

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

March 10, 2009

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: E. Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: District Enrolment Outlook and Impact of ASAP Schools

ORIGINATOR: T. Parker, Assistant Superintendent

RESOURCE

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INFORMATION

This report provides summary information on future enrolment trends in the District, and information on how district schools will be impacted by the construction of nine new schools. The schools will be built within the next three and one half years through the Alberta School Alternative Procurement (ASAP) initiative.

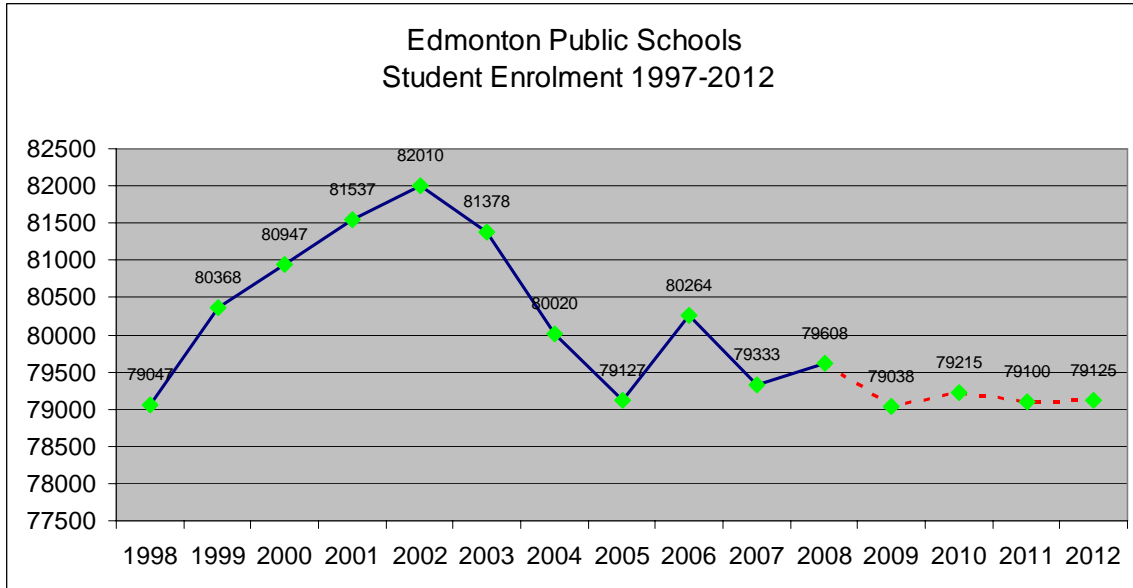
Background

A key principle that drives the distribution of schools and programs in the District is to ensure equitable access to educational opportunities across the jurisdiction. The principle of equitable access is supported in the Board's Policy AE.BP which advocates for choice in individual programs of study. To achieve this aim, it is important to locate schools close to where growing populations of school-aged children reside. In Edmonton, some parts of the city have excess capacity while others are experiencing a shortage of school space. Matching the number of student spaces with the demand is a key challenge for the District.

The *Ten-Year Facilities Plan 2009-2018* identifies that there are approximately 30,000 surplus student spaces within the District. Despite the closure of 14 schools and five programs since 2000, the District remains significantly oversupplied in terms of instructional space. This situation will become more acute in coming years with six new ASAP schools scheduled to open in September 2010, and three additional ASAP schools scheduled to open in September 2012. These schools will serve students in Kindergarten to Grade 9. By 2012, it is estimated that there will be 37,000 surplus spaces within the District.

Enrolment Outlook

The Planning department has prepared an enrolment projection for September 30, 2009 of 79,038 students. This represents a decline of 570 students or one per cent from the current enrolment of 79,608 students as of September 30, 2008. Enrolment is projected to remain stable at approximately 79,100 students through 2012.



The rapid growth in Alberta's economy has moderated during the past eight months due to depressed resource prices. This is reflected in a marked decrease in employment growth in Edmonton and Calgary. The recent downturn in the global economy suggests that employment growth will continue to slow in Alberta. According to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's (CMHC) Housing Outlook Conference, there were 37,000 jobs created in 2007 in Edmonton, 22,000 jobs were created in 2008, and 2009 is expected to see fewer than 10,000 jobs created. This is Alberta's lowest employment growth forecast in the past decade. The expectation is that the downward trend will continue for next year until major projects like the North East Industrial Area begins development in late 2009-2010. It should be noted that these projects, at this point, are most likely not moving forward due to the current global economic crisis.

