

Schools in South-Central Calgary - Redesignation Plan Overview

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Over the past few years, the community of Windsor Park has experienced significant growth in the school-aged population, and sustained growth is expected into the future. Growth in Windsor Park and other south-central communities has resulted in Elboya School (K-9 regular program and Grade 5-9 Early and Late French Immersion programs) and Rideau Park School (K-9 regular program) becoming over-utilized. Enrolment at both schools is capped, with some students being overflowed to nearby schools. Enrolment caps are intended to be a short-term accommodation measure. A long-term plan is needed to balance enrolment.

Two nearby schools, Chinook Park School (K-6 regular and French Immersion programs) and Woodman School (Grade 7-9 regular program and Grade 5-9 French Immersion program), are both under-utilized. Ensuring school utilization rates are optimized in the mid-to-high 80 per cent range helps ensure student populations are large enough to support robust learning and extracurricular opportunities. It also minimizes crowding as much as possible and reduces the need for enrolment caps and overflows, which create uncertainty. Balanced enrolment also helps provide equitable access for all students to quality learning environment while concurrently maximizing the amount of operational and maintenance dollars provided by the province under a funding model that rewards schools with an 85 per cent+ utilization rate.

In May 2024, the former Bel-Aire School was returned to the CBE from charter school use. The return of this school opens more than 200 K-6 spaces in the area, a welcome development given the rate of growth in the area.

These three factors – two over-utilized schools, two under-utilized schools and the opening of more than 200 K-6 spaces in south-central Calgary – are the key drivers for this System Student Accommodation Plan (SSAP) redesignation plan.

CBE Planning Principles

The CBE uses the following planning principles, and other factors, to analyze options. It is important to note that these principles are not a checklist, and they are not mutually exclusive. In some cases, meeting one principle means we cannot meet another.

- minimize disruptions for students
- provide program continuity from kindergarten to Grade 12
- keep cohort groups of students together
- allow students to attend school as close to home as possible
- provide long-term sustainability
- use space and resources effectively
- provide equitable access for all students to quality learning environments

After thoughtful and thorough analysis, we have determined there is one plan that effectively achieves the benefits for students, families and schools and reflects the CBE's planning principles. Some details of this plan are dependent upon the relocation of CBE Home Education, which is currently located at Windsor Park School.

Changes will be implemented for the 2025-26 school year. Full plan details are shared on pages 2 and 3 of this document.

Learn More

You can find enrolment projections, maps, and other details on our website and in the project StoryMap.

The redesignation plan balances enrolment at schools in south-central Calgary, benefitting staff, students, families and schools. Specifically, this plan:



Supports student success



Opens K-6 spaces in the area



Balances enrolment
– provides a more
equitable learning
experience for students at
all affected schools

Moving CBE Home Education

CBE Home Education currently operates out of Windsor Park School. CBE Administration is putting forward a recommendation to the Board of Trustees that CBE Home Education be relocated to Bel-Aire School to re-open Windsor Park School for students living in the community. This change would reduce the need to overflow students at Elboya and Rideau Park schools and create space to relieve pressure on other neighbouring schools. The recommendation will be submitted to the Board of Trustees in December 2024 and the final decision is expected to be made by the Board of Trustees by February 2025, in alignment with GC-3E (2): Closure of Schools Procedure.

The Board of Trustees' process and decision are separate and apart from this redesignation plan; however, the Board decision about the relocation of CBE Home Education will impact what some of the redesignations look like. Page 3 shows redesignations dependent upon the Board decision.

SSAP Redesignation Plan for Schools in South-Central Calgary

While CBE Administration is recommending the relocation of CBE Home Education to fully implement the redesignation plan, the CBE has developed a contingency redesignation plan for some communities to ensure enrolment can be balanced among the schools regardless of the Board's decision about the relocation of CBE Home Education. The contingency plan will be implemented if CBE Home Education remains at Windsor Park School. In the interest of transparency, we are sharing the contingency plan for information only, so you know what to expect in either situation.

The full redesignation plan is shown in the Redesignation Plan column of the following two tables - the first showing redesignations independent from the Board decision and the second showing redesignations dependent upon the Board decision along with the contingency plan.

Redesignations Independent from the Board Decision about the Relocation of CBE Home Education

This table shows the impacted grades and communities impacted by redesignations independent from the Board decision. Families in these groups can expect to receive a redesignation letter by November 2024. Redesignations will be implemented in the 2025-26 school year.

