

# Calgary Board of Education South Mandarin Bilingual Move For Grades 5-7

Public Report of Findings  
February 2018

Prepared by:  
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Community Engagement



**Calgary Board  
of Education**

# Background

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- ❖ The purpose of this survey was to confirm if there will be enough students registered to offer a Mandarin Program at Harold Panabaker School for Grades 5-7 in the 2018-19 school year.
- ❖ This survey was open Jan. 10 – 28, 2018 and resulted in 133 people starting the survey. The number of responses varies from question to question and is noted throughout this report.



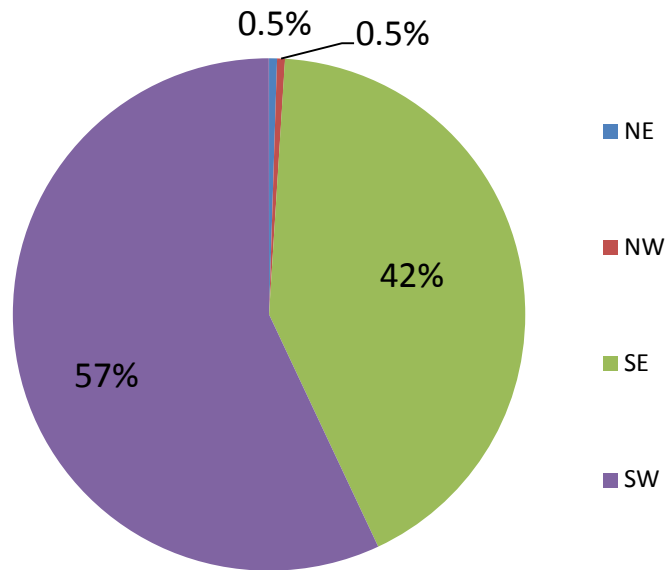
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# About the Participants

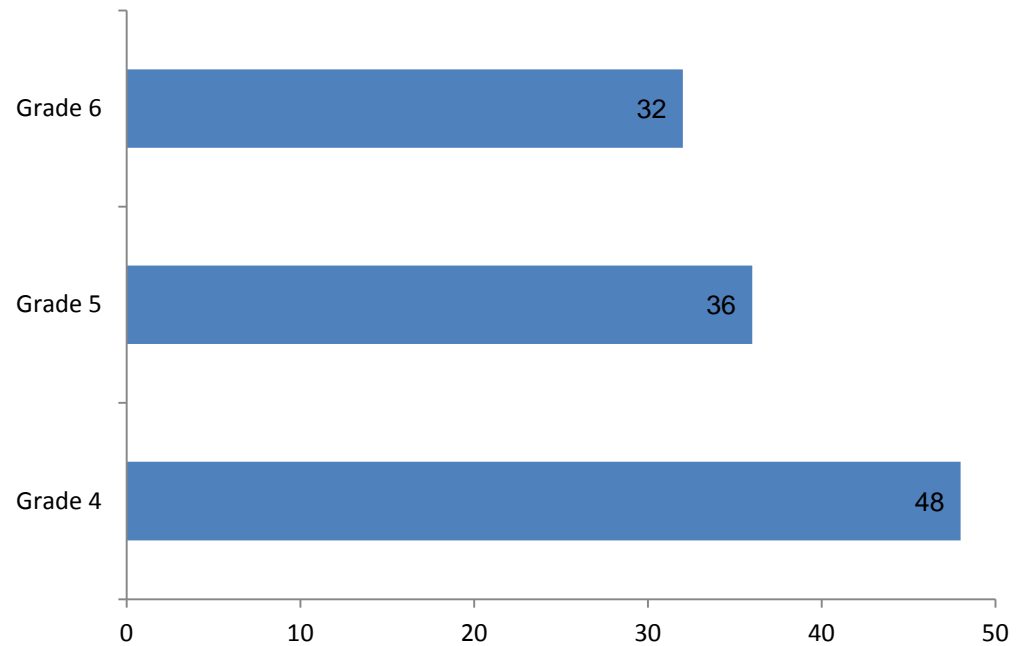


# Respondent Profile

Please select the part of the city in which you live.  
Answered: 115



Current grades of children (answered by 103):



How many children do you have currently attending a Mandarin Bilingual Program?  
Answered: 126

**104 total students**

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# Main Findings

# Current Schools Children Attend

*Which schools do your children currently attend?*

*Answered: 123*

Midnapore School – 55 mentions

Fairview School – 6 mentions

Louis Riel – 6 mentions

Nellie McClung – 4 mentions

Woodlands – 3 mentions

Harold Panabaker – 3 mentions

Mountain Park – 3 mentions

Chaparral – 3 mentions

Altadore – 2 mentions

Dr. George Stanley – 2 mentions

Fish Creek – 2 mentions

McKenzie Towne – 2 mentions

These schools had one mention:

