

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

December 12, 2000

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: E. Dossdall, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Closure of Westview Village School

ORIGINATOR: A. McBeath, Department Head

RESOURCE
STAFF: Del Bouck, Robert Craig, Manfred Malzahn, Deanne Patsula

RECOMMENDATION

That the closure of Westview Village School effective December 31, 2000 be approved.

* * * * *

The administration recommends that Westview Village School be closed because it is no longer required to accommodate students. Since September 1999, potential enrolment in the school was too low to offer programming, and there is no indication that this will change in the future. The school previously offered kindergarten to grade 4 programming. At this time, Winterburn School is temporarily accommodating kindergarten to grade 4 students who reside in Westview Village.

The board has the authority to close schools, and the process requirements in the applicable provincial regulation and board policy have been met (Appendices I and II).

Parents and community members have had several opportunities for input. A number of concerns were raised, and these are being addressed to the extent possible (Appendix III). During the consultation process, most parents who participated expressed their satisfaction with Winterburn School, and several favoured closure of Westview Village School.

The City of Edmonton was invited to provide input regarding potential effects of school closure on the community, and has done so (Appendix IV). The administration will initiate discussions with City staff to address the points made in the submission.

If the board approves the recommendation to close the school, the decision will be communicated to the Minister of Learning, residents of the Westview Village community, and parents of students attending Winterburn School. Winterburn School will be designated to serve kindergarten to grade 9 students who reside in Westview Village.

MM:mm

APPENDIX I – Alberta Regulation 238/97 – Closure of Schools Regulation

APPENDIX II – FL.BP School Closure

APPENDIX III – Summary of Concerns Raised during the Consultation Process

APPENDIX IV – Letter from City Manager to Superintendent, November 24, 2000