadership and high-level sports is well documented and undeniable. Yet girls are dropping out of sport before the age of 14 ... why? Why they drop out: Safety and transportation issues. Sports require a place to participate “ and for many girls, especially in dense urban environments, that means traveling to facilities through unsafe neighborhoods or lacking any means to get to a good facility miles away. And if there isn't a safe option like carpooling with other families, the only option for a girl and her family may be to stay home. SO, YOU ARE STATING THEY ARE ON THEIR OWN TO GET FROM BOWNESS TO WINSPORT TWO TO THREE TIMES PER DAY FOR TRAINING? Kids drop out because of Cost. School sports budgets are being slashed every day, all across the country. Fewer opportunities within schools. With-out the Support of NSS, the kid's fees will go up drastically and many will be forced to drop out of sport. They drop out because of a lack of positive role models. Today's girls are bombarded with images of external beauty, not those of confident, strong female athletic role models. To some girls, fitting within the mold that they are constantly told to stay in is more important than standing out. Peer pressure can be hard for girls at any age; when that pressure isn't offset with strong encouragement to participate in sports and healthy physical activity, the results may lead girls to drop out altogether. Not just the girls but all of the athletes find their people and their support from like-minded athletes at the National Sports school. As you heard time and time again at the meeting at Winsport. They need each other, and regular High School does not work. Most have tried and failed to thrive through the regular systems. Many of our athletes have special needs. These needs were not met within the regular school system even when they did have codes in place. For children with ADHD, sports are a regulator. Sports are their coping mechanism and the way to build confidence. Athletes with ADHD tend to perform better in sports that require hyper focus, i.e. short and intense bursts of attention. They can be in the moment, with a heightened awareness of their immediate environment. They excel in chaotic conditions and thrive under pressure. They are risk takers who can come up with creative, out-of-the-box solutions, and they don't over think, enabling them to make a play without hesitating over possible consequences. Their impulsivity, if controlled, can also lead to quicker reaction times, saving precious microseconds that can mean the difference between losing or winning. It also makes perfect sense that many with ADHD turn to athletics. As they struggle in school, sports become an escape route. These young men and women are willing to put in hours of training because it comes as relief from the pain of the alternative: sitting at a desk and studying. It's something they're good at, and it's fun, which in turn helps build a level of confidence they don't find in academics. The field, the pool or the track become a friendlier place “ their whole world. They become successful in sports because, for many, it's the only option. “If it wasn't for football I'd probably be working in a saw mill in Iowa, Wisconsin,” - who struggled in school. “It gave me self-esteem and focus. It was kind of like my Ritalin.” - Forbes Magazine. National Sports school and these athletes with ADHD, their ability to go preform in something that they are good at, that allows them to channel focus allows them to go back to their desks and focus for their studies. You put them in a regular class, these athletes with ADHD that are now not just surviving school but thriving in school. To take National Sports school away from these kids, is to take away their everything. While many of these kids may not have disabilities, I guarantee that losing this



school will prevent many of these kids from graduating, it will affect their mental health, their self esteem Calgary Board Of Education 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. Calgary Board of Education Values Students come first. We believe that everyone can learn. Each student is unique and worthwhile. We acknowledge, recognize and celebrate the diversity of our learners. Success for each and every student is the goal of our work. If the statement above truly is what Calgary Board of Education believes for its Mission and Values then based on the knowledge that these student athletes need National Sports School without question to thrive and that they are unique and this school is absolutely fundamental to their success.