Alberta's low unemployment rate has recently been a major inducement for inter-provincial migration. In 2008, over 55,000 people moved to Alberta, more people than have moved to any other province in the last ten years. In 2009, it is expected that net migration to Alberta will continue to be strong but should drop to approximately 50,000 people net migration in the next year. Edmonton will gain a greater share of the Province's new citizens next year according to the CMHC Housing Conference.

Kindergarten enrolment has increased moderately in the past two years following several years of decline. Capital Health census data for 2009 indicates a continuation of a trend of fewer preschool-aged children. For example, in 2008 there were approximately 7,116 four year olds compared to 8,367 four year olds in 2007. Looking at one year olds, there was an increase in population from 8,991 in 2007 to 9,915 in 2008. Capital Health estimates a small gain of one year olds in 2009. Kindergarten enrolment is projected to be 5,117 on September 30, 2009. This number should remain relatively stable for the next five years.

Impact of ASAP School Construction on Enrolment at Existing Schools

The following schools have commenced construction for 2010 or are approved for construction to open in 2012.

Opening in September 2010		
Area Structure Plan	Neighbourhood	Capacity
Lake District	Belle Rive	850
Palisades	Carlton	650
Pilot Sound	Hollick-Kenyon	650
Heritage Valley	Rutherford	850
The Meadows	Tamarack	850
Terwillegar Heights	Terwillegar Towne	850
Total		4700

Opening in September 2012		
Area Structure Plan	Neighbourhood	Capacity
The Grange	The Hamptons	850
Ellerslie	Summerside	850
Griesbach	Griesbach	600
Total		2300

The addition of 7,000 student spaces in the District will directly affect the availability of student spaces at existing schools in other sectors. Appendix I identifies the schools that will be affected by the opening of the ASAP schools. The data is based on student enrolment at affected schools as of September 30, 2008, who live in the future attendance area of a new ASAP school. The number of students who are expected to attend the new ASAP school includes regular students, and an estimated proportion of the current alternative program students who may switch to the new community school. The estimate is based on historical information on the choices that students in alternative programs made when a school was opened in their communities, for example, the number of French Immersion students from Twin Brooks who chose to attend George P. Nicholson School.

Impact on Student Transportation

The opening of the ASAP schools will result in a reduction of buses as many students will no longer require busing to a designated receiving school. However, the net result will not be significant as some of these students will still reside more than 2.4 kilometres from their new school and, in that regard, require transportation services. The level of yellow bus service required is also dependent on several factors, which include such things as availability of public transit services, school hours of operation and route design. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.

Alternative Programs in ASAP 2010 schools

Alternative programs are distributed to accommodate students in geographically accessible areas. The establishment of a new alternative program must not undermine the viability of

existing sites. The District will use the following criteria to establish the programming needs for the new ASAP schools.

Criteria

- Sufficient interest from attendance area students and exhibited demand of at least 100 students in Division I.
- Sufficient overall capacity to meet the demand of all attendance area students.
- Sufficient space to offer two classes per grade for two consecutive years.
- Feasibility of continuing the program based on anticipated long-term enrolment from the attendance areas.

Conclusion

The opening of the ASAP schools will play a dramatic role in the growth of surplus space within the District. In response, the Administration is reviewing space needs in key sectors in the District. The sector reviews will provide clear strategies to consolidate instructional space and redistribute programs in areas that are greatly impacted by the ASAP schools. In addition, information will be gathered through the upcoming passport and registration process to gain an understanding of how many students intend to register at the new schools for September 2010. Detailed information regarding the sector review process will be presented to the Board of Trustees in March 2009.

