



January 2023

Proposed Catchment Boundary Changes for Carleton, Cunningham, Weir and MacCorkindale

Engagement Summary Report

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Background

As a result of an after-hours fire that damaged Carleton Elementary in 2016, the District offered families of Carleton students an option to have their children attend Cunningham Elementary, which is two kilometres away, or another nearby school. Although Cunningham Elementary had sufficient capacity to accommodate all Carleton students, many families opted to enroll their children at other nearby schools, principally Weir Elementary (one kilometre from Carleton) and MacCorkindale Elementary (one and a half kilometres from Carleton). Families in the Carleton catchment who wish to send their children to other nearby schools apply through a cross-boundary application.

Based on previously expressed families' preferences to attend different schools, staff propose an adjustment to the catchment boundaries for Cunningham, Weir, MacCorkindale and Carleton elementary schools. The objective is to prioritize convenience and choice for families, optimize the use of seismically safe capacity at the newly upgraded Weir Elementary, and respect the established enrolment patterns of the past six years. For detailed boundary adjustments analysis and recommendations made at the June 15, 2022 Facilities and Planning Committee, see [committee report](#).

Approximately 185 elementary-aged VSB students currently reside in the Carleton catchment area.

Overview

The process to change catchment boundaries is outlined in [Administrative Procedure 305 – School Catchment Boundaries](#), which states that, “School communities impacted by boundary changes will have the opportunity to provide feedback and input on proposed catchments.” The engagement summary report outlines efforts made to ensure clarity and transparency to the school communities affected by the proposed boundary catchment changes.

The engagement activities included pre-engagement focus groups with members of each of the impacted school communities (Carleton, Cunningham, Weir and MacCorkindale), in-person and virtual information sessions as well as a survey to collect feedback about the proposed changes, and feedback about the efficacy of the information sessions. These activities ensured that feedback from impacted communities could be captured and summarized for the Board, who, as per Board Policy 2, is responsible to approve catchment areas for schools and District programs.

The proposed catchment adjustments align with established enrolment patterns amongst the impacted school communities since 2016. The proposed changes

- prioritize convenience and choice for Carleton catchment families by enabling them to easily apply to nearby catchment schools; and,
- optimize use of a new, seismically safe elementary school at Weir Elementary. The new school has sufficient capacity to accommodate the additional enrolment anticipated from this boundary adjustment.

To allow sufficient time for families to know about any new catchment changes and submit any cross-boundary applications once the cross-boundary application period opens in early February, staff will seek the Board's a decision regarding the proposed catchment boundary adjustments at the January 2023 public Board meeting.

