

Juno Beach Academy of Canadian Studies

December 8, 2014

Dear Parents, Students and Staff,

Since January 2014 the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) has been engaging parents about the Juno Beach Academy of Canadian Studies. The enrolment in the program is declining. As of December 4, 2014 there were 109 Grade 7-12 students enrolled in the program and that number is not projected to increase in the coming years. In 2008, the program had a peak enrolment of 195 students.

In our last update on November 20th it was indicated that a final recommendation would be made in early December. Since that time the CBE has met with two members of the school council. Members of the School Council requested additional time to pursue a plan to increase enrolment in the program. By December 12, 2014 School Council will submit a proposal to the CBE that will demonstrate how to meet the criteria to keep the program sustainable.

The criteria being used to establish the CBE's decision on the plan will include:

- CBE Values
- Fiscal Realities
- Parent Feedback
- Facility Limitations

To demonstrate sustainability we would need to see:

- A completed expression of interest to increase enrolment at the Gr. 7 & 10 levels to 50 students per grade. We would need this process to be completed prior to the end of January 2015 and would want interested families to complete a registration form and sign a form indicating their commitment to attending the program in September 2015,
- Current parents would sign to commit to their child to continuing in the program by January 2015,
- Students attending for the 2015 – 2016 school year would be registered in the courses outlined in the program integrity document,
- Present a plan for future sustainability with a minimum of 50 students per grade, as well as a retention rate going forward.

It will be important that the school and the School Council make potential families aware that the school is involved in an ongoing accommodation process.

The CBE will meet with the two members of School Council on December 16th to review the submission and determine next steps.

Results from the survey that was online from November 20-27, 2014 are now available on our website at:

<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/school-planning-engagements/Pages/Juno-Beach-Academy-of-Canadian-Studies-at-Norman-Bethune-School.aspx>

Our new timeline regarding a recommendation regarding the Juno Beach Academy of Canadian Studies will now move into February 2015 as we take time for School Council to actualize a sustainability plan. To provide additional input please contact us [here](http://cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Pages/your-voice-feedback-form.aspx) : <http://cbe.ab.ca/schools/managing-space-students/Pages/your-voice-feedback-form.aspx>

Any decisions regarding consideration of closure of a program and/or school, including closure for the purpose of relocation, will be made by the Board of Trustees upon a recommendation from the Chief Superintendent. The Board of Trustees will make the final decision about a closure of the program.

Yours truly,



Sydney Smith
Director, Area V



Darlene Unruh
Director,
Planning & Transportation