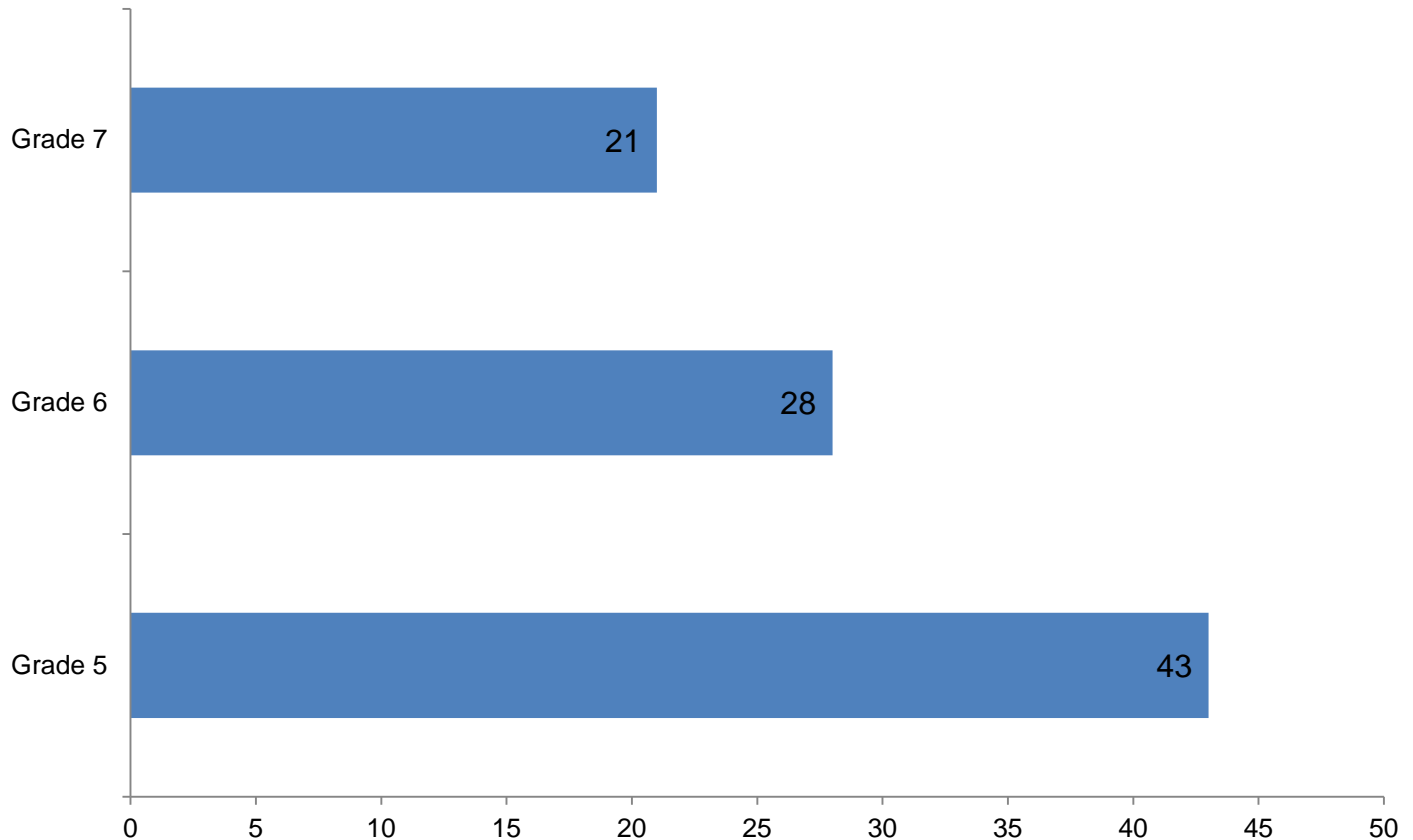
- Windsor Park
- Cedarbrae
- MidSun School
- Colonel Walker
- Jennie Elliott
- Willow Park
- Dr. Roberta Bondar
- Riverbend School
- Chinook Park
- Griffith Woods
- David Thompson
- Sam Livingston
- Samuel W. Shaw
- Bridlewood
- Douglasdale
- Andrew Sibbald
- Prince of Wales
- McKenzie Lake
- Glamorgan
- Canyon Meadows
- Robert Warren
- Earl Grey
- Evergreen
- Dr. Martha Cohen
- New Brighton
- McKenzie Highlands
- Acadia
- Maple Ridge
- Elbow Park
- Lake Bonavista
- Ethel M. Johnson
- Haysboro
- Rideau Park
- Battalion Park



# Grades of Registration for 2018-19

Please indicate the grades you would register your children in for the Mandarin Bilingual Program at Harold Panabaker for the 2018-19 school year (Grades 5-7)?

Answered: 84



# Survey Comments

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- ❖ Verbatim comments provided on the survey are included on the following pages. Comments have been edited to ensure anonymity. We also edited or omitted abusive, discriminatory and otherwise inappropriate comments.







