

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

January 31, 2006

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: E. Schmidt, Acting Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: New Locations for District Programs for 2006-2007

ORIGINATOR: C. McCabe, Executive Director

RESOURCE

STAFF: Karen Bardy, Jenise Bidulock, Deborah Brandell, Randy Billey, Gloria Chalmers, Margaretha Ebbers, Kerry-Ann Kope, Sandra Mason, Deanne Patsula, Janet Thomas, Stuart Wachowicz

INFORMATION

Alternative Programs

Student Program Distribution made a commitment to identify all new Alternative Program locations for the 2006-2007 school year by January 2006. Student Program Distribution staff in Planning has been working closely with the departments of Curriculum and Programs to determine the need for new Alternative programs in the district. Provision of equity of access to alternative programs is a foundational belief underlying decisions made regarding the distribution of program choice across the district. Many factors including demand, availability of student space, impact at existing locations, condition of facilities, program integrity and transportation are considered in the process for establishing new academic alternative programs. Consultation with principals, school staff parents and central staff are integral to the implementation of alternative programs and occur frequently during the establishment process. All factors considered are dependent upon final approval by the Superintendent of Schools. Following is a summary of the new programs currently planned and proposed to open in September, 2006.

<b>Alternative Program</b>	<b>New Locations / School</b>	<b>Superintendent Approval</b>	<b>Implementation Plan</b>	<b>Current Principal</b>
Advanced Placement	L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy	Approved	Grade 10	Don Blackwell
Caraway	Location to be determined	Pending Approval	K-6	
Cogito	Meyokumin	Approved	K-4	Jeanne Carter
	Richard Secord	Approved	K-4	Charlotte Corothers
French Immersion	Brander Gardens	Approved	K-2	Sandra Sawchuk

<b>Alternative Program</b>	<b>New Locations / School</b>	<b>Superintendent Approval</b>	<b>Implementation Plan</b>	<b>Current Principal</b>
International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program	Location to be determined in West end of the city	Pending Approval	K-5	
Logos	Sakaw	Approved	K-3	Gail Brierly
Pre-Advanced Placement	Locations to be determined by January 2006	Pending Approval	Grade 7	
Science Alternative	Elmwood	Approved	K-6	Richard Dietrich
International Spanish Academy	Location to be determined on North Side	Pending Approval	K-1	

#### Advanced Placement

L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy will offer Advanced Placement programming for students in grade 10 beginning in January 2006. Students in the Dance Alternative Program, Vimy Program and Sports Alternative Program will have access to this program choice. Further to the implementation of the Advanced Placement program at L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy an in-depth internal review of school programs is currently being conducted led by Programs in collaboration with Curriculum, Consulting Services, Leadership Services, Planning and staff from Donnan School and L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy. The purpose of the review is to identify a comprehensive program description for both the Sports Alternative Program and the Vimy Program.

#### Caraway

The Caraway program has been temporarily located in the Argyll Home Education Centre. Planning has been working with the parent community and school principals to identify a new location for the Caraway program. A new location will be identified February, 2006 pending approval of the Superintendent.

#### Cogito

The Cogito Alternative Program is the fastest growing alternative program in Edmonton Public Schools and in other areas of the Province. There are currently two elementary Cogito Alternative Program sites, at Elmwood/Stratford School and at Mount Pleasant School. There are also three junior high Cogito Alternative Program sites at Allendale, Britannia and Elmwood/Stratford schools. Overwhelming demand to accommodate students at Mount Pleasant School for the Cogito Alternative Program has resulted in a two year review coordinated by the Planning Department to provide equitable access to the program for students living on the south side of the city. As a result the superintendent has approved two new locations to open next year. Mount Pleasant School will continue to offer the Cogito Alternative Program from kindergarten to grade six as well it is planned that Richard Second School and Meyokumin School will provide Cogito Alternative programming for kindergarten through grade four next year and expand programming to grades five and six in subsequent years. This plan will take pressure off of Mount Pleasant School and provide that

program choice to more students closer to where they live. The approval of two new sites is also in alignment of the long term revitalization plan to better utilize district space.

#### French Immersion

The French Immersion Program has demonstrated significant growth. There are twelve French Immersion sites across the city at both the elementary and junior high levels and two at the senior high level. A new French Immersion Program site has been approved by the superintendent to open at Brander Gardens School for the 2006-2007 school year. The program will be implemented at the kindergarten to grade two levels for the first year and is expected to grow up the grade levels to grade six in subsequent years. This would be the first alternative program to be located in the Riverbend area of the city. This program would serve to accommodate the growing demand for French Immersion in Riverbend and the newer Southwest neighbourhoods of the city. The French Immersion program at Brander Gardens School will provide increased access to the program for students living in this area of the city and may draw students from the single track French Immersion program at nearby Schools.

