



Shaping the Future of CBE High Schools Student Online Engagement – Oct. 15 to Nov. 7, 2019

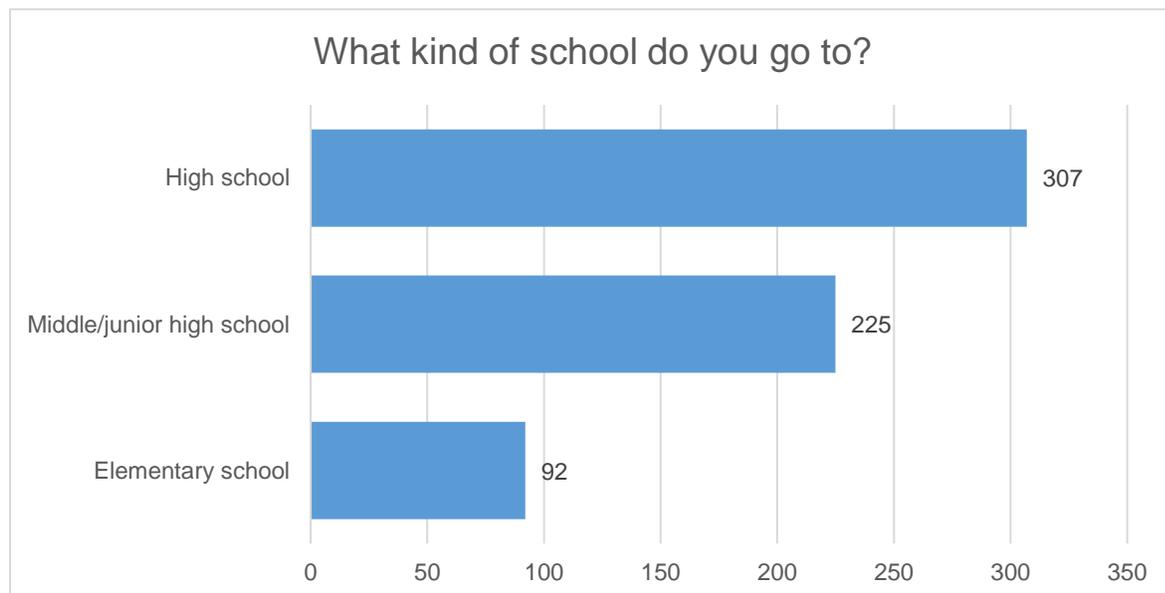
Purpose of Engagement | By October 2021, the CBE will communicate a sustainable system-wide plan for high schools that continues to offer students access, flexibility and choice in programming given available space and resources. The plan will be developed through consultation with affected students, staff, parents and community members, with full implementation of the plan beginning in 2022-2023.

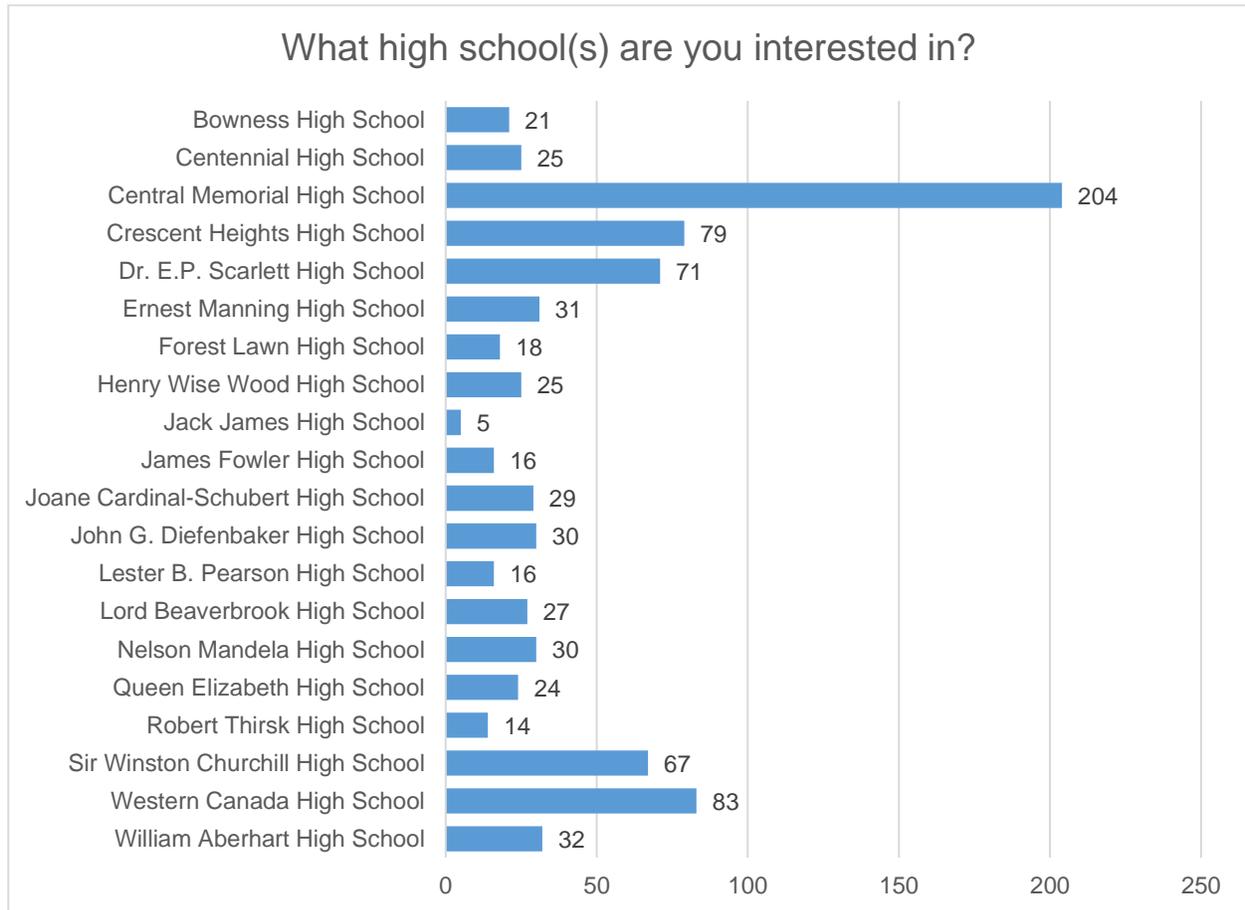
Purpose of Survey | The Fall 2019 Student Online Engagement offered students the opportunity to share their perspectives about CBE high schools, including the four in-scope factors for the 20 high schools involved in the high school engagement.

Responses | A total of 624 people completed some or all of the online survey.

Open-Ended Responses | Open-ended comments for Questions 3 and 6 and the threaded conversation 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.