Summary of Engagement Findings

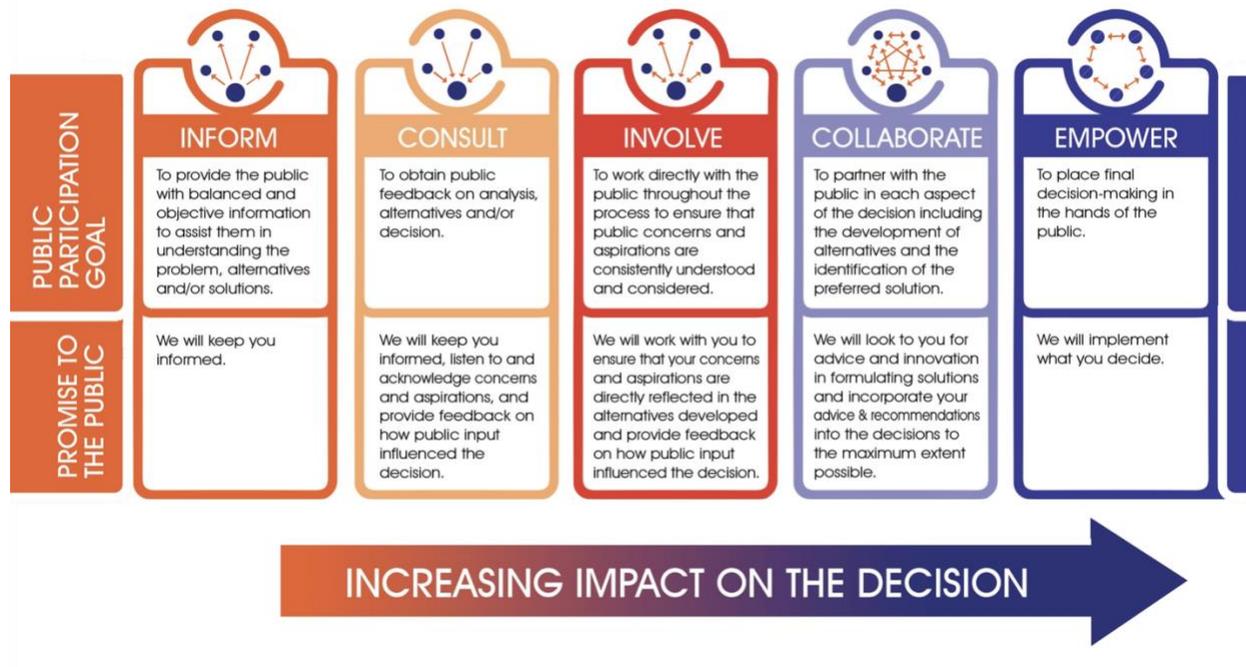
The objective of the engagement was to inform affected communities about the proposed changes, gather feedback regarding the engagement activities, and if approved, to gather qualitative information about how to best facilitate this change. The engagement findings showed that most were in favour of the proposed changes with many remarking in the survey, at information sessions and through email, that this change should have been made sooner by the District.

Some engagement participants with children in the current Carleton catchment were interested in information pertaining to the particulars of their child’s enrolment. Many of the questions that were posed by them are included in [Appendix F: Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Engagement Spectrum

The District follows public engagement best practices as outlined in the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) and is committed to open, clear and transparent engagement. The following engagement activities were guided by the IAP2 spectrum.

The District’s [Administrative Procedure 106: District Public Engagement](#) guides all engagement activities. Engagement for the proposed catchment boundary changes fell between the inform and consult levels of the IAP2 spectrum.



Engagement Activities

Pre-engagement

Focus Groups

Pre-engagement was crucial to collect information to help shape the full engagement process. Principals of impacted school communities were asked to help identify people to be part of the proposed catchment boundary change focus groups. Focus groups were comprised of Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) executives or members of their school community that could share the sentiment of the school.

The purpose of each focus group was to:

- discuss the rationale for the proposed boundary changes;
- identify future impacts/enrolment options; and,
- consult the group about proposed engagement activities (public information sessions and survey), as well as identify challenges and potential solutions. Input received helped finalize engagement activities.

A focus group was held with three PAC members from Weir and MacCorkindale on November 21, 2022 with the principal of Weir also in attendance. A second focus group was held with 10 Cunningham/Carleton parents/guardians and the Cunningham principal on November 22, 2022.

During the focus groups, an overview of the proposed changes was shared with participants as well as an overview of the engagement plan with proposed dates for information sessions. The focus groups provided participants with an opportunity to ask questions about the proposed engagement activities and the proposed boundary changes as well as to provide any feedback.

During the focus group sessions, participants identified important considerations for District staff such as language barriers and the most common languages spoken in their communities. Knowing this, multicultural liaison workers from the Newcomer Welcome Centre were asked to attend the in-person information session to help with translation supports. Additionally, focus group participants indicated an important need for future VSB families to be notified about the opportunities to engage. In recognition of this, an email and poster were shared with more than 30 community centres, daycares and neighbourhood houses in the impacted catchments. PAC members from Cunningham also mentioned that because Collingwood Annex closely borders the impacted catchments, families from Collingwood should also be notified of opportunities to engage, which District staff included in the outreach efforts.

Based on the pre-engagement feedback, the following groups were notified via email about the engagement opportunities (information session, survey and email):

- Families in the Carleton/Cunningham (711 recipients), Weir (583 recipients), MacCorkindale (431 recipients) and Collingwood (236 recipients) catchments
- Daycares, preschools, neighbourhood houses, community centres and nearby libraries near the impacted school communities (30 recipients)
- [District stakeholder group](#) representatives.