An accommodation review of the viability of French Immersion and English programming at both Richard Secord School and Greenfield School is underway. The accommodation review committee includes the principals of Greenfield and Richard Secord schools, parent representatives from all programs at each school, and central district staff. The review committee will focus on what is best for students. All parents and staff will have opportunities to provide input to the accommodation plan. The final recommendation will be forwarded to the Superintendent of Schools by January 2007.

#### International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program

There is currently only one school in the district that offers the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program for students in kindergarten to grade five. Exploration of a west end location is underway to implement the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program school next year. The school chosen will make application to the International Baccalaureate Organization in May. Programs have been working with the International Baccalaureate Organization to coordinate a district rate for all International Baccalaureate programs making this program choice more affordable to schools.

#### Logos

The Logos Alternative Program has experienced growth and maintained a stable population with Edmonton Public Schools for 10 years. There are now eight elementary and junior high schools offering the Logos Alternative Program across the city with over 1200 students attending. Currently over 140 students are leaving the Millwoods area to attend a Logos Alternative Program in other areas of the city. As well there are over 400 students from the Millwoods area choosing other Christian Programming. With continued growth to the east and south of Millwoods there is a demand to locate a Logos Alternative Program closer to where students live to provide more equitable access to this program choice and to provide an alternative program choice in Millwoods. The Superintendent has approved Sakaw School the new Logos Elementary site for next year. The program will be advertised as Kindergarten to grade six to determine demand. Implementation will be dependent upon enrolment in the spring.

### Pre-Advanced Placement

Pre-Advanced Placement is the newest alternative program choice at the junior high level. Several schools have expressed interest in implementing this program for their students. Last year three schools were identified as Pilot Sites. Dan Knott, Parkview and Rosslyn Schools have been working with Curriculum and Programs at grade seven. It is expected that these three schools will continue to pilot the Pre-Advanced Placement Alternative program at the grade eight level next year. The Pre-Advanced Placement Alternative program will expand for the next school year pending approval by the superintendent, however, specific schools are yet to be identified.

### Science Alternative

Last spring the Board of Trustees approved the new Science Alternative Program. An elementary location has been approved by the superintendent to be established at Elmwood School effective September 2006. The school location will be selected as the newest site for the Science Alternative Program at Elementary. Some considerations for selecting the school are easy access to some of the science partners like the Royal Alberta Museum and the Telus World of Science. As well the new location has adequate space to accommodate additional students from Kindergarten to grade six and is in proximity to newer developments in the city.

### International Spanish Academy

Pending approval by the Superintendent, further expansion of the International Spanish Academy program is planned for the North side of the city. Implementation of the International Spanish Academy and grade configurations will be dependent on demand and on enrolment in the spring.

### Special Education

Student Program Distribution prepares a forecast for new special education district classes, however, some are not confirmed until April or May when new special education students requesting a district site are identified. New classes are established in response to demand for additional student placement in special education programs. Other factors that are considered are equity of access for students, availability of student space, impact on existing programming in the school, condition of facilities and transportation. Consultation with school principals and other district staff are ongoing during the process for determining new locations. Distribution of all new special education district classes are dependent on approval by the Superintendent.

For the 2005-2006 school year, a second Behaviour and Learning Assistance Special Education class is planned to open at John D. Bracco School in late January, in response to demand for additional student placements this November.

The current Academic Challenge Special Education Program at the junior high level will change to meet the expectations of the new Challenge Special Education Program. New sites may be warranted if there is an indication of an increase in students being identified as Challenge and requesting a district centre placement. Both the elementary and junior high Challenge programs will be monitored over the next few months to determine the need to open new sites.

Planning is working with school and district staff on the relocation of Academy of King Edward High School Strategies Special Education District Center Program from Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts to a new permanent school location. The goal is to relocate the program for September 2007 in anticipation of space limitations resulting from the new construction planned to be completed for Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts.

<b>Special Education Program</b>	<b>New Locations / School</b>	<b>Superintendent Approval</b>	<b>Plan for Implementation</b>	<b>Current Principal</b>
Behaviour and Learning Assistance/Opportunity	John D. Bracco	Approved	Effective Immediately at Division III	Mary-Lou Cleveland
Challenge at Junior High	To be determined	Pending Approval	Prior to spring pre-enrolment process	
King Edward Academy High School Strategies Housed at Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts	To be determined	Pending Approval	September 2006	Rob Cameron

Other Programs

Planning is collecting data and exploring a possible demand for an Early Education district centre in Millwoods. Presently, Millwoods does not have an Early Education site program resulting in over 100 students aged 3 1/2 - 5 1/2 are leaving Millwoods to receive programming in other areas of the city. The goal of opening a new location in Millwoods would be to provide more equitable access to programming for Early Education students. Consultation with Principals and site visits of schools with Early Education and/or Outreach programs is planned.

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