Anglophone West School District Sustainability Study – Bath Elementary and Middle School April, 2015

Introduction

The Anglophone West School District Education Council (ASD-W DEC) has conducted a sustainability study on the Bath Elementary and Middle Schools. The study began for Bath Middle School with an approved motion at the October 23, 2014, Public DEC meeting and was broadened in scope to include Bath Elementary School with an approved motion at the January 22, 2015, Public DEC Meeting. The study concluded at the April 23, 2015 Public DEC meeting.

Throughout the study, efforts were made to abide by the expectations of Provincial Policy 409: Multi-Year School Infrastructure Planning. The Council understood its mandate to vote in one of three directions:

- 1. Maintain the status quo at the school(s)
- 2. Make a recommendation to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development to make a significant investment into infrastructure and programming at the school; ie. repair the school(s)
- 3. Make a recommendation to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development to close the school(s)

On April 23, the District Education Council voted to make a recommendation to the Minister to close Bath Elementary School and move the elementary students to Bath Middle School, next door. This would create a K-8 school setting. It is important to note that the Council felt it important to maintain the integrity of the early childhood program that is currently in place at the middle school.

The Council took into account the categories outlined in Policy 409 as they deliberated on the important decision.

This report demonstrates the efforts of district staff and Council to conduct a fair, engaging and transparent study. Specific websites were designed to keep the public informed. Many reports were posted and an online discussion board was monitored, with the superintendent answering inquiries and an opportunity for the public to share ideas. There were other methods of correspondence that were available to all stakeholders. The superintendent wrote, formally, to parents regularly. The public meetings were conducted in a fair, respectful and responsible manner.

The "Table of Contents" outlines the documentation in this final report. The report is available electronically and when a document is included in quotation marks, it signifies the electronic name assigned to the document. In most cases, this name is self-explanatory to the description of the document.

The superintendent and District Education Council believe that, with this report and process that was followed, procedural fairness has been accounted for.