Principals of impacted school communities also notified families via school newsletters. See [Appendix C](#) for a copy of information shared.

Engagement

Information Sessions

Based on feedback gathered during the pre-engagement, District staff held two information sessions on Tuesday, December 6, 2022.

The first information session was held in person, from 2:30 – 5:00 pm in the gymnasium of Cunningham Elementary. [Information boards](#) were printed and displayed. Participants were invited to drop in, review the boards and ask staff questions directly. Multicultural liaison workers speaking Vietnamese, Spanish and Chinese were on site to assist with translation. Although only two people registered for the in-person information session, a total of 11 people attended, including Carleton/Cunningham staff, parents and members of the public.

A second virtual information session was held online later that evening from 6:00 – 7:00 pm for people who were unavailable to attend the in-person session. The same information and boards were presented online. At the end of the session, staff addressed questions submitted to engage@vsb.bc.ca prior to the virtual session, as well as questions raised by participants during the virtual session. A total of 18 people registered for the online information session, seven of whom logged in for the virtual session.

A [recording](#) of the virtual session was also posted on the project's website to ensure other interested people who could not attend the in-person or virtual information sessions could access the information.

Survey

A 5-minute survey was created and opened to the community. The survey was distributed to those who signed up or attended an online information session. The aim of the survey was to measure the effectiveness of the overall engagement strategy and participants' understanding of the proposed catchment boundary changes, as well as to capture enrolment information from Carleton catchment families. The survey received 12 responses. See [Appendix E](#) for the survey questions and results.

Email Feedback

Email feedback was directed to engage@vsb.bc.ca. The questions asked were either addressed during the information sessions or followed up with an email response.

Summary of Survey Results

Participants:

Those who participated in the survey were family members of Cunningham Elementary students, Weir Elementary students, or members of the broader community. A total of 14 responses were received. Seven responses were received from parents and caregivers of students residing in the Carleton catchment. All indicated satisfaction with their current catchment boundaries.

Information session feedback:

Six survey participants indicated that they attended an information session, and of those, all indicated that they fully understood the information presented at the session.

Participants were asked to rate the following questions on a scale from 1-100 (1 being unhelpful/dissatisfied and 100 being very helpful/very satisfied).

How helpful was the information that was presented on December 6?

The average response was 83. The responses received ranged from 52-100.

How satisfied are you with the opportunities you were given to share feedback about the proposed catchment change?

The average response was 81. The responses received ranged from 50-100.

How well do you understand the proposed catchment boundary changes?

The average response was 88. The responses received ranged from 72-100.

Proposed boundary changes:

Out of 13 responses received, eight people (61.54 per cent) were in favour of the proposed catchment boundary changes, three people (23.08 per cent) were opposed to the changes and two people (15.38 per cent) were unsure. See [Appendix E](#) for full survey results.

Are you in favour of the proposed changes?	Responses	Percentage
Yes	8	61.54
No	3	23.08
Maybe/Unsure	2	15.38

Conclusion

A final push was made on December 16 to encourage those who had signed up for the information session to complete the survey. Despite efforts to reach out to impacted communities, through emails, information sessions and community outreach, the survey received low participation with only 14 participants. The final survey results are linked below in [Appendix E](#).

Next Steps

This engagement summary report will be shared with the District’s Facilities and Planning Committee on January 18, 2023. It will then be provided to the Board who will consider engagement outcomes along with other information as it decides about the proposed catchment boundary changes on January 30, 2023. If the Board approves the proposed catchment boundary changes, families from the Carleton catchment registering their child for kindergarten will be contacted individually regarding their catchment school and enrolment options. Moving forward, the [project engagement site](#) will be

continually updated to provide families residing in the impacted communities with information about this engagement and decisions made by the Board.