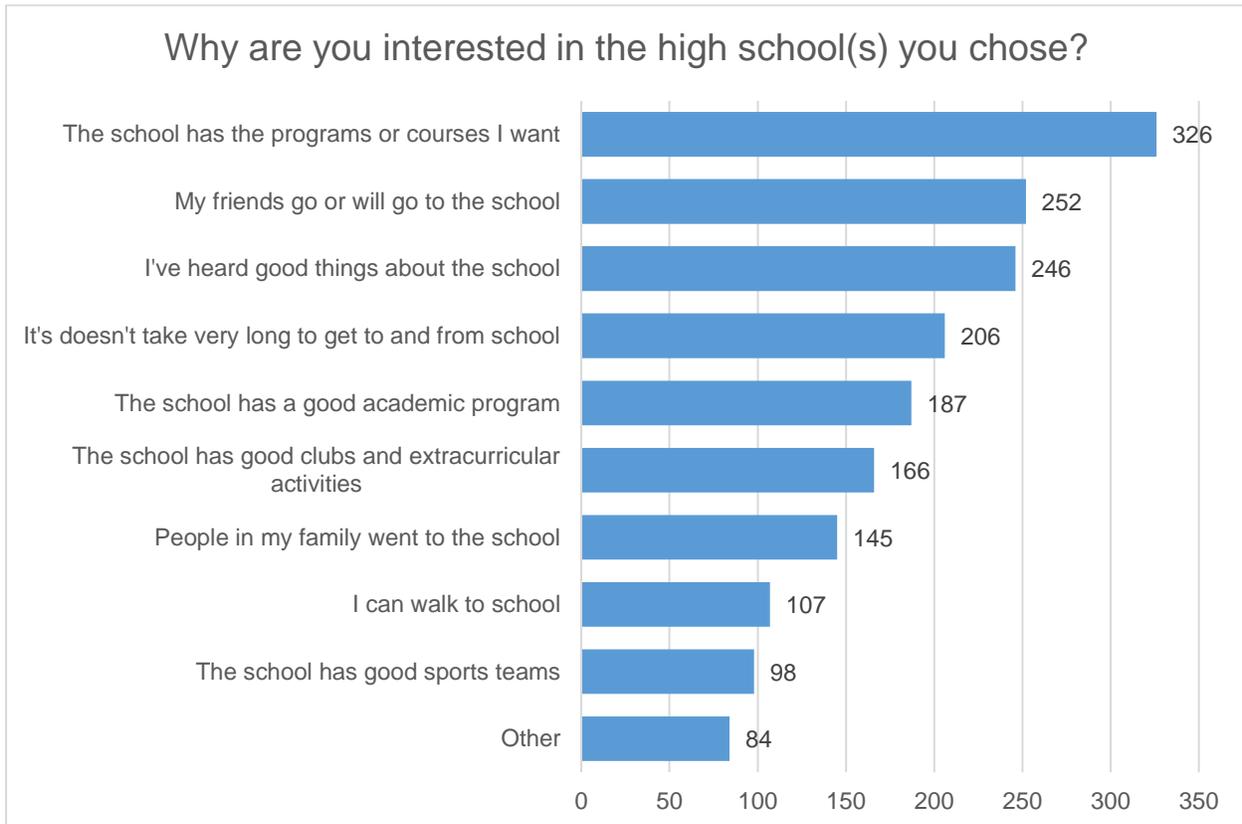
Question 1:



**Question 2:**



Question 3:



Other responses:

- GATE
- I currently Attend Western Canada high school and there band program is another important reason why I wanted to attend this high school.
- K and E program. And is more of a 'trades' school.
- Takes less time to get to these schools than the currently designated high school
- Because I have to go to school
- Because I have to go to school of course (Please get better teachers by the way. I really hope for good changes to school. Thank you.)
- I go to the school.
- Great atmosphere, teachers and environment overall.
- I feel like it would help for my art career as my cousin did say that this could be one of the opening options for me.
- Because I hope there they have nice teachers (a big must have for me- a lot of teachers pick on students, and on purpose pick on the students that do not know the answer.) I hope this school has a wide range of CTFs as well.



- Feeder school
- Nelson Mandela High School has amazing staff that will support you and help you get through high school.
- Basketball team
- That is my assigned high school
- Because it's near my home. I also want to say that school days are too long, give much homework. Like I mentioned, the school days are so long. The teachers could teach us what they have to with shorter school days.
- I am told this will be my child's designated high school
- Build me a school I don't want to bus a full hour #unsafe #annoyed #whatonearthareyoudoingwithmytaxmoney
- Basketball
- It is way close to my home if I go by bicycle. And also by car.
- One of the schools has an IB course, which I feel can benefit me throughout high school, university, and my future career.
- Modern facilities that don't feel closed in (has big windows instead of dull rooms etc.), open plan
- Central offers the flexsports program
- not so big as Manning
- cool
- The PVA Program
- We are hoping to go to the National Sports school but it is not an available choice. This is the only high school close by but concern about Ernest Manning is the reputation
- i currently go there
- is clous
- It is my designated school.
- Designated High School for the area I live
- French Immersion
- PVA
- I can see my cat early
- great environment, pretty good area because it's in reach of a bunch of cool shops, and restaurants
- These are our current Options for my son based on our location
- Designated to my residential area.
- PVA Performing Visual Arts Program
- PVA
- PVA Theatre
- PVA Theatre
- The school has a good reputation
- PVA
- PVA Performing Visual Arts
- some of the schools need improvement

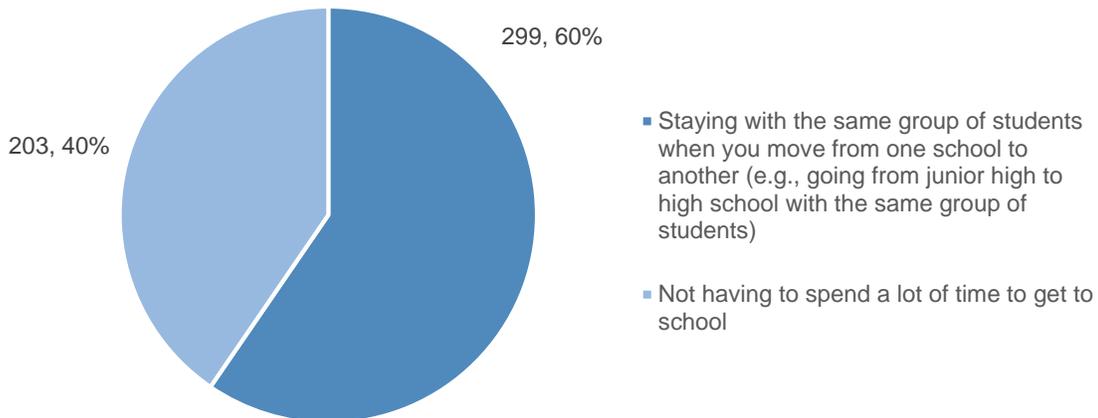


- PVA Theatre Arts program is a great learning experience
- Some of these schools don't have good reputations and need adjustment
- PVA Performing Visual Arts
- PVA Drama and Technical Theatre
- PVA Dance and Drama
- the performing and visual arts program
- The Performing and Visual Arts Program
- The arts program is spectacular
- The Performance and Visual Arts program for theatre
- The school has an amazing arts program
- Arts program
- Very safe and accepting environment, it has a welcoming community
- Safe environment compared to other high schools, very open and accepting
- Performing visual Arts program
- the pva theatre program
- It has a good environment everyone is accepting
- PVA program
- The PVA Dance program at Central Memorial
- my daughter is in the GATE program at Queen E
- central has the PVA dance program
- Central Memorial's PVA program is great for my needs
- good arts program at Central Memorial High School
- PVA program
- PVA Dance program at Central Memorial
- PVA Dance
- central has the PVA dance program
- A really good community within the PVA programs
- It has the PVA program
- They have a PVA program
- The PVA program
- PVA Dance program
- i dont now
- everyone is kind there and caring
- my aunt lives close to there
- my big sister goes to the school and loves it
- the designated school
- Nothing
- My school has an arts program and I go there to dance
- PVA Program
- Spanish

