



March 4, 2014

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

The Area IV Office and the Department of Planning & Transportation have been working to address the student accommodation challenges anticipated for September 2014 at West Springs and Wildwood Schools.

Issue |

The CBE identified that Wildwood School and West Springs School were anticipated to be over capacity for September 2014 in the Three Year System Student Accommodation Plan. This issue was first communicated to parents in a letter dated June 7, 2013. Jennie Elliott School, Rosscarrock School and Glendale School were all identified as schools within Area IV with space to accommodate additional students.

Engagement Process |

The Department of Planning & Transportation developed a number of ways for CBE administration to engage with the community around this accommodation issue, including:

- Two Focus Group Meetings (November 14, 2013 and January 27, 2014)
- Thoughtstream online engagement (November 2013 to January 2014)
- Open House at Rosscarrock School (February 6, 2014)
- Yourvoice email and other emails to administration

Based on the feedback from stakeholders participating in engagement opportunities, five scenarios were developed involving six schools in Area IV. As we engaged with the public and collected feedback on these five scenarios, the common themes that emerged were:

- concerns about splitting families
- requests to minimize disruptions to students
- requests to maintain the grade configuration
- concerns about losing of a sense of community
- requests to maintain quality of education
- concerns about safe and convenient travel to and from school

We would like to acknowledge the participation and input of interested stakeholders throughout this student accommodation planning process. Feedback from stakeholders is valued and seriously considered when making the final decision. We know that we are unable to implement a solution that will meet the preferences of all affected stakeholders. With this in mind, the following accommodation plan is effective for September 2014.

Administrative Decision effective September 2014 |

School	Effective September 2014
Glendale School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No change

Please contact your school or the Area IV office at 403-777-8750 ext. 0 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Calvin Davies
Director, Area IV



Darlene Unruh
Director,
Planning & Transportation





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Administrative Decision effective September 2014 |

School	Effective September 2014
Jennie Elliott School	▪ New Aspen Woods (West of 85 th St) Kindergarten to Grade 6 students will be designated to Jennie Elliott School effective September 2014.

This administrative decision:

- Addresses the capacity issues at Wildwood School.
- Uses excess capacity at Jennie Elliott School in a way that is projected to not overcrowd the school in the future.
- Minimizes disruptions for current students as much as possible

During the process we received feedback on resourcing, school culture and educational programming in addition to issues related to student accommodation. This feedback will inform the work of administration as we move forward to implement these changes.

Please contact your school or the Area IV office at 403-777-8750 ext. 0 if you have any questions. You may choose to appeal the accommodation plan presented in this letter to the Area IV Director by email to ArealV@cbe.ab.ca within five business days of the date on this notice.

Sincerely,



Calvin Davies
Director, Area IV



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Based on the feedback from stakeholders participating in engagement opportunities, five scenarios were developed involving six schools in Area IV. As we engaged with the public and collected feedback on these five scenarios, the common themes that emerged were:

- concerns about splitting families
- requests to minimize disruptions to students
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- requests to maintain quality of education
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We would like to acknowledge the participation and input of interested stakeholders throughout this student accommodation planning process. Feedback from stakeholders is valued and seriously considered when making the final decision. We know that we are unable to implement a solution that will meet the preferences of all affected stakeholders. With this in mind, the following accommodation plan is effective for September 2014.

Administrative Decision effective September 2014 |

School	Effective September 2014
Olympic Heights School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ No change▪ Students living in Aspen Woods (East of 85th Street SW), Christie Park, Coach Hill, Patterson and Strathcona Park who cannot be accommodated at Olympic Heights School will continue to be designated to Wildwood School in accordance with the CBE Lottery process

Please contact your school or the Area IV office at 403-777-8750 ext. 0 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Calvin Davies
Director, Area IV



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Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

The Area IV Office and the Department of Planning & Transportation have been working to address the student accommodation challenges anticipated for September 2014 at West Springs and Wildwood Schools.

Issue |

The CBE identified that both West Springs School and Wildwood School were anticipated to be over capacity for September 2014 in the Three Year System Student Accommodation Plan. This issue was first communicated to parents in a letter dated June 7, 2013. Jennie Elliott School, Rosscarrock School and Glendale School were all identified as schools within Area IV with space to accommodate additional students.

