
The Board of Education recognizes that, from time to time, declining and shifting student populations may necessitate the closure of schools. Before any decision is made, the Board will make its proposed plans regarding closure clear to all concerned, provide ample lead time and support a process that provides an opportunity for consultation with those who will be affected.

Specifically,

The Board recognizes that the number and location of schools must be balanced with education program needs and operational efficiency and must be considered within available resources. If at any time on its own initiative or upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board intends to consider a motion which proposes the closure of any school, the Board shall give notice of its intent to do so at a regular open meeting of the Board, undertake a full and comprehensive consultation process of no less than ninety days and discuss and make a decision on the closure at a subsequent open meeting of the Board.

Consolidation Closure Process

1. The Board, by resolution at an open meeting of the Board, may give notice that it intends to close a school.
2. As early as possible in the calendar year, the Superintendent shall present to the Board at a regular open meeting, an analysis of schools, using the criteria set out below, and make any recommendations for the closure of schools.
 - 2.1 Student achievement and education programs
 - 2.2 Capacity and usage of the school
 - 2.3 Present and three to five-year enrolment projections
 - 2.4 Effect on the catchment area of schools, if more than one school was proposed to be closed and the general effect on surrounding schools
 - 2.5 Number of chertBnt aacho(n)-15(t)9(n)-(n)7(t)9(e)-14(n)7((e)7(s)-8(ch)6(oo)4(l)JITETQ0.00000912 0 6

3.3.3.7 Municipal Government Leaders

3.3.3.8 First Nations' Chiefs and Council

3.3.3.9 Métis Association

- 3.3.4 The Board shall use the local media and the school District's web site to advertise the purposes, dates and venues of the public information meeting and the public forum, in sufficient time to enable individuals or community groups to respond.

4. Public Information Meeting

- 4.1 The Superintendent shall make available at a public information meeting facts and information with respect to the proposed school closure, including:
- 4.1.1 Educational effectiveness, including educational program or course implications for affected students
 - 4.1.2 Capacity or usage of the school
 - 4.1.3 Present and three to five year enrolment projections
 - 4.1.4 Number of students affected at the school and surrounding schools
 - 4.1.5 Effect on the current catchment area of affected and surrounding schools
 - 4.1.6 Number of children in the catchment area that do not attend school
 - 4.1.7 Number of students attending the school from outside the catchment area
 - 4.1.8 Assessment of the projected student population growth in the catchment area
 - 4.1.9 Impact on District provided student transportation
 - 4.1.10 Condition of the facility and the need for capital expenditures to keep the

6. Individual Meetings with Community Leaders

- 6.1 The Board shall conduct individual meetings with the community leaders and representatives of the groups identified in the aforementioned item 3(c), at which the Board will hear responses and answer questions regarding the proposed closure of the school. The meetings shall be open to the public with the exception of closed meetings that may be requested by partner groups or community leaders. The Board will keep a public record of closed meetings.

7. Public Forum

- 7.1 The Board shall host a public forum at which individuals and representatives of community groups may address the Board on the proposed school closure.

8. Public Record

- 8.1 The Board shall keep a public record of the school closure consultation process, including copies of all correspondence from the Board Chair and the Superintendent; dates, advertising, names of attendees, agendas and minutes of the public information meeting, the individual meetings with community leaders and the public forum; and all written correspondence received by individual trustees and the Board.

9. Board Decision

- 9.1 At the end of the ninety day consultation period, the Board, at an open meeting, shall consider the information provided during the consultation process and by adopting a bylaw, make a final decision as to whether the school will be closed.

10. Notification of the Minister

- 10.1 If the Board decides to permanently close a school under Section 73 of the Education Act, the Board shall, without delay, notify the Minister in writing of the decision and the following information:
- 10.1.1 The school's name, facility number and address,
 - 10.1.2 The date on which the school will close.

Legal Reference: section 73 and 168, Ministerial Order 320/02

Adopted: September 2018