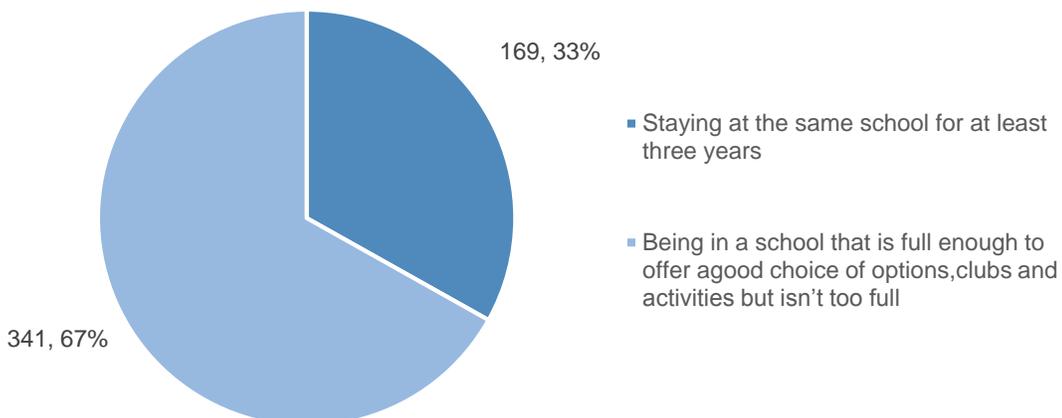


Question 4:

When you think about going to high school, which of the two statements below is most important to you?

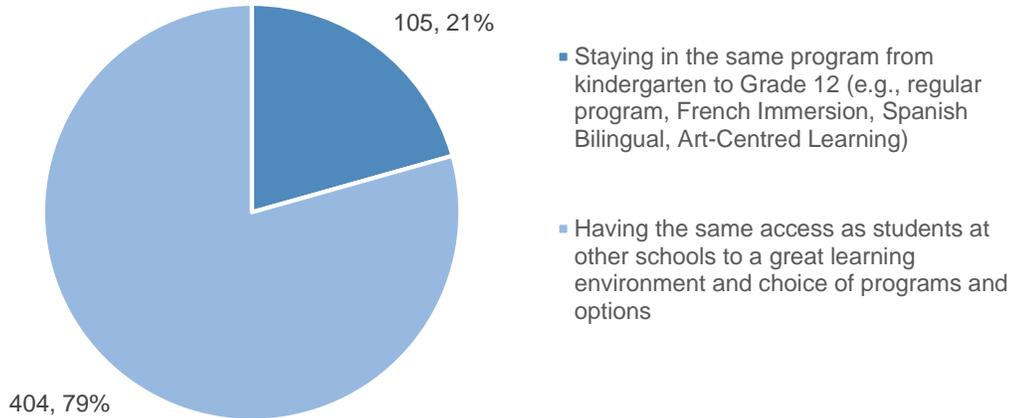


When you think about going to high school, which of the two statements below is most important to you?





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Question 5:

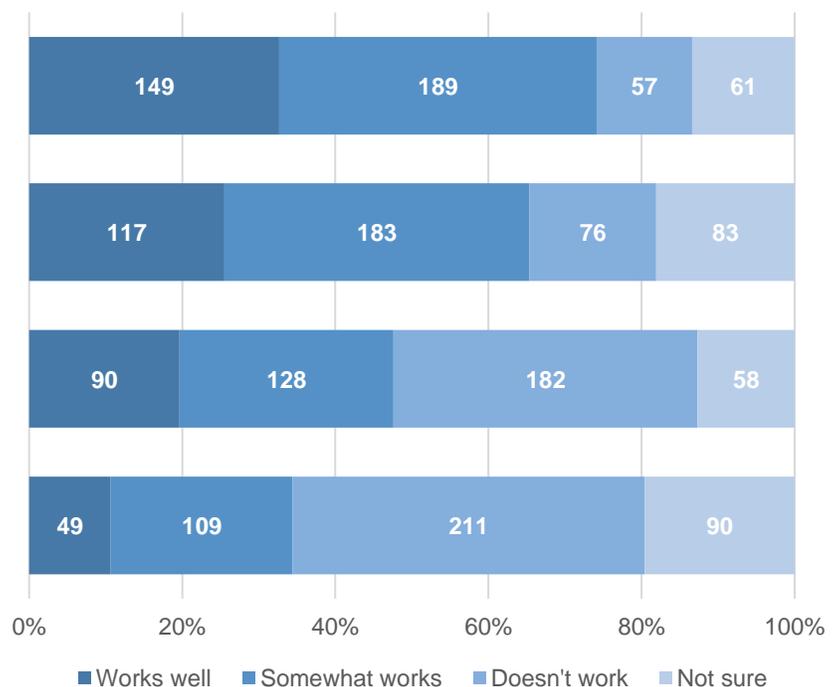
When you think about the kinds of changes we could make to balance enrolment at the 20 high schools involved in this process, what changes work well, work somewhat, or don't work?

We could change some of the communities that go to a high school. This could mean adding some new students to an under-utilized school or moving some students from an over-utilized school to a school that has space available.

We could increase the number of students enrolled in alternative programs (French Immersion, Spanish Bilingual, Arts-Centred Learning), International Baccalaureate (IB) and/or Advanced Placement (AP).

Right now all our high schools are Grade 10-12. We could add other grades to a high school that is under-utilized.

We could decrease the number of students enrolled in alternative programs (French Immersion, Spanish Bilingual, Arts-Centred Learning) International Baccalaureate (IB) and/or Advanced Placement (AP).



Question 6: Why did you make the choices you did?

- The number of students in the classrooms is too much.
- I choose these answers because of the people around me and my personal opinion on what seems to work around the school
- High schools should be grades 10-12. It offers experience and opportunities to build up until you graduate. Moving communities from high schools could work but there's no guarantee that the move for the student will be easy, there may be issues causing the move to be difficult. I'm not sure the effect increasing and decreasing students from alternate programs will have, they all want a planned future so what if this ruins it?
- Decreasing or increasing the number of alternate programs might not work because there is a different number of students who want those opportunities. Switching



dialogue)))

communities will work but the families will have to be on board so they are not disturbed. High schools should remain 10-12, switching them will cause problems.