Engagement Process |

The Department of Planning & Transportation developed a number of ways for CBE administration to engage with the community around this accommodation issue, including:

- Two Focus Group Meetings (November 14, 2013 and January 27, 2014)
- Thoughtstream online engagement (November 2013 – January 2014)
- Open House at Rosscarrock School (February 6, 2014)
- Yourvoice email and other emails to administration

Based on the feedback from stakeholders participating in engagement opportunities, the Planning & Transportation department developed five scenarios involving six schools in Area IV. As we engaged with the public and collected feedback on these five scenarios, the common themes that emerged were:

- concerns about splitting of families
- requests to minimize disruptions to students
- requests to maintain the grade configuration
- concerns about losing of a sense of community
- requests to maintain quality of education
- concerns about safe and convenient travel to and from school

We would like to acknowledge the participation and input of interested stakeholders throughout this student accommodation planning process. Feedback from stakeholders is valued and was seriously considered when making the final decision. We know that we are unable to implement a solution that will meet the preferences of all affected stakeholders. With this in mind, the following accommodation plan is effective for September 2014.

Administrative Decision effective September 2014 |

School	Effective September 2014
Rosscarrock School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ New Cougar Ridge kindergarten to Grade 6 students will be designated to Rosscarrock School effective September 2014.▪ K- Grade 6 students who cannot be accommodated at West Springs School will be designated to Rosscarrock School effective September 2014.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Effective September 2015 Grade 5 students from West Springs will be designated to Rosscarrock School.○ Effective September 2016 onward Grade 5 and 6 students from West Springs will be designated to Rosscarrock School.▪ Beginning with the 2014-2015 year, Rosscarrock School will be using the traditional school instructional calendar.

This administrative decision:

- Addresses the capacity issues at Wildwood and West Springs Schools.
- Allows some Cougar Ridge and West Springs students to attend Rosscarrock School together.
- Provides transportation service that is efficient and fiscally responsible given the proximity of schools and communities to each other.
- Minimizes disruptions for current students as much as possible.

We appreciate the importance of these changes to you, your family, and each of the schools.

Please contact your school or the Area IV office at 403-777-8750 ext. 0 if you have any questions. You may choose to appeal the accommodation plan presented in this letter to the Area IV Director by email to ArealV@cbe.ab.ca within five business days of the date on this notice.

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March 4, 2014

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

The Area IV Office and the Department of Planning & Transportation have been working to address the student accommodation issues at West Springs School.

Issue |

The CBE identified that West Springs School was anticipated to be over capacity for September 2014 in the Three-Year System Student Accommodation Plan. This issue was first communicated to parents in a letter dated June 7, 2013. Jennie Elliott School, Rosscarrock School and Glendale School were all identified as schools within Area IV with space to accommodate additional students.

West Springs School is currently at capacity for the 2013-2014 school year. The number of students in the boundary for the school is projected to grow and exceed the school's capacity for the next several years. Currently, registration for kindergarten in September 2014 is higher than the school can accommodate and registration in Grades 1 to 6 continues to increase as new families move to the community.

Engagement Process |

The Department of Planning & Transportation developed a number of ways for CBE administration to engage with the community around this accommodation issue, including:

- Two Focus Group Meetings (November 14, 2013 and January 27, 2014)
- Thoughtstream online engagement (November 2013 – January 2014)
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Based on the feedback from stakeholders participating in engagement opportunities, the Planning & Transportation department developed five scenarios involving six schools in Area IV. As we engaged with the public and collected feedback on these five scenarios, the common themes that emerged were:

- concerns about splitting families
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- concerns about losing of a sense of community
- requests to maintain quality of education
- concerns about safe and convenient travel to and from school

At the February Open House, feedback was gathered on two options for West Springs students: changing the grade configuration of the school or maintaining the current kindergarten to Grade 6 grade configuration.

Issues and concerns raised about these two scenarios indicated:

- Majority of the parents who had students registered at West Springs School preferred keeping West Springs School as a K-6 school.
- Majority of the parents who did not have students in the school yet preferred changing the grade configuration of West Springs School to K-4 to allow space for as many new kindergarten students each year as possible.

We would like to acknowledge the participation and input of interested stakeholders throughout this student accommodation planning process. Feedback from stakeholders is valued and was seriously considered when making the final decision. We know that we are unable to implement a solution that will meet the preferences of all affected stakeholders. With this in mind, the following accommodation plan was chosen as it reflects the desire of parents to minimize disruptions for current students as much as possible and maximizes the intake of new students now and into the future.