- I believe the CBE needs to choose Option C - Keeping NSS at Winsport. Winsport is willing to work with the CBE to find a solution to cut down on costs. Perhaps NSS does not need a Vice-Principal or could appoint a teacher in this role. This school is a model around the world and coveted by athletes and families of athletes from all over. NSS needs to stay open at Winsport as a school of CHOICE.
- This school would be best to remain at Winsport, this is a sports school located at a sports facility! The kids have opportunity to excel in both sport and academics, not having to choose either or. Training takes place here for most of these student athletes, so precious time is not lost travelling between school and the training facility. Having a sports psychologist on site is paramount to assist these kids deal with the pressure and stress of school and sport. Please KEEP THE SCHOOL AT THE CURRENT LOCATION!!
- AS a business man in Calgary we have adjusted to the economic situation to be successful. the CBE has Not. you believe cutting front line is the answer and you should look at the the yourselves. I took a pay decrease of over 40% maybe you should as well. why ask your landlord to reduce the cost for you at your head office. We have all in Calgary renegotiated our fixed costs. Do not cut front line services but reduce your costs in your Administration.
- "We need option c!! we keep the school operating at Winsport as it does today for at least another year to give the program time to look at other options. The bottom line, these are special needs children that require specialized programming in order to allow them to be successful in their educational journey. Forcing these students to choose between their education and sport does not serve anyone and is a dangerous precedent.
- This program only works because of the location and its small class sizes. OPTION C needs to be considered - finding a way to allow the school to continue as is.
- I am very sad to hear that the National Sports School is under threat of being closed. The school helped me get to where I am today both in life and in sport. NSS offered me the opportunity to compete and train across Canada in freestyle skiing while being able to finish high school. The teachers and learning environment at NSS helped me catch up on missed assignments and keep up with current work, I am not sure if I would have been able to finish on time if it wasn't for NSS. I hope that the CBE will reconsider their options for NSS to help grow the next wave of athletes in Canada.
- Option C - remaining at Winsport - needs to be considered and carefully evaluated from all angles by the community affected before this option is determined to be unworkable and discarded. Option C may yet work, if the plan for the school and staffing is adapted sensibly.



- I hope that the CBE is able to keep NSS open in it's current location at Winsport. I fully support the CBE and understand the budgetary constraints caused by the UCP budget, and think that if the province provided appropriate funding to the CBE we wouldn't be considering this issue.
- \$1 one year lease as Winsport has offered to provide the opportunity for CBE, teachers and parents to actually find a solution for our student athletes who need to be valued and who do matter! These sports they have already dedicated many years to are important to their growth as a human and need to be integrated into their education! The Options that have been presented are very short sighted and are set to fully blame the government for cuts! With all of the support the students and staff have at National Sport School I would hope this matter would be looked at more carefully and with eyes that look beyond only numbers on a piece of paper!!! Students should not be suffering!!! Adults need to be adults and find other ways to save money!
- NSS is a shining star in the CBE and has produced many students who we should all be proud of, both for their excellence in sport and their success as engaged citizens. NSS is a model for other specialized academic programs across the country, and the only sports program of its kind in Canada. If anything, CBE should be seeking out opportunities to grow NSS rather than shut it down, which only demonstrates a lack of vision and innovation. We have many intelligent, creative, resourceful community members within NSS and WinSport who want the opportunity to investigate an Option C that would allow NSS to stay at WinSport. We urge the CBE to reconsider their decision to close NSS at WinSport and incorporate NSS into the broader high school consultation process. For its part, WinSport has generously offered to extend the lease for a year for \$1.00 so CBE can have adequate time to consult stakeholders in a meaningful way and come up with a solution that is acceptable to all parties. The CBE has an incredible opportunity though partnership with WinSport to lead in innovative education and build upon Calgary's sport legacy - let's create a vision for the future of NSS together!
- Why weren't we told of the possibility of this school closing sooner? We moved to Calgary specifically for our child to attend NSS while competing in sport. There is a large supportive parent group who could raise money to help keep the school open or if we had more time we could look at pursuing a charter school if CBE isn't willing to keep the school open-but we need time to do either of these things. The special needs of these students are not being considered with either option a or b. Students need to come first. Neither option a or b is feasible and we will most likely stop attending CBE if one of these options goes ahead for 2020/2021 school year. This whole process has added an abundance of stress on the students and staff of CBE. So disappointing.
- The CBE should be looking for ways to keep NSS open as the long-term growth of the area and the need to support student-athletes (just like any other at-risk student) should be a priority over short-term cost savings. There are ways this can be achieved but the lack of engagement has precluded the consideration of those options.
- This school has been the best my student has ever done academically, it would be a shame if this wasn't offered anymore.
- CBE needs to find better solutions There is the CALGARY BOYS SCHOOL with less than 80 students that is a drain on the system. The 20 year lease for office space is a problem. Find better solutions.