Appendix A: Focus Group Feedback

Focus Group	Feedback
Weir/MacCorkindale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “I don’t think students themselves will notice.” • “If you didn’t say anything, nobody would notice anything, unless there’s suddenly an influx at school” • Group member asked if they would see an influx of new kids in the fall. A MacCorkindale PAC member asked if they would be losing a lot of students. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff responded that if catchment boundary changes are approved, it will be a gradual change. Educational planning staff work closely with school principal. All the schools will have space and the change will be gradual. Students themselves may not even notice.
Carleton/Cunningham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group member shared that their child has ADHD and Cunningham has been excellent for them. “My daughter feels very comfortable here. She loves her teachers. This has been an excellent school for her. She has been improving her grades. Changing a catchment for me brings me more anxiety. This catchment has been wonderful for her. Not sure about Weir.” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff responded that nobody who is attending a school will be asked to move. • “This [change] should have happened years ago. I live five minutes away from MacCorkindale. It should have happened back when [my] child started kindergarten. Now we have built a community.” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff noted that no student will have to change schools and that siblings will be grandfathered into Cunningham. ○ If a student’s catchment has changed, they have the option to move to their new catchment school. • “What is going to happen to staff at Carleton.” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Carleton is technically still open. No change to Carleton staff. • “This is very much a relief.” • “For me [this change will be] very possible. I have big troubles. I’m late every day. I think for my son and nieces in the future

	<p>it's possible. Walking is very hard for me. I need to take two buses sometimes. The distance is a big barrier for me.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• “With the patterns, looking at the 63 students, half of them are going to Cunningham, and half are going to Weir. When exactly are the final decisions being put into place because from a staffing point of view, timelines?”<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ This is why a Board decision in January is important. Will work with families and will have time to organize that before staffing is final. Staffing is released in May.• “How do MacCorkindale and Weir feel about it?”<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ They are not being as impacted as you are○ They did ask about school organization○ We are trying to take a conservative approach to make sure there's space. We anticipate that it'll be a slow transition.
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Appendix B: Poster

Poster sent to community neighbourhood houses, community centres, nearby preschools and daycares and all Carleton Cunningham; Weir and MacCorkindale families



PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGES

The VSB is seeking input about proposed boundary changes that affect **Carleton, Cunningham, Weir** and **MacCorkindale** school catchments.



The District proposes to reduce the Carleton catchment area and expand catchment boundaries for Cunningham, Weir and MacCorkindale.

Participate in one, two or all three engagement activities

1

INFORMATION SESSIONS

IN-PERSON:

Tues, December 6, 2022

[Register](#) or drop in anytime between 2:30 – 5:30 p.m. at Cunningham Elementary School (2330 E 37th Ave, Vancouver, BC) to learn about the proposed changes.

Staff will be onsite to answer your questions.

VIRTUAL:

Tues, December 6, 2022

[Register](#) to receive a link.

OR

Join us online from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. to learn more about the proposed changes.

Staff will answer questions that are submitted ahead of time.

Submit your questions to engage@vsb.bc.ca by December 5.

Please note: The same content will be covered in both sessions.

2

SURVEY

A survey will be made available after the information sessions.

3

EMAIL

Send written feedback to engage@vsb.bc.ca on the proposed boundary changes. All feedback received until December 16 will be shared with the Board as part of the final report summarizing 'What We Heard'.



LEARN MORE AT:
govsb.ca/carleton

Appendix C: Family Letters

Invitation email sent November 29:

Important Information – Please Translate

這是一份重要資訊 — 請找人為您翻譯 這是一份重要信息 — 請找人為您翻譯

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें	중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다
Información importante - Por favor traducir	معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة
重要な情報-翻訳してください	اطلاعات مهم - لطفا ترجمه کنید

Dear VSB families,

The District is seeking input about proposed [boundary changes](#) that affect **Carleton, Cunningham, Weir** and **MacCorkindale** school catchments. The District proposes to reduce the Carleton catchment area and expand catchment boundaries for Cunningham, Weir and MacCorkindale.

As you may know, students who reside in the Carleton catchment area have been attending neighbouring schools since the building was closed following a fire in 2016. The proposed catchment area changes will prioritize convenience and choice for Carleton catchment families by enabling them to easily apply to nearby catchment schools.