Administrative Decision effective September 2014 |

School	Effective September 2014
West Springs School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remain K to 6 for the 2014-2015 school year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enrolment capped at approximately 100 new kindergarten students each year using the CBE lottery process to determine admission. ○ K- Grade 6 students who cannot be accommodated at West Springs School will be designated to Rosscarrock School effective September 2014. ▪ Effective September 2015 Grade 5 students designated to Rosscarrock School. ▪ Effective September 2016 onward Grade 5 and 6 students designated to Rosscarrock School. <p><i>It will take two years to complete the transition. In 2015 the school will be K-4 and Grade 6, as this group of Grade 6 students will finish at West Springs School.</i></p>

Questions have been raised regarding why siblings are given priority for continued acceptance at Wildwood School and not West Springs School. Wildwood School is not located in either of the Aspen Woods or Cougar Ridge communities and therefore no students from these communities are within the walk zone for the school and the lottery process does not apply.

This administrative decision to move to a kindergarten to Grade 4 grade configuration by 2016 was made because:

- It moves towards keeping youngest children closer to home
- Students who were in kindergarten to Grade 4 at Wildwood School in 2009 moved to West Springs School when it opened in September 2010. Kindergarten students who were impacted by that move are in Grade 4 this year. Allowing these current Grade 4 students to finish Grade 6 at West Springs School aligns with feedback received about not moving this group of students for a third time.
- Allows some Cougar Ridge and West Springs students to attend Rosscarrock School together.

- Provides transportation service that is efficient and fiscally responsible given the proximity of schools and communities to each other.

Future Schools |

We also received a great deal of feedback about the need for a new middle school for West Springs and Cougar Ridge and many questions regarding what planning the CBE does to request new schools. Annually, the CBE prepares a Three-Year School Capital Plan for submission to the province for approval and funding of new school construction. It's important to understand that the Government of Alberta has full control over the funding and allocation of all new schools, modular school units and school modernization projects. The CBE has no resources available to build new learning spaces other than those that the Province is able to provide.

The *Three Year School Capital Plan 2014-2017* is our most recent submission to the province and is available on the CBE website at <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/aboutus/documents.asp>

The CBE uses demographic, enrolment and transportation data from more than 25 communities without schools to determine capital priorities. Details on the New School Construction Capital Plan Criteria are found on pages 21-24 of the document. Specific information about the proposed middle school for West Springs and Cougar Ridge can be found on pages 48-49, the proposed Cougar Ridge elementary on page 52. For a comparison of how the demographic, enrolment and transportation statistics for Cougar Ridge and West Springs compare to the other new and developing communities in Calgary, please refer to pages 124-130.

We are always faced with the difficult challenge of balancing a wide continuum of stakeholder input and attempting to meet as many needs and desires as possible. We appreciate the importance of these proposed changes to you, your family, and each of the schools. We endeavored to hear and consider all stakeholder voices before finalizing the administrative decision.

During the process we received feedback on resourcing, school culture and educational programming in addition to issues related to student accommodation. This feedback will inform the work of administration as we move forward to implement these changes.

Please contact your school or the Area IV office at 403-777-8750 ext. 0 if you have any questions. You may choose to appeal the accommodation plan presented in this letter to the Area IV Director by email to ArealV@cbe.ab.ca within five business days of the date on this notice.

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Wildwood School is currently at capacity for the 2013-2014 school year. The school is projected to be over capacity into the future.

Engagement Process |

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Administrative Decision effective September 2014 |

School	Effective September 2014
Wildwood School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New K- Grade 6 Cougar Ridge students will be designated to Rosscarrock School effective September 2014. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ siblings of Cougar Ridge students currently attending Wildwood School can register for kindergarten at Wildwood School. <p><i>Existing Cougar Ridge students attending Wildwood School will not be asked to leave.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New K- Grade 6 Aspen Woods (West of 85th Street) students will be designated to Jennie Elliott School effective September 2014. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ siblings of Aspen Woods (West of 85th Street) students currently attending Wildwood School can register for kindergarten at Wildwood. <p><i>*Existing Aspen Woods (West of 85th Street) students attending Wildwood School will not be asked to leave.</i></p>

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This administrative decision:

- Addresses the capacity issues at Wildwood School.
- Allows current students to continue to attend their present school.
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Construction Capital Plan Criteria are found on pages 21-24 of the document. Specific information about the proposed middle school for West Springs/Cougar Ridge can be found on pages 48-49, the proposed Cougar Ridge elementary on page 52 and the proposed Aspen Woods elementary on page 57. For a comparison of how the demographic, enrolment and transportation statistics for Cougar Ridge, West Springs and Aspen Woods compare to the other new and developing communities in Calgary, please refer to pages 124-130.

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