

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

January 31, 2006

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: E. Schmidt, Acting Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Response to the Victoria School Building Advocacy Group

ORIGINATOR: R. MacNeil, Executive Director

RESOURCE
STAFF: John Nicoll, Ingrid Neitsch

INFORMATION

Background

Following a presentation by the Victoria School Building Advocacy Group at the January 17, 2006 board meeting, the administration undertook to provide an information report to board regarding the steps that have been taken with respect to requests raised in the presentation.

Three requests made by the Victoria School Building Advocacy Group to the Board of Trustees and administration's responses are provided in this report.

The first request of the Board of Trustees was to support the recommendations for a new facility for Victoria School and to work to ensure its completion as soon as physically viable.

Response: On January 10, 2006 the Board of Trustees approved a motion to send a letter from the Board Chair to the Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation and the Minister of Education informing them of the urgency to proceed with the building of a new school. This has been done.

The second request to the Board of Trustees was to ensure that the health and safety of students and staff is maintained through ongoing building maintenance until the project is complete.

Response: The district is committed to ensuring the health and safety of staff and students in all schools. The district recently undertook to have measurements of the air and water quality taken at Victoria School, and the testing indicated that the air and water are safe and there is not any known air or water quality issues in the school. Facilities Services has a full complement of technical services available (including custodial consultants) on an as needed basis to assist with any concerns the school may have with respect to providing an appropriate environment for learning.

The third and final request of the Board of Trustees was that the Victoria School Building Advocacy Group be kept informed of the progress of both the revitalization project and the building maintenance of the current structure.

Response: The district is committed to communicating to our communities on issues relating to the school. We will continue to work with the Principal of Victoria School to ensure communication between Victoria School and the parent community continues on a regular basis.

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