As part of the pre-engagement process, your school community was identified to participate in this engagement process.

Please note: the Board has not made a decision about the proposed changes. Feedback received through this engagement will help inform the Board as they make their decision early next year, as per [Administrative Procedure 305](#).

Share your feedback!

Participate in one, two or all three engagement activities:

1. Information Sessions

In-person:

- Date: Tuesday, December 6
- Time: 2:30 – 5:30 pm
- Location: In-person at Cunningham Elementary School (2330 E 37th Ave, Vancouver, BC)

- Details: [Register](#) or drop-in anytime to learn about the proposed changes. Staff will be onsite to answer your questions.

Virtual:

- Date: Tuesday, December 6
- Time: 6:00 – 7:00 pm
- Location: [Register](#) to receive a link.
- Details: Staff will present the proposed boundary changes and also answer questions submitted ahead of time. **Submit your question(s) to engage@vsb.bc.ca by December 5**

Please note, the same content will be delivered at both sessions.

2. Survey

A survey will be made available after the information sessions. Carleton catchment families will be invited to answer specific enrolment questions.

3. Email

You may also send written feedback to engage@vsb.bc.ca to share your input on the proposed boundary changes. All feedback received until December 16 will be shared with the Board as part of the final report summarizing 'What We Heard'.

Need more information? Visit govsb.ca/carleton to find background information on the proposed school catchment boundary changes.

Reminder email sent December 6:

Important Information – Please Translate

這是一份重要資訊 — 請找人為您翻譯 這是一份重要信息 — 請找人为您翻译

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें	중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다
Información importante - Por favor traducir	معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة
重要な情報-翻訳してください	اطلاعات مهم - لطفا ترجمه کنید

Dear VSB families,

The District is seeking input about proposed [boundary changes](#) that affect Carleton, Cunningham, Weir and MacCorkindale school catchments. The District proposes to reduce the Carleton catchment area and expand catchment boundaries for Cunningham, Weir and MacCorkindale.

Sign up to attend an information session today to learn more about the proposed changes:

Information sessions will provide an overview about the proposed changes as well as an opportunity to raise questions for staff to address.

- [In-person info session 1](#): Tuesday, December 6 | 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm at Cunningham Elementary School
- [Online info session 2](#): Tuesday, December 6 | 6:00 – 7:00 pm

You may also send written feedback to engage@vsb.bc.ca to share your input on the proposed boundary changes. All feedback received until December 16 will be shared with the Board as part of the final report summarizing 'What We Heard'.

A post-engagement survey will be made available later today at govsb.ca/carleton

Need more information?

- Visit govsb.ca/carleton to find background information on the proposed school catchment boundary changes.

Reminder email sent December 16, 2022

Hello VSB families and community,

Thank you to those of you who attended an online or in-person information session regarding the proposed boundary changes on December 6. As a reminder, all information (including boards presented at the sessions) are available online at govsb.ca/carleton.

If you have not done so already, please share your feedback on this proposed change via this [online survey](#) no later than tonight (December 16) at 11:59 pm.

Warm regards,

VSB Engage

Appendix D: Email to Neighbourhood Houses and Community Centres

Dear Vancouver community,

The Vancouver School District is seeking input about proposed [boundary changes](#) that affect **Carleton, Cunningham, Weir** and **MacCorkindale** school catchments. The District proposes to reduce the Carleton catchment area and expand catchment boundaries for Cunningham, Weir and MacCorkindale.

Currently, students who reside in the Carleton catchment area have been attending neighbouring schools since the building was closed following a fire in 2016. The [proposed catchment area changes](#) will prioritize convenience and choice for Carleton catchment families by enabling them to easily apply to nearby catchment schools.

As part of the pre-engagement process, your centre was identified to participate in this engagement process.

Please forward this engagement opportunity with those in your community who are school-aged or who may have children entering kindergarten within the next few years. A poster is also attached for you to print and place at your centre.

Share your feedback!