- I think IB and other programs are very important and should take priority but moving students from a school may mean they have to start over again in learning how the school operates, new teachers, new friends, possibly new teaching styles etc. which may not work for everyone.
- "The only way you would be able to move students to another school is if they and their parents are fully on board with it because changing schools after knowing your friends for a long time and then just having a complete change will probably increase anxiety, depression and really have an impact on their learning ability.
- Adding other grades to a smaller high school somewhat works, the issue is a lot of kids aren't ready for some of the things that you are exposed to when you are in high school and could end up just having kids that are younger by a lot being influenced by the grade 11 and 12s. Adding grade 9s would be the only grade that you could add.
- I think it really depends on how many students would like to take programs like IB and AP. Classifying schools as being "over-utilized" is also somewhat subjective.
- The schools are over capacity and makes it very hard to learn and get one on one teacher support, the addition of new communities would make it impossible to learn.
- I want my high school to be consistent for me with my friends and close to my home. If you choose an alternative program then you must be willing to go to different schools.
- If you want a specialized school then you may have to travel and move schools
- good choices
- I think limiting access to programs like IB is bad for students who want to pursue these programs
- School boundaries don't always deter people from faking that they live in certain communities Adding a grade to some schools might make it easier for some families who have multiple children. People might get angry that they weren't allowed to get into an alternative program that they want if there is less space in each program but that doesn't mean that everyone wants to be in an alternative program
- The highschool I go to is over capacity
- I go to Queen Elizabeth High School, which isn't a very big school compared to other schools like Western or Churchill. Here, I can take AP courses. My designated high school is Diefenbaker, but they only provide the IB program. I have to bus to school and that takes about an hour and a half. If I had the option to go to a closer school with the AP program, I would. My school is too small to just be a high school, so I think that is smart to have other grades in our school. Queen E is both a jr. and sr. high school.
- "I don't see how decreasing or increasing the number of students entering alternative programs help student over/under population at a school
- Adding a grade to a highschool can help funding for underpopulated schools and if the local junior high is overpopulated- otherwise, I see no reason to do so"
- I want to have more friends.
- Because, grade 10-12 are good grades for high school.



dialogue)))

- For the first question, I think it would work well because I have heard from many people, including myself, that they are interested in studying abroad after high school, taking language courses, etc. If you decrease the number of students enrolled in alternative programs, many students might not get the opportunity they hope to have. Adding another grade could work well in 10-12 schools because it could be an opportunity for the higher grades to teach or show examples people of the lower grade what life is like at high school, the lowest grade could take it as an opportunity to learn and advance more into the high school environment.
- I think anyone deserves to speak whatever language, French, Spanish, etc because that's who and what they are. The boundaries are pretty good but some people do not always want to go to that designated school. So maybe if they just have more then a few designated options. There are already so many 10 to 12's in most High Schools so changing the 10 to 12 might just make High Schools more populated.
- That's my point of view and I am in the group of people who are interested to see some changes.
- "Large class sizes prevent our teachers from being able to fully walk us through all of our learning material. At a school where class sizes often exceed 30 students, learning is not intimate enough and this results in lower levels of focus and success in students like myself. I chose the options that I chose because I believe that they might be able to move students around so that everybody can have smaller class sizes which are very important to me.
- I think that currently schools are really crowded. There are too many kids, classes are huge, however, as a part of the IB system I can say that we don't have many kids. The full IB classes are the perfect size.
- Too much change may be too weird for the students. For example adding another grade to highschoools would change what teachers are there and complicate too many things.
- First of all decreeing the amount of people that actually want to go to a school that has things there families like, or they like is a big advantage , take me for example right now I don't go to an alternative school but for high school I might go as a, art-centered learning student, so we should be more open about it. Next, moving a certain number of students could work but the thing is some people are very social so having them moved away from someone that could have been his/her best friend since day one could be a big movement so, it could work but I'm not qualified it will. No, no and no that is too much as we all might have older siblings we kind of fallow their traits and learn from what they do so having per say a grade 7-8 class in a school where the people know a lot more than the kids that don't could influence them in a bad way not saying that it certainly will happen but it could so that's why I choose that. Yes this works but as I did say before I do agree with increasing but at the same time we have to be cautious of who to put into a alternative program school, so maybe give the students a test before the enroll in a school or try something to make the student feel they belong.
- Adding earlier grades to an underutilized school seems to make the most sense.
- Due to my personal experience and biases



dialogue)))

- People aren't necessarily willing to except change, especially when it comes to having to move programs.
- I should be able to attend the school that is my local, in district school (which is Western Canada High). If numbers need to be reduced, out of bounds students should be moved either to their in bound school or to other, less full schools with IB or other specialized programs that Western has
- the ones above
- You shouldn't force ppl into alternative courses but they should still be an option for anyone who wants them. Grade 10-12 is a good age group and adding grade 9 but not be super great.
- Makes the most sense
- Wanted to move French immersions away from Lester B to make room and cut down class sizes
- There should be no enrolment limit on attending a program such as IB or AP; if you are accepted into the program, you should be able to go to that school no matter what.
- I like the amount of students in the programs offered at school. It allows people to choose what level of academic stream they want and I like that freedom. Adding students that are not in grade 10-12 to a school is not a good idea because I feel like that would feel frightening to those who are barely teenagers and are entering a school with people who are already adults. That age gap is too wide
- i want to go to a high school to have multiple choices for my expirience
- I don't know
- Because
- "When you look at the chart above it shows that the regular programs that are being offered at the high school are overfull with students, but you can't really do anything about it because it's the designated schools for the communities. The school itself isn't designed as well as it should've have been when it was built. For some high-schools you could transfer students to another school but then it won't be as assemble because its going to be a little more far from home I assume but it would help out with the capacity issues. When talking about increasing the number is students... I just don't see how one would do that.
- Next, when talking about adding more grades... that's just messing with the 3 year program 10-12 its always been that way unless going into the TLC route or the way Quebec does it (high school starts at grade 9)"
- because i was not sure
- It. Makes sense
- Because I believe these are the best choices.
- I don't know
- "It makes sense.
- Because if you have a lot of students in your class of new languages then it's more likely for the kids to too, around. Also imagine having another grade involved in the high school it would be too crowded and in junior high we get half a locker most kids are just



dialogue)))