- I have a few comments to share, I have categorized them under the headings below. The process of the engagement of stakeholders on options for NSS: Upfront the engagement was non-existent. When the CBE did finally hold the stakeholder meetings, the options were predetermined, the format and interaction were beyond condescending and it genuinely felt like a tick the box exercise. Further to this, the opening in this survey is leading and Bias and speaks to the narrow approach that has been taken thus far: The NSS program is very expensive on a cost per student basis in its current location with current teacher staffing levels. \*\*\*\*\*Disclosure of what the cost per student is at NSS and what the average is in other locations would be useful as a baseline. Efficiencies can only be gained by moving the program from its current location to an existing high school where the program does not require the cost of a separate principal, assistant principal, office staff and additional teaching staff. Moving the program would save approximately \$1 million a year. \*\*\*\*\*1) This is based on not having not yet received input from stakeholders that may include creative and innovative solutions 2) Were the considerations around why these students required a slightly higher level of teacher engagement to provide customized learning plans taken into account? If we are to support high-level student-athletes within NSS or at another CBE school, the reality is that it will cost more. A reduction in per student cost to deliver this program is required. This is why we are proposing the options of relocating the program to another CBE school or having current NSS students attend their designated school. 3) Why were only two options put forward when neither feels like even marginally adequate solutions? This would allow the staffing costs and operations costs to align with high school per-student funding across the CBE. 1) Who is to say that it should align with other high school funding?
- We find it very disappointing that this is where we are at. Not only has Winsport closed the track for training but now hit with the school relocation or closure. Very disappointing that we are losing the focus on keeping kids focused on sports, health and achieving their sports aspirations
- Unfortunately offering a poor alternative vs no alternative (closure) is in no way a sign of open engagement. Other reasonable options can certainly be put on the table and at least given consideration and costed more carefully. In addition, the premise that a special program targeted to a group of very special needs student can be delivered at the same per-student cost as that of a large generic school is flawed, just as it would be unreasonable for other special needs students. One should start with the acknowledgement that there is high value in both these students' academic success and athletic success. The NSS allows the CBE to graduate highly successful students while allowing them to succeed at all levels in their sports. Without this option, some will see their academic development suffer or even cut short before graduation or alternatively see their athletic potential limited. In essence they will have to choose to excel in one or the other instead of both. Dollars may be saved but the CBE will be failing these students. It does not seem that the success of the NSS is being questioned, yet plans are proposed to dramatically alter the character of the school without evidence that the vaguely described new model could be successful. Why is failure being penalized in favour of the unproven options being presented? What have been the outcomes of the Bowness sports school (both academic and athletic?) which appears to be the proposed model (or merger?) for NSS and it's associated costs? It takes more than allowing absences to make a sport school. If the integrity of the NSS is not



maintained on its own site or within another building/school it will likely fade away over time as students will see less benefit from attending, student numbers will drop further exacerbating costs as well as reducing the social network of the school. The social environment is also key for these students to succeed. One of the major psychological advantages noted by my son when moved to NSS was that the other students understood him and his situation. If he is away for a month and returns, everyone gets it. If he has a bad competition or a good one, they get it. Other options to strongly consider: C: NSS stays at Winsport site. Since the rent seems a minor component of the costs, full review of teaching staff and administrative staff requirements as well as other CBE costs associated with school to identify cost reductions / savings. This should also factor in expected NSS growth to 300 students in the next 2 years. It is unclear if this exercise has been performed. D: NSS within other CBE school such as Bowness, as was done prior to move to Winsport. Perhaps only a vice-principal for NSS under Bowness principal. As many NSS classes as feasible with occasional shared with Bowness if low student numbers, need for specialized components (labs etc...) Clearly these are large challenges to face, but our children should not be the ones made to suffer from knee jerk administrative and political decisions. The CBE should commit to taking the proper time to consider all options rather than using the OPPORTUNITY of the Winsport lease ending (as stated at the engagement meeting) to cut non-lease related expenses. Please consider accepting the 1 year lease reprieve from Winsport and truly examine the best interests of this special student group rather than simply aiming to reach a budget target with to date only apparent minor consideration of their needs.

- Option C. Continue to operate at Winsport
- We moved back to Calgary partially so that our son could attend this school. There was no way that he would have been able to achieve his goal of national level slope skiing in Athabasca. He is now close to achieving his goal and we are grateful for this program. There will be probably be less commitment from not only Alberta athletes but canadian athletes moving here as there will be a fear of uncertainty now. This program accepts all disciplines winter and summer sports. It is an acceptor all program and is in the perfect spot right now. We would have paid more to stay there but no one put that forward as an option. I'm curious as to why that is not on the table.
- I would like to highlight the flaws with the process of the engagement of stakeholders on options for NSS: Upfront the engagement was non-existent. When the CBE did finally hold the stakeholder meetings, the options were predetermined, the format and interaction were beyond condescending and it genuinely felt like a tick the box exercise. The preamble to this survey should have been updated with the new offer and financial relief that Winsport has proposed. If the CBE were to demonstrate leadership, creativity, innovation and an openness to finding suitable solutions to some of the current challenges I believe it would go a long way to strengthening the perception of the CBE.
- As the notice is extremely short, an extension for a decision has to be accepted.
- By limiting the choice to these two options I believe CBE has not done enough to think of creative alternatives to keep NSS and all its benefits at Winsport. I have lost trust in the CBE executive team to manage an effective education system in Calgary.
- I would recommend to study the option of keeping NSS and continue helping these students to succeed. We pay for sports and school to invest to keep Canada Flag up



