



December 12, 2019

To the Parents/Guardians of the DW Poppy and Aldergrove Families of Schools, and Coghlan Fundamental Elementary

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Re: Aldergrove/DW Poppy Community Consultation

At the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education on Tuesday, June 18, 2019, the Board of Education passed the following motion:

*"That District staff commence a consultation process with parents and staff in the DW Poppy and Aldergrove families of schools and Coghlan Fundamental Elementary, regarding the three options presented to the Transition Committee, and report back to the Board of Education at their Regular Meeting in December 2019 with the feedback they receive and possible next steps."*

The three options presented to the public as part of the consultation process were as follows:

- Option 1      Re-submit the request for capital funding to the Ministry of Education
- Option 2      Place portables onsite to accommodate at least one grade group
- Option 3      DW Poppy becomes a stand-alone middle school and Aldergrove Secondary would become the feeder secondary school

Feedback was gathered over a two-month period through the following:

- Community Meetings – 706 attendees
- Online Survey – 662 respondents
- Email (feedback@sd35.bc.ca) – 282 emails

Key themes expressed in the feedback included (but not limited to):

- High value of Educational Opportunities
- Concerns over Transportation, Safety and Well-being, and Loss of Community

For the full report please see the agenda package: [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#).

At the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, the Board passed the following three motions:

*"As a result of the consultation feedback, District staff recommends Option 3 is not possible to implement a Middle School in the DW Poppy Region."*

*"That the Board of Education refers to ya:yəstəl' (using the BC Tripartite Education Agreement and Local Education Agreements as frameworks) to address their desire for student flexibility and priority in the schools they choose to attend, including both neighbourhood and choice programs."*

*"That District staff take the information they have learned through the consultation and work with the Aldergrove Transition Committee to develop options for educational enhancements to programming and scheduling between Betty Gilbert Middle School and ACSS and report back to the Board for consideration of next steps at a future Regular meeting."*

The Board also referred the following three staff recommendations to the Finance and Facilities Committee for priority setting and timelines:

*"That District staff investigate the possibility of changing the Fort Langley Elementary catchment from the DW Poppy catchment to the Walnut Grove catchment and report back to the Board for consideration."*

*"That the K-5 and K-7 Fundamental program be reviewed to align with the District's middle school model and report back to the Board for consideration."*

*"That District staff utilize the feedback gathered during the consultation to work with the DW Poppy Transition Committee to continue to develop options for middle school programming in the DW Poppy region."*

The Board of Education and District Leadership Team is thankful to all those who participated in the consultation process and on the Transition Committees over the past two years. We look forward to working with the community in 2020 and beyond.

Sincerely,



Gord Stewart  
Superintendent of Schools

c: Board of Education  
Woody Bradford, Assistant Superintendent  
Principals, Aldergrove Family of Schools  
Principal, Coghlan Fundamental Elementary  
Principals, DW Poppy Family of Schools