- "Because that is how I'm influenced
- Everyone has a different opinion and everyone is treated even in many ways.
- I am not or have not been enrolled in any of the programs shown so I am unable to make a well educated answer that is beneficiary to those that are enrolled i the programs.
- I believe alternative programs are important/a good opportunity to learn in a way more personal/effective for you. I feel like redrawing boundaries are a good idea however that boundaries should vary based on your program. Some people simply want to get the closest school possible while others prioritize a larger variety of programs and so might have to settle for a farther school. It's a hard topic, since we wouldn't want to discourage students from joining alternative programs in order for them to enrol in a nearby school.
- No one choice would work very well, you need a combination of different strategies
- They meet my needs and it will benefits to other students too
- Leave the high school as grade 10-12, so kids dont mix with grown up kids and get bully from older grade kids.
- I'm in Griffith Woods School but it is important to me that I go to Ernest Manning as it is next door to Griffith Woods. I live in Discovery Ridge and we moved here so that I could go to both of the schools that are near my home.
- They made the most sense and are somewhat effective.
- it makes sense to me
- because
- I made them based on the info I saw above and from what my parent have shown me
- Because I believe in K-12 French Immersion. Staying with cohorts in an established school.
- I made the choices that I made because feel that if the number of students decreases for IB and AP then that will stress the students out more and that may lead to their grades decreasing. For the thing with kids being put into a school that has room for them may end up being too far from their home and that could become an issue when it comes to transportation.
- For the last 2 ones, I think it will work if you move to a some what empty school so it could fill up and lessen the full school.
- Because this school is good and close to my house
- I currently go to a school that is grades 7-12, which I think has helped with keeping the number of students enrolled up. Increasing the number of students enrolled in alternative programs will also help, since it will open the school to a larger variety of students. The fewer opportunities there are, the less students will be interested in the school. Also, I know a lot of students who do not live in the area around the school, but chose to go to it because of the programs offered. Maybe making the boundaries larger around an under-utilized school will help, but there are lots of students who do not necessarily go to their designated school.
- I don't want to be in a school that is too full or over full because bullying and violence increases in schools like that because teachers don't have as much one to one time for



dialogue)))

students and administration is overwhelmed with all the students and problems. At the same time, having some schools too full and some too empty isn't fair. Maybe change the boundary areas so that more students can be dispersed equally across areas of the city.

- I don't believe you can turn students away from an alternative program because there isn't space. The program might need to be held farther away from some people's homes but you can't deny access.
- Adding other grades to certain high schools can work, but some students may oppose the idea. Changing the communities for high schools would definitely help with the over and under utilized schools as most students choose to go to their designated school. Also, students that wish to be enrolled in alternative programs would try to go to the schools that offer them, even if we attempt to decrease the number of students enrolled. In addition, it would be hard to determine how many and which students will be able to become enrolled in these alternative programs.
- "I have been involved in this process for many years. Most parents and kids want to go to the school closest to them and still be with their friends. Probably the best solution for under utilized schools is to add more grades so all kids move with their friends. I can't think of one solution that would help Ernest Manning School with the space issue. Maybe change boundaries? I think all people West of Sarcee should have the option of going to EM school. How come it wasn't built larger to accommodate more students knowing this was going to be an issue? I would suggest Discovery Ridge kids maybe go to Central Memorial. Not sure what their current Jr high school
- Is? If it's on the West side, this could be upsetting to most kids as they will have friends going to EM. The best solution is to make your boundaries so kids in Jr high go to high school together. You need more kids in an area going to same school so there are less bus stops so the bus transportation is quick and easy. "
- I live far from my high school, so these changes would work well with people who would like to go to a close high school that is not far from their home and also has good programs
- My quality of life is really impacted by distance to the school. And students shouldn't lose out on specialized programs.
- "Option 1 somewhat works as student may not necessarily want to move schools or have a preference of which school they want to go to. You can redistribute existing area lines in order to equalize school distribution but I know kids who go to schools outside of their designated area. It is not a guarantee that student will actually go to the schools that CBE has placed them in.
- Option 2 wouldn't really work unless you plan on merging two high schools together. For example, if you were to add grades 7-9 to a senior high school you would essentially create more space for students to go but not necessarily entice students to attend that high school. The school could just remain empty. If you merge a junior high school and a senior high school then the students going to that junior high are likely to remain in that school and just continue on to high school there. But this would require the potential



dialogue)))

redrawing of school area lines and the construction of bigger buildings to accommodate the influx of students.

- Option 3 doesn't work for me as an AP student. Some students need to learn in a different language or in a different style; they cannot learn the "traditional" way. I know for a fact that AP exams and IB certificates make you more competitive when applying for colleges and universities. You decrease the enrollment threshold then potentially you bar some students from certain opportunities which isn't right. In my opinion, this option redistributes enrollment at the expense of the student's desired education.
- Option 4 I am not sure about but it looks like increasing the threshold for student in those programs would just make the enrollment distribution worse as the school that offer those programs are over-filled. "
- Academics are more important then staying with the people you would like to stay with. High school is when it really starts to matter.
- because I agreed on what the changes would be.
- because I chose what works well for me
- Well, personally I think that increasing the amount of students in alternative programs makes kids feel more included and have a quicker and easier chance at making friends. I think that adding students from grades 8 and 9 to a high school makes things easier for over-utilized and under-utilized schools. In my total opinion, decreasing the number of alternative program students is a bad idea because the students might feel excluded from the types of education that they've had for long periods of time.
- Students want to have a choice in what program to attend and sometimes that means going to a different school than friends or people they've been in school with to that point. We shouldn't restrict their choice of program but need to balance things out so you dont have 50-60 people in core high school classes. These years matter especially for those of us who want to go to university. I don't like the idea of adding younger grades as this changes the high school environment a lot and honestly I think it would be not so great and kind of intimidating for them.
- I made these choices because I feel that if I live close to a high school I should be able to go there but other farther community's go to that school so it's full and I have to go to a further high school
- To get the better output from all schools
- I want to stay with my friends but also be able to have AP or IB programs. I want to be able to opportunity to learn in a great environment and play sports.
- Specific programs at schools are what makes schools unique and help the students learn in new ways
- Just dont mess with my commute or education or physical education/ recreational needs.
- High schools should absolutely not restrict entry to specialized programs based on balancing enrolment. It makes school uninteresting to many and is unfair to students.
- Because I got to highschool and I see these problems daily. Nelson Mandela is overcrowded



dialogue)))

- I go to Western and my brother and sister go to Elboya - taking French as well. I have been with the same group since grade 1 and think it is important to keep friends together. Western has great sports and options but there are too many kids. maybe allow only so many kids into the Ib programs and change how many IB kids come here from all over the city. There are other high schools that could have this same program. We are becoming known as an IB school and that is not true.
- the programs that are extra are adding students and bringing students from other communities, now this means we may not be able to go to school in our own community. If they are already coming from far away they can go to other schools while we get to use our community school.
- I picked these because the change should be good for everyone.
- because every student deserve to grow in their learning.
- I thought what made the most sense to me and what I believe would work. As well as what I have seen to work.
- speaking for the students. we dont want to be forced to leave our friends, or deal with a new environment half way through our semesters etc.. opening the schools up to lower grades than 10 WILL cause problems, increase the toxic hierarchy and bullying.
- because i felt they were my opinion and thats what i chose
- All of these choices will work for some people, but then will also make things more difficult for other people.
- "For situation 1, I believe it could possibly work into making the percentage of students in schools more even, the only downside would be, that some people might not have the opportunity if they would like to go to some schools that already have more students.
- For situation 2, if we increase the number of students in alternative programs, there would possibly not be a focus on other programs that may be more popular, and suit the interest of more students. That being said, there should still be enough programs for those in alternative programs.
- For situation 3, if we add grades to schools under-utilized, this could affect situation 1, if grades are added that would mean schools would become more full, which could possibly mean the percentages in MOST schools may become, over-utilized
- Finally for situation 4, if we decrease students in alternative programs, this could affect the opportunities for those who were working in those programs in years before and who would like to continue to do so"
- Important to keep students with the same group of people such as friends
- I believe that there is a good amount of students enrolled in special programs and the schools are split into reasonable grades.
- I want choice of programs and higher level courses (AP). I plan on playing extra curricular sports. I want to stay with my friends.
- I think students should have access to the programs they want, without being forced in or out.
- why are you putting IB programs with French and Spanish? these kids don't go all through school with the same kids? they start in grade 10 so it doesn't matter where they



dialogue)))

go to high school. Western has way too many IB students they can go to a school that isn't full.

