



March 17, 2016

New Middle School Opening for Copperfield & New Brighton

Re: Information on school designation, grade configuration changes and more

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Calgary Board of Education (CBE) is pleased to be opening Dr. Martha Cohen School in New Brighton in January 2017. The CBE aims to offer a kindergarten to Grade 9 learning continuum that minimizes transitions between schools. Dr. Martha Cohen School in conjunction with two new elementary schools in New Brighton/Copperfield will make it possible to serve all kindergarten-Grade 9 students in those communities. We would like to thank all the families who took time to attend or respond to the expression of interest. This information was an important part of determining the designation for students next year.

Grade configurations at schools that serve New Brighton/Copperfield:

School Name	School Year	Grades
Copperfield School	2016-2017 & Beyond	Kindergarten – Grade 4
New Brighton School	2016-2017 & Beyond	Kindergarten – Grade 4
Dr. Martha Cohen	2016-2017	Grade 5 – Grade 8

**The CBE aims to offer a kindergarten-Grade 9 learning continuum that minimizes transitions between schools. The new school will not offer Grade 9 in its first year.*

If the new school opens in January, where will students go in the fall?

From September through December, students in Grades 6-8 will temporarily attend Wilma Hansen School. Meanwhile students in Grade 5 will temporarily attend New Brighton School.

To make the transition to the new schools as easy as possible, we plan to place students from Dr. Martha Cohen in classes together with the teacher(s) who will move with them. Once at the new school, the most significant change for students will be their new surroundings as classmates, teachers and learning will remain the same.

How do I register my child?

Eligible students who are currently attending their designated middle school (RT Alderman or David Thompson) or their designated elementary school (Maple Ridge or Acadia) will automatically be transferred to the new middle school when it opens.

Currently we are not accepting transfers or registrations for students who are attending other CBE schools or schools operated by other districts. Information on registration for those students will be available May 2. We expect to have enough space for all eligible students living in the community.

Can my child stay at RT Alderman or David Thompson Schools?

Grade eight students may choose to stay at RT Alderman or David Thompson Schools for the entire 2016-17 school year.

- Please contact the school to inform them that you do not want your child automatically transferred to Dr. Martha Cohen middle school.

Transportation from Copperfield to RT Alderman School and New Brighton to David Thompson School will be available for the entire 2016-17 school year. Transportation fees will apply.

Students may transfer to Dr. Martha Cohen middle school or remain at RT Alderman and David Thompson for Grade 9 in 2017-18. Please note that school bus transportation from Copperfield and New Brighton will **not** be available to RT Alderman or David Thompson for the 2017-18 school year and beyond.

Who is the new school Principal?

Jason Hartl is the principal of Dr. Martha Cohen middle school. Jason will start in his new role on April 4, 2016 and will work with parents and students to develop a school opening plan. To learn more about Jason please visit <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/newschool> and click on the Dr. Martha Cohen middle school link.

Can my child take the school bus?

Students are eligible for transportation to their designated school if they live beyond the walk zone. Please visit <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/newschools> and click on the link to Dr. Martha Cohen middle school to see the walk zone map. General information regarding transportation services and fees is available on our website at <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/busing-and-transportation/Pages/default.aspx> and through your school. All students accessing transportation are required to pay transportation fees.

Transportation to RT Alderman and David Thompson Schools will be available until the end of June 2017.

What happens if the new school isn't ready to open in January?

CBE is closely monitoring construction progress on all schools. If there is a delay a contingency plan will be communicated to parents. Our contingency plans will ensure the learning needs of students are met. We will keep parents and the community informed of any changes to the expected opening date.



This is an exciting time. We look forward to working with you as we welcome students to their new school.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sydney Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sydney" and the last name "Smith" clearly distinguishable.

Sydney Smith
Director, Area V

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carrie Edwards". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent flourish at the end.

Carrie Edwards
Director,
Planning & Transportation

Ec: Superintendents' Team
Principals



Attendance Area for Dr Martha Cohen School

Effective September 2016