internationally. We proposed to contribute in various ways requesting some time to make NSS charter school or contribute in the CBE expenses etc . and hope you accept. We are trying to set a model of giving parents, we give to our Children and Country where we could have saved all this money for ourselves and our retirement. I look forward that CBE walk the extra step and keep NSS coherence with NSS teachers and NSS students all together or in the worst case scenario prepare a 3 years phased plan to end the program smoothly.

- NSS needs to stay at Winsport because it provides us the proximity and amenities needed to have a perfect balance of academics and sport.
- I feel the best option is to keep NSS open and adjust to meet financial requirements. Moving to another school will be very challenging due to the larger class sized, teacher not all part of the NSS program or culture to support your athletes that have their sport a the number on focus. The sense of community and support that NSS is a direct reason for the student academic and sport success
- I encourage the CBE to review all possible options to keep this school open including increasing class sizes to reduce budget. Principal has a plan and we look forward to supporting this plan
- NSS is unique The support provided to students is great and makes the travel 45-60 minutes each way ) well worth it. My child can remain in competitive sport and still succeed with school which is less likely if they were to remain in the local High School. We pay a lot in tax; it is good to receive some return The small extra we pay NSS as compared to regular school fees is well worth it
- OPTION C - keep NSS as is at WINSPOINT!!!! They have offered it to the CBE for \$1.00 next year!!!!!! This is the ONLY ACCEPTABLE OPTION!!!
- CBE has created a first class school that is unique in Canada. The school and WinSport are willing to reduce costs to accommodate CBE's budget pressures. It would be a major mistake to close or try and relocate this school.
- The school the way it is currently run is such an asset for student athletes. My son is meeting academic success for the first time in his school career. Integrating the students into an existing high school structure is not going to offer them the same opportunities. The perceived asset of being to take different options and be involved in clubs is not an asset at all. These high level student athletes do not have the time for these extracurricular activities. Oit family is so disappointed with the "options" being offered in this situation. We are resigned to the fact that at the end of this year we are done with NSS as it will no longer be able to meet our needs. We will be returning to the Catholic district.
- I could write novel with the comments that I have regarding the importance of the program that NSS provides. The inception of this school was nothing short of brilliant. The idea of closing this school is heartbreaking in a way that words cannot express. We have grown to love this school and the amazing teachers who work there. My son is devastated regarding the potential closure and is worried about the success of his grade 12 year. A very important year for university acceptance. That is very disappointing for me as a parent to have to see my 16 year old experiencing such anxiety. My faith in our school trustees will be lost if this school is closed.
- Option C take the Winsport offer of a 1 year extension for \$1 to evaluate and make a proper decision.