Communities & Programs	Current	Redesignation Plan	Rationale
Grade 7-9 regular-program students living in Inglewood and Ramsay	Rideau Park School	Elboya School (51 students)	 Students live outside the walk zone of Rideau Park and Elboya schools. Busing times expected to remain similar.
Grade 7-9 regular-program students living in Bel- Aire, Manchester, Mayfair, Meadowlark Park and Windsor Park (south of 53 Ave S.W.)	Elboya School	Woodman School (49 students)	 Students in these communities live furthest from Elboya School. Yellow school busing will be provided with a travel time of approximately 10 minutes. No cap and overflow at Woodman School, providing students and families with certainty about the schools they will attend. Students join the Henry Wise Wood High School cohort sooner. Grade 7-9 regular and French Immersion program students in these communities will attend the same junior high school.
Grade 7-9 Early and Late French Immersion students living in Windsor Park (south of 53 Ave. S.W.), Manchester, Bel-Aire, Mayfair and Meadowlark Park	Elboya School	Woodman School (30 students)	 Grade 7-9 regular and French Immersion program students in these communities will attend the same junior high school. Yellow school busing will be provided with a travel time of approximately 10 minutes. No cap and overflow at Woodman School, providing students and families with certainty about the schools they will attend.

Redesignations are phased in with students entering Grade 6 or Grade 9 in the 2025-26 school year able to stay at their current school. (Approximate number of students impacted by redesignation in first year of implementation: 2025-26)

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Redesignations Dependent Upon the Board Decision about the Relocation of CBE Home Education

Below are the grades and communities impacted by redesignations dependent upon the Board decision and the contingency plan if CBE Home Education remains at Windsor Park School. Families can expect updates related to Board decisions over the next few months, with final redesignation notices sent in late February 2025.

Communities & Programs	Current	Redesignation Plan	Rationale	Contingency Plan
K-6 regular-program students living in Windsor Park and Manchester	Elboya School	Windsor Park School (162 students)	 Students in Windsor Park will be able to walk to school. Students in Manchester may still need busing. No cap and overflow at Windsor Park School, providing students and families with certainty about the schools they will attend. 	Manchester and Windsor Park (south of 53 Ave. S.W.) designated to Bel-Aire School (101 students) Windsor Park (north of 53 Ave. S.W.) remain at Elboya School, subject to existing cap and overflow (61 students)
K-6 regular-program students living in Bel-Aire, Mayfair and Meadowlark Park	Elboya School	Chinook Park School (25 students)	 Travel times for elementary school students will remain similar. No cap and overflow at Chinook Park School, providing students and families with certainty about the schools they will attend. 	Bel-Aire School (25 students)
Grade 7-9 regular-program students living in Windsor Park (north of 53 Ave. S.W.)	Elboya School	Woodman School (14 students)	 Students live furthest from Elboya School. Yellow school busing will be provided with a travel time of approximately 10 minutes. No cap and overflow at Woodman School, providing students and families with certainty about the schools they will attend. Students join the Henry Wise Wood High School cohort sooner. Grade 7-9 regular and French Immersion program students in Windsor Park will attend the same junior high school. 	Elboya School, subject to existing cap and overflow (14 students would remain)
Grade 7-9 regular-program students living in East Village, Beltline and the Downtown Commercial Core east of 4 St. S.W.	Mount Royal School	Elboya School (45 students)	 Students live outside the walk zone for Mount Royal and Elboya schools. Busing times expected to remain similar. Students will remain with their cohort for junior high. 	Mount Royal School, subject to existing cap and overflow (no impact)
K-4 French Immersion students living in Windsor Park, Manchester, Bel-Aire, Mayfair and Meadowlark Park	William Reid School	Chinook Park School (14 students)	 Students live further from William Reid School than most other designated communities. Yellow school busing will be provided. Travel times for elementary students will be similar to current times. 	William Reid School, subject to existing cap and overflow (no impact)
Grade 5-6 French Immersion students living in Windsor Park (north of 53 Ave. S.W.)	Elboya School	Chinook Park School (5 students)	 Students live further from William Reid School than most other designated communities. Yellow school busing will be provided. Travel times for elementary students will be similar to current times. 	Elboya School (5 students would remain)
Grade 5-6 French Immersion students living in Windsor Park (south of 53 Ave, S,W., Manchester, Bel-Aire, Mayfair and Meadowlark Park	Elboya School	Chinook Park School (10 students)	 Students live further from William Reid School than most other designated communities. Yellow school busing will be provided. Travel times for elementary students will be similar to current times. 	Woodman School (10 students)
Grade 7-9 Early and Late French Immersion students living in Windsor Park (north of 53 Ave. S.W.)	Elboya School	Woodman School (30 students)	 Grade 7-9 regular and French Immersion program students in Windsor Park will attend the same junior high school. Yellow school busing will be provided with a travel time of approximately 10 minutes. No cap and overflow at Woodman School, providing students and families with certainty about the schools they will attend. 	Elboya School (30 students would remain)

Redesignations are phased in with students entering Grade 6 or Grade 9 in the 2025-26 school year able to stay at their current school. (Approximate number of students impacted by redesignation in first year of implementation: 2025-26)

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