



Piitoayis Family School at Colonel Walker School

Parent Meeting

April 29, 2015



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Agenda

1. Welcome Prayer
2. Introductions
3. Decision Making
4. Scenarios
5. Table Discussions
6. Next Steps

Introductions

Elder, Randy Bottle

Michelle Ranger, Principal Piitoayis Family School

Stephanie Jones, Assistant Principal Piitoayis Family School

Lori Pritchard, Supervisor Learning Services

Calvin Davies, Director Area IV

Jason Arrell, System Assistant Principal Area IV

Darlene Unruh, Director Planning & Transportation

Lori Taylor, System Assistant Principal Planning & Transportation

Timeline of engagements for the ALC

November 6 and 20, 2013	Initial Stakeholder Meeting
January 13, 2014	Creating the ALC Update
January 21, 2014	Funding Update
May 18, 2014	Design Charrette
June 18, 2014	Public Open House
September 17, 2014	Public Open House
February 25, 2015	Public Open House
April 22, 2015	Presentation to Parent Council

Timeline of engagements with Piitoayis Family School

- March 5, 2015** Parent Meeting – Accommodation Issue
- April 22, 2015** Presentation at Parent Council (ALC)
- April 28, 2015** Presentation to Staff of accommodation scenarios
- April 29, 2015** Presentation to parents of accommodation scenarios

Issue: What do we know?

- The Aboriginal Learning Centre will open in 2016 with a programming focus on early learning
- There will be significant changes to the program at Piitoayis as a result
- Enrolment at Piitoayis Family School will decline in 2016 when the Aboriginal Learning Centre opens
- We need to determine the grade configuration at the ALC for its opening

Consult

Our goal is to *consult* with you by obtaining your feedback on

- What do we need to pay attention to as we transition students from Piitoayis
 - Students moving to the ALC
 - Division II students

By *consult*, we mean that

- We will keep you and other identified stakeholders informed, listen to and acknowledge your concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how your input was used to influence the final decision.

Scope of influence

Your input may influence

- Transition planning

We will continue to provide you with opportunities to offer feedback throughout this engagement process.



Impact on Piitoayis

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Feedback from March, 2015 parent meeting

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Parents: What does this mean for the Grades 4-6 program at Piitoayis Family School?

- How do we resource 4-6?
- Is there a planned partnership ALC and PFS?
- How can CBE open a new ALC? And not do that here? Where is the funding? Where has it been for PFS?
- Why even consider continuing with PFS next year?
- What is the plan PFS? How will it remain open 4-6?

Parents: What does this mean for our Piitoayis students transitioning to other schools?

- Learning has been a concern in transition
- Students “culture shock” in other schools
- Is there a hidden agenda? Will PFS 4-6 close?
- How do we support our kids who move to their community school?

Parents: What is the best way to engage our families?

- Family night/info sessions
- Call homes, email survey, follow up, “did you know...”
- Connecting with other families through a questionnaire (sent home with children)
- Send home the brochure about the new school
- Send the questionnaire home electronically

Parents: What questions are on your mind?

- Should we start looking for another school for my child? I don't want to lose the cultural perspective.
- How will this impact our children?
- Why aren't they considering moving the whole school?
- Transportation? How is CBE planning to accommodate?
- How will fees be addressed/splitting up siblings?
- Thought process for separation of grades?

Parents: ALC programing questions

- Will funds, partnerships all focus on the new centre?
- How did they determine grades/how it went up to? Who decided? When? Moving 4-6/again junior high (not good for learning).
- How will new centre engage parents?
- What are resources available for students with special needs? Targeting for early intervention?



Staff questions from survey – March, 2015

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Staff: Student transition questions

1. Can we look into a cohort model for our transitioning Piitoayis students and students who will transition from the ALC to grade 4?
2. What can teachers do to ensure our students are best supported and prepared for the transition?
3. How do we ensure close ties between the schools?
4. How do we keep the older students in touch with and engaged in learning with the younger students?



Staff: ALC program questions

1. How will resources be shared between two schools?
Technology, books, manipulatives, etc.
2. What program will the early years be following?
3. Will K and below be half days?



Staff: Human resources questions

1. What happens if we close, how do they determine where each of us go?
2. What does this mean for Temporary teachers at PFS?
3. When will teachers be informed as to what is happening with PFS?
4. How is all this going to happen?



Your input

Today we would like you to consider three possible accommodation scenarios for Piitoayis Family School and the opportunities and challenges that are presented by each of them.



Moving forward: scenarios

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Scenario 1: Piitoayis closes effective June 30, 2016

- Gr 2-6 students from Piitoayis would return to their home schools for 2016.
 - This would be approximately 115 students.
- ALC opens PreK – Gr 1 September, 2016

Scenario 2: Students currently attending Piitoayis finish through Gr. 6 at Piitoayis

- Close Piitoayis effective June 30, 2021.

Piitoayis Projection

	Pre-k	K	GR1	GR2	GR3	GR4	GR5	GR6	Total
2014A		27	21	16	22	11	17	20	134
2015		21	30	19	15	23	10	18	136
2016				27	18	16	20	10	91
2017					25	19	14	21	79
2018						26	17	15	58
2019							24	17	41
2020								25	25

Scenario 3: All current k-4 students move to the ALC

- ALC opens with Pre-K to Grade 5
- ALC has a reverse phase out over 2 years to become a Kindergarten to Grade 3.
- Close Piitoayis effective June 30, 2016.

Aboriginal Learning Center Projection

	Pre-k	K	GR1	GR2	GR3	GR4	GR5	Total
2016	37	47	53	19	15	23	10	204
2017	47	63	58	58	16	20		262
2018	46	61	77	64	64			312
2019	53	61	76	85	71			346

Students from Piitoayis



Your thoughts

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Table conversations

- Each person's feedback is important.
- We would like you to hear as many view points as possible. It is essential for us to hear the feedback you have and the reasons that support your thoughts
- As you listen to the viewpoints of those at your table you will be able to reflect on opportunities and challenges, respond thoughtfully and offer suggestions.

Process

Each table will have 30 minutes of discussion time.

- Introduce yourselves
- Staff will facilitate and take notes regarding the conversation
- CBE representatives will be circulating to answer clarifying questions

Feedback

The feedback that you provide will assist CBE Administration make informed decisions about the enrolment concerns regarding Piitoayis Family School after the Aboriginal Learning Centre opens.

Decision making

Any decisions regarding consideration of closure of programs and/or schools will be made by the Board of Trustees upon a recommendation from the Area Director and, the Director of Planning & Transportation.

Although parent input can influence and impact final decisions, parents are not empowered to decide the final outcome.

Share your thoughts

yourvoice@cbe.ab.ca – always available

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Piitoayisfeedback> - open
from April 30 – May 15

Next steps

- review feedback from tonight's discussions
- gather further feedback via Survey Monkey
- review feedback from all stakeholders and make a recommendation
- provide updates via the school principal
- recommendation to the Board of Trustees regarding the accommodation issue at Piitoayis

| thanks |



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