Participate in one, two or all three engagement activities:

1. Information Sessions

In-person:

- Date: Tuesday, December 6
- Time: 2:30 – 5:30 pm
- Location: In-person at Cunningham Elementary School (2330 E 37th Ave, Vancouver, BC)
- Details: [Register](#) or drop-in anytime to learn about the proposed changes. Staff will be onsite to answer your questions.

Virtual:

- Date: Tuesday, December 6
- Time: 6:00 – 7:00 pm
- Location: [Register](#) to receive a link.
- Details: Staff will present the proposed boundary changes and also answer questions submitted ahead of time. **Submit your question(s) to engage@vsb.bc.ca by December 5**

Please note, the same content will be delivered at both sessions.

2. Survey

A survey will be made available after the information sessions. Carleton catchment families will be invited to answer specific enrolment questions.

3. Email

You may also send written feedback to engage@vsb.bc.ca to share your input on the proposed boundary changes. All feedback received until December 16 will be shared with the Board as part of the final report summarizing 'What We Heard'.

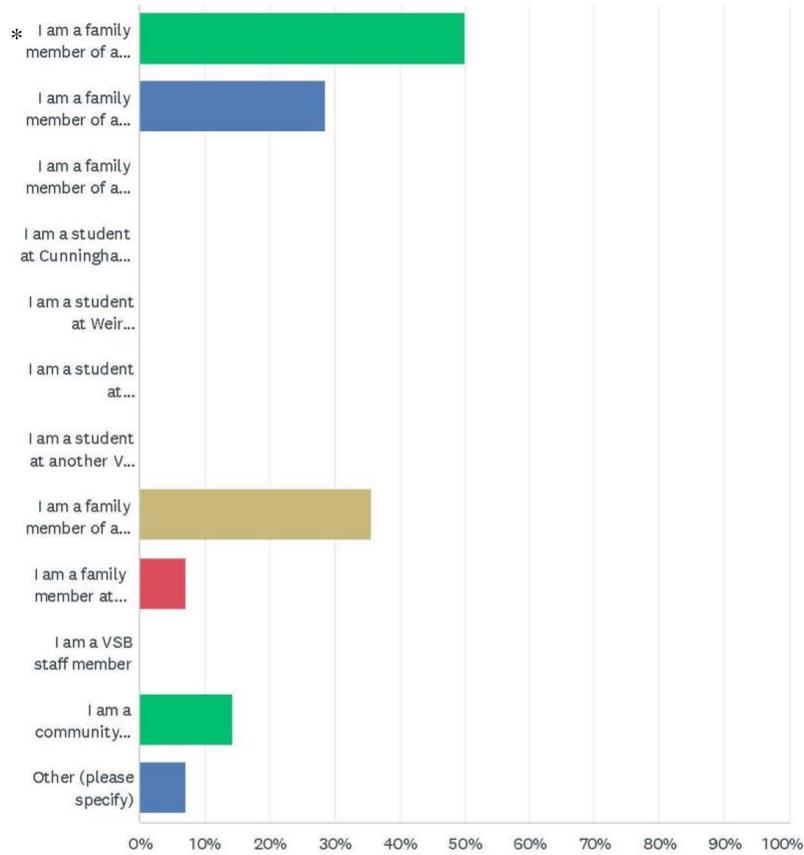
Need more information? Visit govsb.ca/carleton to find background information on the proposed school catchment boundary changes.

Appendix E: Survey and Results

Survey: Proposed catchment boundary changes

Q1 Which of the following describes your interest in the proposed boundary changes? Select all that apply.

Answered: 14 Skipped: 0



**Please refer to the following page for the full listing of answer choices.*

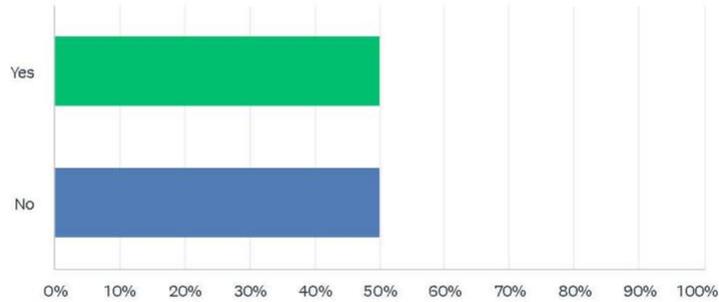
Survey: Proposed catchment boundary changes