- Do not close NSS. Getting to enter this program saved my life... I would probably not be here today if I did not have access to such an amazing program with amazing educators.
- It is not. We are a middle class family that sent two of our children to NSS due to lack of support from their designated school( can you explain how a child who competes in sport at an international level was receiving failing grades in physical education classes because she wasn't present to play dodge ball????? Or how our other daughter was denied participation in an out of school outdoor pursuits program because she would be 10 minutes late for a 730 am meeting due to having been at training since 6 am???????) Absolutely no effort to put the student first! NSS is a very necessary program which allows student athletes to succeed at their sport while also providing them the best opportunities to pursue a top education. By the way our two kids who got little support in traditional school setting but flourished at NSS are now practising nursing and are active contributors to society and to their former spirits via coaching. CBE needs to take a hard look at where they waste money and STOP making ill advised decisions that punish students.
- Winsport is offering lease at 1\$...this must be about doing the right thing, when we have opportunities, but instead it's about the CBE and job cuts. Kids' educations should not have to suffer. These are an exceptional group of individuals that need special treatment. It's sad that the people running the CBE fail to see that this needs to be addressed differently than any other school. Also, why isn't anyone listening to the solutions we came up with at the parent night ?!
- We moved to calgary to take part in the nss. The talk of closure is a real betrayal
- - Why does each school require dedicated administration ... can this be shared to lower per student costs. - What adjustments to CBE central costs are being made to work within the confines of very modest budget cuts? - The questioning / consultation pr
- These alleged "Options" force students to leave their existing school, home, network, and facilities against their will with virtually no notice period. These children are at a very sensitive time of their lives and tearing them away from their existing community and program could have serious repercussions on their emotional, mental, and academic development during these crucial high school years. How could the CBE ever contemplate moving them without at least another year or two of preparation and investigation of legitimate other options? NSS provides students with an opportunity to excel academically while pursuing their passion of sport. The combination of these two pursuits allows NSS students to pursue their academic goals in a setting that allows them to coordinate their sports and resulting flexibility requirements. In any other school, they would massively disrupt the other students and teachers while likely failing to meet acceptable academic standards. It is appalling that CBE is even considering proposing such options without providing the NSS community with at least another year of preparation and IGNORING other creative solutions that have been proposed including the waiving of hundreds of thousands in costs by Winsport! The pursuit of any Option besides providing NSS with at least another year to prepare and have CBE consider/accept other cost saving proposals is destructive to our children and unacceptable.
- "NSS is a world class school to accommodate student-athletes, who are otherwise failed by the system due to school absences (whatever you pretend happens). It supports female athletes and provides the support required to get our kids through high school whilst balancing academics. Work with the Principal to find cost efficiencies and give us a year to



make alternate plans, support an Option C , which is being offered for a lease of \$1. The school is a flagship school for the province and is nationally renowned. It has a current roll of 199 kids, all of whose education and lives will be upturned by the decision to close. The school is a unique centre for supporting high -performance athletes, because it provides them with a teacher led yet flexible high school program, that adapts to an individual's schedule.

- - The erodes further the role of sport in our province
- The school provides a supportive space for female athletes, who are twice as likely as males to drop out of sport in a normal high school system
- The school has provided 54 Olympians in over 15 different sports, including para-athletes, both summer and winter s\athletizes and the alumni includes gold medallists.
- The school is sending several student athletes to the Youth Olympic Games in 2020
- Other high schools do not support flexible schedules in athletes training and competing away from home
- The school is very strong academically, despite the absence by its pupils for what can be long periods of time. It is 8 out of 20 in the CBE high school ranking and performs at 52 out of 262 Alberta high Schools
- The school has a rising projected roll through development of partnerships with various hockey academies
- Every year kids from other cities across Alberta move to attend the NSS
- Closing the school will erode the culture of sporting and academic excellence in the province
- I believe that both options A and B are closure options, as we were clearly told that at a parent meeting. Therefore the CBE is not allowing the Trustees to vote on whether or not the school should be closed. Citizens of Calgary elect trustees to represent, lead and serve Calgarians and to govern the CBE. How can they do this when they are not voting on whether or not the school should be closed? Surely that goes against the democratic way the board is set up? The first decision should be whether to close the school, only then should Option A, B and C be considered. I believe the way CBE has set this out is contrary to the CBE closure procedure GC-3E which clearly states that under item 4 and 6 that the board has to close the school, not the administration in the CBE and there has to be fair consideration to the public's input. Fair consideration includes the concept that the Board is open to either voting for or against the closure of the school. By only offering two closure alternatives and no remain open option for voting , you are contravening your own governance policy and therefore acting outside the legally defined path for closure.
- The school should stay because it has a very successful program.
- Please reconsider keeping the school at winsport. There must be a way to compromise and keep the program similar to how it is now.
- I would like to see the future of NSS still opening for students at WinSport.
- Please take Winsport offer into consideration to reduce lease and other costs to keep NSS alive in current form and location
- With over 170 olympians over 25 yEars NSS is truly a national treasure - not an elite school For students from high SEC. these students and families are putting time
- And effort into excelling at sport - the great equalizer. It doesn't matter how much money these families may or may not have to spend