- "I am against moving Hamptons students out of Sir William Churchill High School attendance area.
- Right now Tom Baines is the closest junior high for Hamptons. Students from Hamptons attend Tom Baines for junior high. They should attend the same high school as their classmates. If their classmates from Edgemont go to Churchill, while they go to another high school, they will be upset for not being able to stay together with their classmates from Edgemont. Cohort groups of students should stay together. High school transition should minimize disruptions for students as much as possible.
- Moreover, going to Churchill from the Hamptons by regular public transit is more convenient than going from the Hamptons to Thirsk. Right now if students miss their express bus to Churchill, they can take regular bus, which goes very similar route. Although they need to transfer once, it won't take much longer time. If students from the Hamptons go to Thirsk, they will have to first take bus to Crowfoot ctrain station. Then they have take the ctrain to Dalhousie. Then they have to take the bus to the Hamptons. So if they miss their express bus, they will have to transfer twice by regular transit in order to get home. The route looks ridiculously long and it will take them much longer time than if they commute between Churchill and the Hamptons by regular bus right now. Most probably, if they miss their express bus, their parents will end up driving them to and from school. This will be a lot of disruptions for the families. If you look at the straight distance, Thirsk might seem a little closer to Hamptons than Churchill. But when considering distance, a more important factor should be considered: regular public transit, because students will have to rely on the regular public transit if they miss their express bus to and from school.
- Splitting the grades would not be good and changing the communities might work, but it could be problematic to some families.
- Because it is important for people to have a good school and education.
- I think that if my word about these schools gets out it will help schools and people.
- Because it opens up new opportunities for students to try more, and stress less. The mental state of teenagers growing up is extremely fragile and easily moldable, that means teenagers are able to adapt pretty easily.
- My elementary school is underfunded and couldn't have French this year. The washrooms are very dirty and run down.
- Just based on my thought and opinions and how I thought it would affect me and my friends
- N/a
- i just want to have choices that suit my needs and keep me with my friends.
- Access to programs in my neighborhood school is important.
- Students in grade 10-12 should remain together, there is no benefit in splitting them up. Changing the communities could work well but the families need to be notified beforehand and have the option of staying at the previously designated school if they



dialogue)))

need to. Increasing or decreasing the number of students in alternative programs may work, but it also depends on that child's skills, abilities, and needs.

- When the cbe changed the middle school boundaries my brother and all my friends younger than me that still lived in the same community are now going to a different school all my friends have left and I hope I could at least go to a high school with the new ones I made. If you do change boundaries u need to do it in stages let EVERYBODY already in a school stay and younger siblings join older in their respective schools. Make so the kids going in to middle school the year this is implanted get to go become u get so prepared by the schools and cbe to go to one school then suddenly shipped of to another this really shocks kids and can makes it hard to learn in a new environment especially if you move after being in a school for a while some kid struggle to learn without changing up their environments. In short if u do make changes make it slowly be open to EVERYONE ,grandfather in siblings and everyone in that school.
- because epscarlett had AP courses and french as well as regular english program
- Moving students in or out of programs only means that there would be more or less students in that program, not in that school. Adding another grade also would not work because junior highs feed into multiple high schools. This would mean that there would be a lot of unnecessary student relocation, especially if students have to move to another junior high because they are not designated to a 9-12 high school. I think that changing the boundaries would be the best option because there are over-populated schools that have too many students because of the boundary sizes, and similarly schools that are below capacity because there are not enough students within the boundary.
- i want to go to a school with my friends that isn't so full the teacher doesn't have time to help us all, if we go to a public school we suffer bc the kids who decide they want to move from catholic come to our schools but we cant go to theirs if they are not full like ours, its not fair
- I think students should have the choice to join the programs they want, instead of being forced in or out of programs.
- I want a school closer to where I live
- Considered the need of community and resources that CBE might have.
- I am a part of the Performing Visual Arts program at Central and I believe that it is important to spread the word about programs like this within cbe. I do not think that decreasing the numbers will help this process but i do think it would be beneficial to transfer students and get them involved in these programs.
- "PVA is super important to lots of people and decreasing the number of students enrolled would hurt some people, including me.
- Increasing the amount of grades in a high school would make high school a less enjoyable experience for Grades 11 - 12 and a scary experience for younger grades."
- I don't know enough about alternative programs to make an informed decision. Moving certain people to different schools may work to fix over population and under population



in school, but at the same time it may mean moving people away from the places where they are comfortable and feel safe. This would make kids lose the drive for school and the friends they have had for years because some people don't know how to make new friends in a new setting. I don't believe adding a grade would fix and problems because it would create many other issues in the school. Specifically, the social aspect. Grade 10's are already the lowest of the low, and imagine what would happen if grade 9's or even 8's were there. I had a great experience through middle school with grade 8 and 9 and I think it was an easier transition to high school. If I had to move to a high school in grade 8 or 9, I wouldn't have been prepared and I wouldn't have known what courses to take or anything. I also wouldn't have the maturity to be responsible for my learning. Thanks for coming to my TED talk.