JH:gm

North West Sector

School	Current student population	# of Students expected to move to new ASAP school	Designated ASAP school
Baturyn	330	17	Carlton, The Palisades
Caernarvon	381	66	Carlton, The Palisades
Dunluce	446	67	Carlton, The Palisades
Mary Butterworth	611	67	Carlton, The Palisades

North Central Sector

School	Current student population	# of Students expected to move to new ASAP school	Designated ASAP school
Dickinsfield	376	54	Belle Rive, Lake District
Evansdale	353	48	Belle Rive, Lake District
J.A Fife	393	166	Belle Rive, Lake District/Hollick-Kenyon, Pilot Sound
Kildare	531	246	Belle Rive, Lake District/Hollick-Kenyon, Pilot Sound
Lago Lindo	365	45	Belle Rive, Lake District
Londonderry	689	234	Belle Rive, Lake District/Hollick-Kenyon, Pilot Sound
Lorelei	340	37	Carlton, The Palisades
McLeod	410	116	Hollick-Kenyon, Pilot Sound
Northmount	262	59	Belle Rive, Lake District/Hollick-Kenyon, Pilot Sound
Steele Heights	583	108	Belle Rive, Lake District/Hollick-Kenyon, Pilot Sound
York	306	100	Hollick-Kenyon, Pilot Sound

West 2 Sector

School	Current student population	# of Students expected to move to new ASAP school	Designated ASAP school
Afton	379	21	Hamptons, The Grange
Belmead	231	53	Hamptons, The Grange
Centennial	296	38	Hamptons, The Grange

Lymburn	275	26	Hamptons, The Grange
Michael A. Kostek	467	77	Hamptons, The Grange
Ormsby	302	68	Hamptons, The Grange
S. Bruce Smith	662	73	Hamptons, The Grange
Winterburn	443	40	Hamptons, The Grange

West 1 Sector

School	Current student population	# of Students expected to move to new ASAP school	Designated ASAP school
Dovercourt	263	31	Carlton, The Palisades
Rio Terrace	278	32	Hamptons, The Grange
Stratford	464	86	Hamptons, The Grange

Central Sector

School	Current student population	# of Students expected to move to new ASAP school	Designated ASAP school
Athlone	196	50	Carlton, The Palisades
Balwin	446	16	Hollick-Kenyon, Pilot Sound
Calder	184	54	Carlton, The Palisades
Delwood	462	73	Lake District/Pilot Sound
Glengarry	529	70	Lake District/Palisades
Kensington	377	49	Carlton, The Palisades
Killarney	423	52	Belle Rive, Lake District/Carlton, The Palisades
McArthur	178	48	Carlton, The Palisades
Princeton	218	49	Belle Rive, Lake District
Rosslyn	601	96	Carlton, The Palisades

South Central Sector

School	Current student population	# of Students expected to move to new ASAP school	Designated ASAP school
Avalon	537	55	Heritage Valley/ Terwillegar Heights
Allendale	303	33	The Meadows/ Terwillegar Heights
Avonmore	300	32	The Meadows

Donnan	483	112	The Meadows
Grandview Heights	294	53	Terwillegar Heights
Hardisty	402	31	The Meadows
Julia Kiniski	334	43	The Meadows
Malmo	219	28	Heritage Valley/ Terwillegar Heights
Mount Pleasant	315	59	Heritage Valley/ Terwillegar Heights
Ottewell	761	226	The Meadows

South West Sector

School	Current student population	# of Students expected to move to new ASAP school	Designated ASAP school
Brander Gardens	386	107	Terwillegar Heights
Brookside	341	116	Terwillegar Heights
D.S MacKenzie	545	97	Heritage Valley
Duggan	182	47	Heritage Valley
Earl Buxton	474	65	Heritage Valley/ Terwillegar Heights
George H. Luck	417	86	Terwillegar Heights
Greenfield	503	88	Heritage Valley/ Terwillegar Heights
Keheewin	361	93	Heritage Valley
Richard Secord	446	110	Heritage Valley/ Terwillegar Heights
Riverbend	661	166	Terwillegar Heights
Steinhauer	379	127	Heritage Valley
Vernon Barford	779	81	Heritage Valley/ Terwillegar Heights
Westbrook	482	56	Heritage Valley/ Terwillegar Heights

South East Sector

School	Current student population	# of Students expected to move to new ASAP school	Designated ASAP school
Bissett	326	40	The Meadows
Dan Knott	503	84	Ellerslie
Ekota	173	14	Ellerslie
Ellerslie	499	260	Heritage Valley/Ellerslie
Kate Chegwin	542	143	The Meadows
Meyokumin	479	66	Ellerslie/The Meadows
Meyonohk	348	72	Heritage Valley/Ellerslie
Minchau	302	18	The Meadows
Satoo	274	84	Ellerslie
T.D Baker	592	71	The Meadows
Velma E. Baker	339	66	The Meadows