- - it's the thousands of hours of practice these kids have and are putting in that matters and is what we have to be proud of. My own son will be at great risk of not graduating - and has we have guessed the CBe was planning or even considering closing we wouldn't have taken this path. However - here we are 1 don't pull the rug from under us. "
- Option C. Keep NSS at WinSport. Period. There is always an option C.
- There should be an option C - for NSS to stay at Winsport. I feel like creative solutions have not been explored prior to reaching the decision to come up only with the two presented options. The best proof of that is that Winsport offered lease for the next year for \$1 - could this agreement not have been reached prior to making the decision to close or relocate the school? If that solution was available, then how many other ways to cut costs exists but have not been reached for? From the presentation I gathered that the decision to close or relocate NSS has been made so fast because the lease agreement with Winsport was coming up for renewal. If that was the trigger for the speedy decision, then why has the decision not been changed or delayed when the trigger was removed? I do not agree at all with option A or B. Both are bad for the students, for the families, for Canadian sport, and for the City of Calgary. Closing or relocating NSS is a regressive move that proves the incompetence of the current governing body of the CBE.
- I think the process was so unfortunately run by CBE. November meeting was horribly disappointing. This is about pushing through an agenda and collaborating with those affected
- Please consider seriously looking into operating the NSS in the model it did when it was at William Aberhart and Ernest Manning. Understanding that cuts in the schools funding are outside of the CBE's control, can a combination of raising tuition fees and capping the school's student body size not be explored? This whole process has been gone about in an extremely rushed fashion without taking anywhere close to a sufficient amount of time to explore additional funding options for the operation of the school (ie: the federal government) and input from students, parents, teachers and stakeholders. Option B is clearly the best option but it is by no means a satisfactory one.
- CBE needs to consider other options to keep the NSS program. CBE needs to review how to make the current program work within in the budget. Please consider reducing teaching staff, making larger class sizes within NSS, reduce admin staff, reduce the elective classes, and concentrate on staffing core subjects only, attract more students. All options need to be considered, understood and reviewed before making this decision to close the school. I see both options presented as closing NSS as moving the program to Bowness and integrating the kids into the regular stream is the same as closing the school. We need to have the NSS program continue to support these high achieving athletes. These kids will be the leaders of tomorrow and need to have the support for them to achieve their dreams, along with supporting them in achieving high academics.
- I have 3 daughters that have attended NSS. Each of them has been afforded the opportunity to reach both academic excellence and sporting goals not possible in a traditional school environment.
- As a previous Olympian I can attest to the incredible value this affords young student athletes and the future opportunities not otherwise possible. This decision is incredibly unfortunate and short sighted.



- With Winsport's generous offer, please soften your approach and consider option C: give NSS the next school year to find their own affordable situation for them to gradually relocate if necessary. More time is required in order to get creative to find a solution that will help balance your budget and not devastate an entire student body of some of our most outstanding young men and women. This is not a matter of moving regular students to a new school; you are at risk of ruining many, many lives, uninformed and disrespectfully.
- I think that the CBE is making a terrible mistake with either of these options. Additional time to complete a thorough needs analysis and proper stakeholder engagement should be allowed before a change of this magnitude. I realize that the CBE has budget constraints- we all do- but making a rushed decision that will negatively impact this generation of athletes is not the answer.
- "I would not be the person I am, have the confidence I do, or be as successful as I am without NSS. I graduated over 10 years ago and to this day, would drop everything to help any of the staff or students there. I would do it because of what that place gave me and because I know anyone at that school would do the same for me. I don't share that feeling with friends who went to a regular public school. It's not just about the education. It's about the people who make up the staff and the selfless and tireless dedication they show their students. We were never just students, we were people and the framework of NSS became an essential part of our support structure that allowed us to succeed in what we loved to do the most. I went on to represent my country in my sport, I traveled the world because the school allowed me to, I was captain of my university team, I have done public speaking engagements with rooms of hundreds of people - fostering the confidence and ability I now have as a business owner.
- Have you ever heard an Olympic athlete from our city say that they couldn't have achieved what they have without their experience at Bowness High School? Ask any successful athlete/graduate from NSS and they will tell you that the school was far more than a footnote in their story and was an integral piece that helped propel them to their success."
- This school means more to me than anyone could understand. Through my time at nss it shaped who I am today. The thought of the school closing or relocating is unbelievably upsetting. I hope the cbe looks back and realizes how unprofessional and immature they have been through this process.
- I do not know everything that goes on with budget and allocations, however, I do believe and hope that there are more than these 2 options out there. Both of these options, ultimately, will rip these students away from their friends and community. The second option especially, I believe, will force NSS students to choose between their sport or their academics...which no teenager should have to do. It is easy to say that other teachers will be able to accommodate NSS students, and while that may be true after a time of getting used to it, I do not believe that the growing class sizes will make this easy or possible.
- "THERE NEEDS TO BE AN OPTION A!!! These options are not acceptable!!
- Put more thought into this please! Look at other schools with less kids and same amount of staff
- PLEASE RECONSIDER!! "nts to be a part of it.