

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

April 24, 2007

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: B. Holt, Acting Superintendent

SUBJECT: Ritchie School: Administration Response to Referral Motion

ORIGINATOR: C. McCabe, Executive Director

RESOURCE

STAFF: Michael Ediger, Andrea Furness, Kerry-Ann Kope, Cindy Skolski

RECOMMENDATION

That the recommendation 'that a capital request for a full general modernization of the Ritchie School building, including the 1913 building, be included as a district priority in the next Three-Year Capital Plan submission to the province be approved' be withdrawn.

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The administration proposes to withdraw the recommendation to include Ritchie School for a full general modernization in the next Three-Year Capital Plan. This recommendation was contingent on the approval of the closure of Mill Creek School and the subsequent consolidation of the Mill Creek kindergarten to grade six program and the Ritchie grade seven to nine program into the Ritchie School building.

This project will be considered in the district's annual planning cycle for the Annual Implementation Plan and Three-Year Capital Plan process along with all other district schools. The Annual Implementation Plan determines which schools will be recommended for Sustainability Review, Program Fit Review and Facility Alterations over a ten year period. Schools identified for Facility Alteration will be included in the Three-Year Capital Plan as modernization projects. These schools are prioritized based on enrolment, building condition and potential for future growth resulting from school closure.

When preparing the three year plan, the modernization needs of Ritchie School will be considered within the context of the needs of all district schools. Because of the low and declining enrolment at Ritchie School, it is likely that Ritchie School will appear in the next district Ten Year Facility plan as being in need of a Sustainability Review in the next three year time frame. Schools where long term viability is in question have not been included for modernization in the district's Three-Year Capital Plan.

JB:pn