

news release

For Immediate Release
May 15, 2014

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CBE is asking for public input to review the criteria for school capital planning priorities

CALGARY— The Calgary Board of Education is seeking input from interested stakeholders regarding its Three-Year School Capital Plan ranking criteria for new school, major modernizations and modular classroom requests.

“It has been 10 years since we have undertaken a major revision to our ranking criteria,” said Frank Coppinger, superintendent of facilities and environmental services. “A lot has changed since then and we want to involve the public in looking at the criteria to ensure our rankings are fair and equitable for all communities across the city.”

The CBE currently ranks priority projects using system data and statistics from the City of Calgary and other sources using established criteria including:

- Community demographics
- Preschool census
- Student enrolment
- Transportation
- Whether the community has an existing school that can accommodate all students in the community

These ranking criteria have been in place for over a decade with minor revisions being made periodically.

Senior high schools and other schools designed to meet unique student learning needs are not ranked using these criteria but are recommended on the priority list based on their assessed need. The Province has also asked school boards to rank their modular classroom requests. No criteria exist at this time for these requests.

The public can be part of the process by completing an online survey to answer questions and provide opinions, and interested public may also submit an application to participate in two focus groups. This group of 30-40 people will be expected to participate in both sessions and to be a conduit between your community and the CBE by sharing information from the focus group with community members and by bringing your community voice to the meetings. If there are more than 30-40 applicants, participants will be selected to represent a balance among areas of the city.

Over the summer our planning team will test suggestions and we will present the results back to the community at public open houses in the fall for feedback. This public input will assist the CBE in ensuring that the criteria used to develop ranking criteria for future capital project planning is fair and equitable.

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**Calgary Board
of Education**

Final decisions regarding changes to the ranking criteria and modular classroom priorities will be made by a recommendation from CBE Administration to the Board of Trustees in October.

Superintendent Coppinger will be available this afternoon for interviews.

Date: Thursday, May 15, 2014
Time: 3:15 p.m.
Place: Highfield Building
3610 – 9 Street S.E., Calgary, AB

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