

## EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

February 8, 2005

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Capital Plan – New Schools Preliminary Planning and Schematic Design

ORIGINATOR: R. MacNeil, Assistant to the Superintendent

### RESOURCE

STAFF: Jenise Bidulock, Randy Billey, Michael Ediger, Brian Fedor, Roland Labbe, Randy Leal, Larry Schwenneker

### INFORMATION

On October 14, 2004 the district received approval to proceed with the preliminary planning and schematic design work for three new schools identified in the district's current capital plan, namely:

- Lake District K – 6 School
- Burnewood / Meadows Junior High School
- Riverbend / Terwillegar Grades 9 – 12 High School

The administration is currently confirming the design capacities of the new schools with respect to their final configuration and size. As well, the administration is reviewing the possibility of using repeat designs of schools recently built in the Edmonton area that are of similar capacities to those approved for preliminary and schematic design by Alberta Infrastructure. This approach has been used successfully in the past by the district in the construction of Jackson Heights School which is a repeat design of Michael A. Kostek and George H. Luck schools. A school of the Jackson Heights design can no longer be constructed within the funding support price provided by Alberta Infrastructure. Edmonton Catholic Schools recently constructed an elementary school and a senior high school and the possibility of repeating the designs of these two schools is being considered. The architectural firms that designed the elementary school and the senior high school have worked with our district in the past and are familiar with district requirements. The junior high school design process is under consideration pending finalization of the capacity.

There are several benefits to using a repeat design of recently built schools and a key is that the costs are recent and known. The familiarity with the design allows for the opportunity to save time and realize economies by advancing to the preliminary working drawing stage. "Fine tuning" of design through all disciplines, such as architectural, structural, mechanical, and electrical can also deliver construction cost savings and reduced consultant's fees. Overall, approximately six months can be trimmed from the construction timeline resulting in an earlier school opening with less risk of unforeseen cost increases.

LS:ct

APPENDIX I: Alberta Minister of Infrastructure Letter to Board Chair