EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

March 24, 2009

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: E. Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Sector Reviews: Update

ORIGINATOR: T. Parker, Assistant Superintendent

RESOURCE

STAFF: Meredith Colgan, Josephine Duquette, Michael Ediger, Leanne Fedor, Jyde

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INFORMATION

In October 2008, the Board of Trustees approved the *Annual Implementation Plan 2008-2009* which gave direction to the Administration to undertake a multi-year sector review initiative. A PowerPoint presentation will update the Board of Trustees and the public on the status, process and timelines of the work. Information on the roles and expectations of district administration within the process is also provided. Highlights of the plan are:

Outcomes and General Directions

- 1. *Managing Student Space: A Sector Planning Approach* is an opportunity for the District to realign programs within school buildings to best meet the needs of students and families. Staff and students will teach and learn in geographically accessible, high quality schools.
- 2. The sector reviews initiative will provide opportunities for meaningful community engagement; firstly through direct participation in the sector review process; and secondly, through expanded opportunities to occupy space in district buildings where appropriate.
- 3. The sector reviews will enable the best use of district space for instructional programs and community partners.
- 4. The sector reviews will impact on existing programs and school space such that there will be recommendations for school closures and program consolidation coming out of the work.

Process

- 1. All nine sectors in the District will be reviewed, beginning with three sectors that have the greatest need for change. As these sectors are addressed and improved, the focus will shift to other sectors. This 'rotating' approach will carry on into the future.
- 2. Sector reviews will clearly identify the space required for teaching and learning, space for district educational partners, and space to meet other community needs. The City of Edmonton will play a key role in identifying specific community groups that have needs for space.
- 3. Sector reviews have commenced within the West 1, South Central, and Central Sectors (Appendix I). Recommendations will arise from these reviews in fall 2010.

4. Sector reviews have commenced in spring 2009 on an accelerated timeline within the Greater Hardisty Area and the City Centre Education Partnership, as approved in the *Annual Implementation Plan:* 2008-2009. It is expected that recommendations will arise from the accelerated reviews in January 2010.

Public Engagement

- 1. Public engagement (PE) will begin in Fall 2009. Public information sessions and consultations will be conducted by external professionals who will provide community input to review planners and decision-makers.
- 2. PE will incorporate the findings of the current Board's *Ad Hoc Committee to Review Sustainability Reviews and School Closures*, and will be conducted in accordance with district-approved frameworks, policies or procedures as they currently exist or are developed.
- 3. The PE model will be structured around four key points of engagement:
 - Informing communities about district use of space in the sector;
 - Involving communities regarding the amount of space required for instruction;
 - Consulting with communities about the most appropriate configurations for instructional space; and
 - Collaborating with communities regarding the use of excess space by district partners and the community.
- 4. The PE firm will report community input directly to the Board of Trustees in the form of detailed and comprehensive reports.
- 5. A Request for Proposals will be issued to retain a PE firm by May 2009.
- 6. Clear and timely information will be provided to the Board of Trustees, district staff and the community.

Responsibilities, Roles and Expectations

- 1. The Administration will make recommendations to the Board of Trustees regarding school closures or program consolidations that arise out of the sector review process.
- 2. The Board of Trustees, having the sole authority to close schools or programs, will approve, amend or defeat any recommendations from the Administration regarding school closures or program consolidations.
- 3. All district staff and staff groups will provide support to the sector review process during all phases.
- 4. Central decision units will provide staff and other resources as required by the Superintendent of Schools.
- 5. Assistant superintendents will be the primary contacts for communications to schools and identifying requirements of schools.
- 6. The roles and expectations of district principals will be clearly defined and communicated to school communities.
- 7. Representatives from the community, the City of Edmonton, the Province, key service agencies and central decision unit administrators will be invited to participate in a Sector Review Advisory Committee.
- 8. The Board of Trustees will continue to advocate for appropriate funding and resources from elected officials at the Province and the City to support the outcomes of this work.

DME:gm

Appendix I - Sector Map

Appendix II - Power Point Presentation Handout Materials

Appendix I

























