- I believe that adding more grades will not work because then there will just be more kids which would add to the problem of over population.
- None of these I don't like the ideas of... However when I put somewhat works I meant I'm not sure how this could work but it could
- I want students to have a choice on where they want to go, I feel that the best option would be introducing new programs to under utilized schools so more students will attend. Honestly I don't really want that much to change.
- I think if there was a way to move a program to a different school that is under utilized, it would help. People may be upset if a program were to leave entirely.
- I'm pretty happy with my school so I don't have any complaints or suggestions
- I think we just need to change what communities are allocating to each school
- I feel mostly indifferent to most of the options, with the exception of the idea of adding more grades; which I am against.
- I made these choices as although I would like to be as open and willing to accept any changes made there are some things I cannot feel comfortable with the idea of. If younger students such as grade 8-9 were to come to our school I feel that not only would it be a massive change for us as current students of the school but it will also uproot their life at their junior high. I could not imagine having to go into high school in grade 8 I think it would be very overwhelming and I greatly enjoyed junior high and preparation it gave me for high school and I think everyone deserves this chance to slowly adjust into high school. Furthermore I think that the alternative programs provided by the CBE are incredibly important, as a student you participate in the Advanced Placement Program I value the opportunity to challenge myself and work ahead. I have also met and am friends with many international students and students that participate in french immersion at other schools, without these opportunities I feel they would not be able to thrive with the CBE and I feel it is important that all students get the support and programs they need and want.
- The school had an art program so I decided to go to Central instead of western.
- I don't want people to think their program is disappearing, if there was a way to make sure everyone had access to the reasons they go to that certain school (whether that be moving the entire program or something else), people may be happier.



dialogue)))

- It's disgusting that you would think of taking students OUT of programs that make them happy. It demonstrates a lack of interest in the needs of the students. Allowing children who otherwise would not be able to access specialized programs make the choice to do so would be amazing. Adding multiple grades to a school can increase a sense of community and bonding, however.
- Students should not be removed from a program they willingly chose to be in.
- I am happy with my school so I do not have any suggestions or feedback at the moment
- I care about having my interests fosters and not having schools be overloaded
- I'm not sure these are great options for changes.
- I don't want the population to grow, and I want the specialized programs to say the same.
- "Adding More Students Would Work
- I don't see the point of decreasing the number of AP Students
- Increasing AP Students would work better
- Adding a whole new grade would mess the rest of the system at the school up."
- Because I don't think you should restrict any programs or classes without the students consent first. You can't force a student to give up the thing that might be the only good part of their life.
- I feel that alternative programs can be very important to the way some students learn and that it would hurt those students to decrease the number of these programs, and i don't think it would be smart to introduce younger grades to high school as i feel there would be a lot more bullying towards those grades.
- "I think that schools should have more alternative/arts programs because there are lots of very talented people who can't get the access to the arts or alternative programs because they live too far away.
- I don't think we need to decrease the amount of students enrolled, but there has to be a balance because I don't think anyone should be not allowed to go to school based on the communities that they join.
- I am in an arts-based program, and cutting that would impact many People in a negative way.
- I feel like evening out schools has good intention and CAN work well, but removing people from a place they are happy and adjusted to isn't the solution either.
- because the reason most school are over or under utilized is because of the programs they offer like languages, arts or sports and expanding those things to other high schools could increase enrollment in some places and decrease it in others as students wouldn't have to go to specific schools for the programs they want.
- I believe specialty programs such as PVA, AP and French Immersion have all had very positive impacts on my life and I think it is very important that these are available to students. I travel for an hour and a half each way on transit to attend Central Memorial for their PVA Theatre Arts program and as a grade 12 student I can confirm it has helped shape my future career and improved my life.



dialogue)))

- i'm in the performing and visual arts program at central memorial high school and i really enjoy this program. it has helped me to become a better performer and to increase my confidence. if this program were to be removed or funding would be cut the education system would be depriving younger generations of having the same wonderful chances and learning experiences that i have had.
- "Concerning adding people to these programs I feel like it would somewhat work depending on how many people would be admitted, if there was a smaller amount (10 - 15) I feel like there would be no problem but if you add much more to that it would take the specialization out of these specific programs, for example if there was a huge amount of influx in a french immersion program then it would no longer be a specialized program because the spread of students is so wide, it would be just like a normal program that everyone would take. I also think (as the survey implies) that either forcing people into these programs, forcibly taking them out of these programs, or forcing students to move to different schools is by any means a good idea. Students pick a certain school and certain programs for specific reasons and if these programs are taken away then it gives students excuses to not engage and to not participate in school as a whole (speaking from experience my involvement in my specialized program in my school has raised my input and participation in not only my school as a whole but in my core classes and with other people my friends or otherwise)
- Also just feed back on this survey, as a high school student it doesn't seem like there was any input from students. Virtually none of the questions asked are relevant and for some of them they ask for specific answers for questions that don't apply to my high school experience or make me pick between specific answers that I don't feel apply"
- they make sense
- To benefit everyone
- I think that being in the PVA Program was the best part of my high-school life. I think that it should not be cut as it as helped so many students. It is an amazing program.
- Many of these solutions would take people out of there current high school or specialized programs, these things are important to me because I chose my current high school because of specialized programs.
- I believe alternative programs are vital parts of what makes our education system so desirable. The questions were worded very poorly, and I was unable to see the benefits and negatives to making these decisions, however these programs are important for students to have access to. It helps cultivate their passions surrounded by like minded peers.
- There need to be more opportunities for more students.
- I believe that overpopulation in high schools is a major issue within Calgary and this needs to be handled with organization and leadership. I benefit from learning in classes that have smaller amounts of students because I can focus better and I can get more help from the teacher.
- I believe that we have unique opportunities with these alternative courses that are applicable to certain school and the increase exposure to these programs will allow



dialogue)))

students to be more definitive in their choices with post secondary and would encourage high school students to explore different future jobs. It would also allow students to challenge themselves willingly rather than forced through an enforced curriculum.

- Because taking away from/widening specialized programs will not help in the utilization of schools. Instead it will just make it harder for those who wish to be in those specialized programs or too broad for it to be considered focused or specialized. Adding grades will also just make some schools more populated immediately, which is too big a change for those who have already been accepted into that school before these changes. The only real solution that would pose a probably and favorable outcome is changing school boundaries, but making those who are at school who applied and got in who are now maybe outside those new boundaries are still able to go to that school of their choice. High School is stressful enough with out the fear of being moved from a learning environment you have already been in, to another which may be entirely different.
- Because moving students from specialized programs that they have chosen will make people very unhappy. Making students change schools they are already at will not work, so the focus should be on directing the choices of future students.
- I thought from the perspective of the students who would be forcefully moved into or out of programs or schools they enjoy.
- I think fixing population problems is important, but the programs we are a part of are super important as well.
- decreasing the number of programs won't make people stay away from highschools, over highschool would become over populated and with increasing these programs helps international students experience another place in the world.
- I believe that the CBE should balance out the amount of students in each school, and that the more students in quality programs the better
- I think there should be more choice in the students alternative programs because we shouldn't force kids out or into these programs if they don't want to.
- Because I am not really sure how to fix overpopulation in high schools though I think adding more room in programs could be beneficial.
- Some schools are very over populated and are not able to support a successful education of a lot of kids. Kids should be able to enjoy programs such as arts programs and sports programs. The arts are usually pushed to the side because people don't care as much about it, but for some teenagers, the arts program at their school is the best part of their day and it is the only reason they go to school.
- the pva program saved my life if you take it away you will have a riot of pva students and parents attacking cbe. do not shut down the program.
- Alternate programs are very important and if anything need more funding and not less.
- Central is a good school and very broad for things like sports, academic. Or like the arts program, pva which is a very known thing at central, its a great program to explore acting for flim or thearte and it improves you even if you new to acting or been doing it forever.



dialogue)))

