ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
1135 Prospect Street • Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 3B9 • www.asd-w.nbed.nb.ca

September 20, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians of Students at Bath Community School,

On September 19, 2019, the Anglophone West School District Education Council (ASD-W DEC) voted in favour of undertaking a sustainability study of Bath Community School, under the process outlined in the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Provincial Policy 409: Multi-Year School Infrastructure Planning. This policy serves as a foundation for determining the sustainability of a school, taking into account many aspects, such as:

Enrolment Transportation Economic Development Health and Safety Impact on Community Impact on Other Schools

Quality Education and Services

Finances

The sustainability study follows a process that includes three public meetings. The first public meeting will be for a presentation of facts about Bath Community School, in line with, but not limited to, the categories above. The second public meeting will allow for interested individuals, stakeholders and parties to present information to be considered in the decision-making process. A registration process for this meeting will be shared following the first meeting. The third public meeting will occur in March, 2020, at a Public DEC Meeting. At this time, the DEC will discuss the study and vote on a final recommendation.

The study may lead to several outcomes, including maintaining the status quo, repairing the school, grouping schools together, closing the school or placing some students elsewhere (Policy 409, Section 6.4.3). Another option that may be put forward is the construction of a new school. The concept of a new, K-8 school in the Carleton North High School catchment area has been placed on the District Major Capital Construction Priority list for government, submitted each year by our Council.

The Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development must approve any recommendation made by the DEC for a school closure. Likewise, government must approve the building of any new school facility or significant infrastructure improvement through the capital construction process.

The staff of Anglophone West School District will gather and organize information that will be presented at the first meeting. As mentioned above, the meeting will be open to the public. We will also inform affected persons (beyond parents) through a public notice.

The meetings for Bath Community School are scheduled to be on the following dates:

- Public Meeting #1 Saturday, November 30 at 10:00AM at Bath Community School
- Public Meeting #2 Saturday, January 25 at 10:00AM at Bath Community School
- Public Meeting #3 Thursday, March 19 at 6:30PM at Carleton North High School.

It should be noted that sustainability studies for Florenceville Middle School, Florenceville Elementary School and Bristol Elementary School are also being conducted during this period of time. All four studies will be concluded on March 19, 2020.

The Council acknowledges that Bath Community School was originally at the site of the former Bath Middle School. When construction on the former Bath Middle School reached a point where it could no longer proceed while students were in classes during the school year, students moved next door to the former Bath Elementary School. Although the school site has changed from the former middle school to the former elementary school, it is accepted that students continue to attend "Bath Community School". ..2/

Policy 409 can be found by going to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development website at http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/education.html and clicking on "Policies", leading you to "Policy 409".

In the near future, you can visit our district website (www.asd-w.nbed.nb.ca), where we will maintain a section with respect to the sustainability study. We will post related public information, including letters such as this. An email address will also be available for respectful, constructive comments on the study. We welcome your participation.

Sincerely,

David McTimoney Superintendent

David M' Jimorey