# dialogue)))

## Mandarin Grades 5-7 Move to Harold Panabaker January 2018 Online Survey Comments

*Below you will find all comments provided in the survey as they were written. Comments have been edited to omit abusive, discriminatory and otherwise inappropriate comments.*

*Share any additional information or comments you think are important for us to know.*

*Responses: 49*

- Our daughter is currently in Grade 2 in the Mandarin program at Midnapore. We would also hope to have a 5-7 program for her when she reaches grade 5.
- Currently two children in Grade 3, plan for them to continue Mandarin Program.
- We are really excited about this program being offered
- Mandarin Program in South is important. My child is in K1 right now and loves the program.
- great to have a mandarin school at south part of city
- It's great to have a continuous Chinese (Mandarin) Bilingual Program in southern Calgary!
- We hope you can add grade 5-7 in Midnapore School.
- My children have not yet reached the grade 3 level but I would be interested in having them attend if the requisite changes in future years (i.e. - the intake is at a lower grade level)
- None of My children will not be attending the mandarin program
- Hopefully CBE will not change mind to cancel the program all the time
- With our family living in the deep SW while also having a daughter who is currently in grade 2 who also attends the Midnapore Mandarin program means a Mandarin middle school (and eventually a High School) is very important to our children's education. Thank you.
- School bus and After school care
- Every single school should have at least 2 language options to choose from, might be French, Spanish, Mandarin, German, Russian, etc. This is a diverse world, and we need to offer different options to our children. Regards, Carlos,
- Thank you for your commitment to expand this program.
- I would like to see Mandarin bilingual school in Mountain Park School
- Better start from kindergarten
- I disagree with having a bilingual program for students that is not one of our official national languages. Or paying our tax dollars towards it
- This would be for a beginner level student.



# dialogue)))

- Will there be busing from Evergreen. That will indicate whether or not my kids can attend program as we can't drive them to school.
- What about busing? Programs of Choice are currently a issue for CBE's busing situation, and 20 students from all over the south part of the city looks to make matters much worse. I would not send my children to this program and do not support a program set up for such a low number of children.
- I feel it is necessary to have Panabaker as the Middle School regardless of the numbers because we have to start some where. The Mandarin Bilingual in the north started with even smaller numbers and is now thriving. Panabaker is necessary for the continued growth of Mandarin Bilingual program in the south.
- I think it is very important for CBE to support the program as what we always discussed.
- None
- Perhaps your funds could be better spent supporting children in regular programming who are getting moved to different schools or losing thier transportation due to costs being too high. My child's school designation has been changed in GRADE THREE and we are losing bussing. Because of costs. Instead the funds are being used to support as little as 60 kids in a specialty program?? Plus how much all of these surveys cost!
- How many tens/hundreds of thousands of public money and CBE resources have be diverted to developing yet another specialty program instead of putting into our current classrooms? It's no wonder that the CBE is being audited. This is disgusting.
- Substantial school bus coverage will be the key factor to promote registration.
- Hope you understand how difficult you have made it for families, who would gladly attend this progam, by removing bussing to and from these Special Progam schools
- The previous question is phrased so as to cause confusion. I answered it incorrectly as I understood it, in that I would have one student eligible, however, I do not intend to register my student for this bilingual program, therefore I left it blank.
- This program is valuable and I trust that Harold Panabaker School has the junior high for the 2018-19 school year.
- We need mandarin school
- Two kids, one is 9 years old, one is 7 years old.
- Instead of continuing to spread resources thinner by opening yet another speciality program, I urge you to put the time and resources into existing programs.



# dialogue)))

- Can panabaker school open time be adjusted to 8:00am? And also I want know afterschool care schedule.
- My son is already bilingual, he speaks English and Spanish. It would be a great to have the opportunity learn another one.
- N
- Mandiran is becoming a widely used language now. It will be good if more Canadian children can use it.
- My son is in a Learning and Literacy program currently and I would not be interested in having him take part in the mandarin program.
- Bi-lingual programs for NON-official Canadian languages should NOT be funded with public dollars!
- Transportation communication is very important. It'd be great to have a bus from Midnapore to Panabaker in the morning and Panabaker siblings to be able to ride the bus from their home to Midnapore to catch that bus
- I need school bus to send my child to there, and After School Care as well, because both me and my husband need to go to work during the weekday.
- Our children are still in preschool and grade 1
- Our family is from Korea but mother can speak chinese so I want my children to enroll the mandarin bilingual program if it's possible
- Just for Grade 7 is not enough. What about Grade 8 or 9?
- Many families have already planned around the fact it is opening this fall 2018.
- I really hope this school has good math teaching as well, to have my child to attend this school!
- My second kid will go to Midnapore kindergarten mandarin program on Sep 2018.
- Please move the south Mandarin program to Chinook area so it can attract more potential students. Midnapore school is way too far in the south which is a huge drawback for the south program.
- Its a waste of scarce resources to offer Mandarin and it is my opinion that the public school system should spend its money on English, French, Math, Sciences etc.
- None of my children are of the age to attend this school.