- na
- I believe that some programs should be open to only some students
- because telling someone they can't do something because a school is too full is stupid
- It's honestly a matter of opinion. I'm fairly uninformed and also don't really care that much about how schools are run etc. My main goal right now is to purely get out alive
- Adding grades to under utilized schools would only add to the fact that some schools would not have the same opportunities as others. Also we would have grade 9's playing sports against grade tens, and then those schools would become over utilized.
- Cutting programs doesn't do anything to solve an issue. People go to schools for these programs. If you cut people from these programs or the program as a whole, you are making the highschool experience more challenging and worse for many students.
- because they relate to my situation
- I made these choices because it's best for the community.
- because i want to be successful
- My brother who's in grade 11 says there's lots of kids at his school who live far away and come for IB so maybe they can go to a school closer to them. I just want a great school and don't need fancy classes.
- "Keep the status quo. There is not enough provincial money to fund all of these efforts including this consultations
- A minimum and effective change could include: Keep regular programs intact based on designated communities and their proximity to schools. Many families relocated themselves and paid a premium to reside in a community, and their choice was based on the designated schools. Who seeks alternative programs, should choose to, will need to be assigned to the nearest available school that still has the capacity. But priority should be given to regular programs. This is the common class of students. The basic education. No regular-program student should need to travel far because another non-regular-program student took his/her spot
- Kids should have the opportunity to take whatever programs they would like. Kids should also be staying at the same high school for all three years unless they want to move. GATE is not included in this survey but it would be really nice to have more students in the GATE high school program, especially in the north.
- I think it is unfair and ironic to remove some students from particular programs whilst leaving the rest as the whole point of a public education system is to try and give each student equal opportunity. On the other hand creating and developing strong new programs at underdeveloped schools is a good solution as it would attract new students to that area. EX: ODPU at Ernest manning is a program that is much above the standards of other odpu programs at other schools therefor it attracts many students who are not actually in the manning designation. More unique programs at other schools would attract more students there.
- Either I disagree or I want the opportunity the proposition's taking away.
- Seems good
- Keeping high schools grades 10-12 is good, do not add grade 9's.



dialogue)))

- It's all about balance. Looking at the big picture and understanding what the enrolment projections are. And taking into account the economy and what type of funding is available.
- Programs
- Want my kids to have smaller class size and have better communication with the teachers
- keeping alternative programs is important
- It would not be fair to remove students who enrolled in a certain school because of a program that is being offered to them. It would make more sense to move students who take regular courses. Adding higher grades or lower grades to high school can increase danger for the younger students. Increasing the number of students in alternative programs helps with the school's reputation and increase the average.
- Because I don't want people in other schools to lose their programs that aren't just focused on core subjects and utilize the other programs to learn to lose their programs. I also believe that the arts programs are very important such as the PVA program
- I think that school should have more alternative programs like dance and drama because talented kids need these programs if they want to pursue this as a career.
- I chose them because that is what I think.
- If a student wants to go to a specific school or wants to be in a specific program/class, then that option should not be taken away from them especially if it helps them with their learning.
- "I don't think you should change things that students already have- moving them from the school they chose to go to etc. Most students went to their school for a reason and cutting their program. or changing the requirements isn't fair.
- Because sometimes it's an opportunity to meet new people and learn more things from different grades but not taking them out of their original programs necessarily, but interactions and new things to this school could be cool
- because I want a school that is a good school not a perfect school
- because I have no clue
- As a Beaverbrook student, the dramatic drop of student enrolment meant huge cuts to classes offered, teachers at the school and students. I missed out of TA opportunities in fashion because 2/3rds of the fashion classes were cut. It is silly to hear that students in seton have classes in the hallway when many of our classes are split (30-1 and AP math for example). Split classes are horrible for learning because one group is neglected to meet the needs of the majority. I would never have enrolled in Beaverbrook or with the CBE if I knew how bad these changes were.
- Answered questions to best by what I know
- Because that's what I thought was the best answer to my knowledge
- Because I did
- because I believe that my own opinion works well with my standards of high school
- Because it's what I believe to be the best changes that could be made
- This is just off of my gut; I'd like to have the best future possible



- because its logistical add programs that are popular to under utilized schools
- I like going to my neighbourhood school and want to go to my neighbourhood school in high school and its good for the environment when I walk to school.
- IB Is The Best Choice For me

Other Comments (Threaded Conversation)

- Some high schools are good but have too many kids.
- As a Beaverbrook student, I think the boundaries should be changed as the new seton high school has cut our programs, teachers and students. There are many split classes which are ineffective for learning. An example of this is our AP program. once filled with students, we have 30-1 split classes with AP instead. This leaves the AP kids to figure out AP content with little teacher guidance, which is silly considering the difficulty of the course. Hearing about students having classes in the foyer at seton is absurd when we hardly have any courses due to low student enrolment. Boundaries should be redesigned.
- I would like to stay with the same friends I have been with since elementary and I hope I do not need to spend too much time on the bus.
- the pva program has done so much for everyone i know in the program and their parents. other schools in calgary are so over populated. in the pva program its rare that central is their designated school. the pva program is helping to not increase the over populations of other school. if i wasnt in the pva program i dont know where i would be. i know that i would be going to western canada highschool where my learning would suffer due to the class sizes. build another school! do something to fix the over population but dont you dare take away the PVA program. go ahaed and look at centrals instagram, there are countless stories of how great PVA is. we are despretly trying to save our program and if CBE cancels it you will have an uproar of PVA students and parents fighting even harder to get it back.
- I am against moving Hamptons students out of Sir William Churchill High School attendance area. Right now Tom Baines is the closest junior high for Hamptons. Students from Hamptons attend Tom Baines for junior high. They should attend the same high school as their classmates. If their classmates from Edgemont go to Churchill, while they go to another high school, they will be upset for not being able to stay together with their classmates from Edgemont. Cohort groups of students should stay together. High school transition should minimize disruptions for students as much as possible. Moreover, going to Churchill from the Hamptons by regular public transit is more convenient than going from the Hamptons to Thirsk. Right now if students miss their express bus to Churchill, they can take regular bus, which goes very similar route. Although they need to transfer once, it won't take much longer time. If students from the Hamptons go to Thirsk, they will have to first take bus to Crowfoot ctrain station. Then they have take the ctrain to Dalhousie. Then they have to take the bus to the Hamptons. So if they miss their express bus, they will have to transfer twice by regular transit in order to get home. The route looks ridiculously long and it will take them much longer



dialogue)))

time than if they commute between Churchill and the Hamptons by regular bus right now. Most probably, if they miss their express bus, their parents will end up driving them to and from school. This will be a lot of disruptions for the families. If you look at the straight distance, Thirsk might seem a little closer to Hamptons than Churchill. But when considering distance, a more important factor should be considered: regular public transit, because students will have to rely on the regular public transit if they miss their express bus to and from school.

- Western is a great school but it has too many kids. maybe change how many IB kids are coming here there are other schools in the city that could have IB.
- I would like to stay with the same friends I have been with since elementary - maybe move programs to other high schools where kids aren't together since grade 1?
- High School is great in my opinion, there are always things to change. From the possible changes though I don't think all are necessary but I think some are.