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I am a family member of a student at Cunningham Elementary	50.00%	7
I am a family member of a student at Weir Elementary	28.57%	4
I am a family member of a student at MacCorkindale Elementary	0.00%	0
I am a student at Cunningham Elementary	0.00%	0
I am a student at Weir Elementary	0.00%	0
I am a student at MacCorkindale Elementary	0.00%	0
I am a student at another VSB school	0.00%	0
I am a family member of a future student at Cunningham, Weir or MacCorkindale	35.71%	5
I am a family member at another school in the VSB	7.14%	1
I am a VSB staff member	0.00%	0
I am a community member with another connection to this process	14.29%	2
Other (please specify)	7.14%	1
Total Respondents: 14		

Survey: Proposed catchment boundary changes

Q2 Are you the parent/caregiver of a Carleton catchment student? (See map for Carleton boundary)

Answered: 14 Skipped: 0

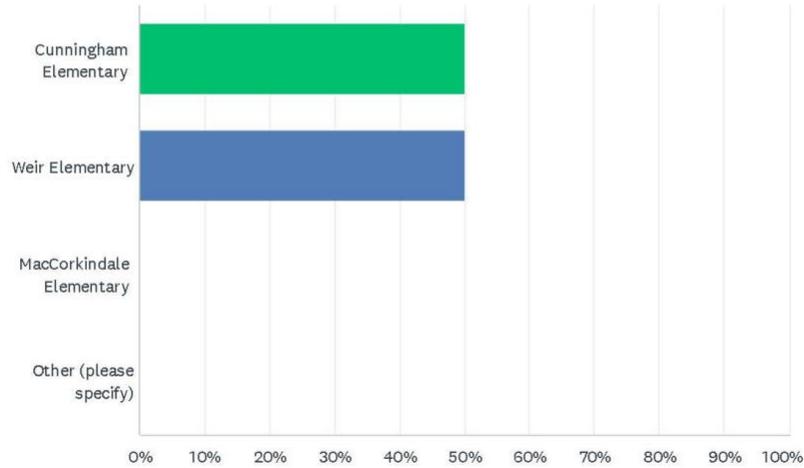


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	50.00%	7
No	50.00%	7
TOTAL		14

Survey: Proposed catchment boundary changes

Q3 Where is your child/children currently attending school?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 8

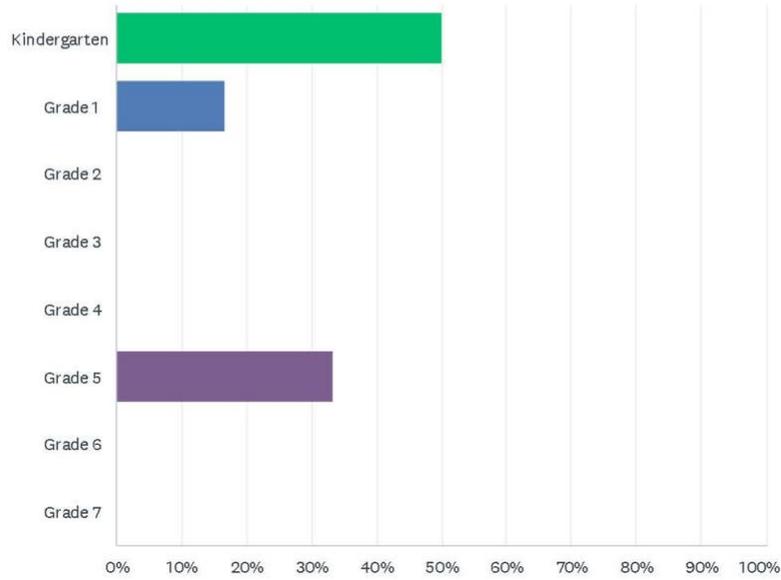


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Cunningham Elementary	50.00%	3
Weir Elementary	50.00%	3
MacCorkindale Elementary	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 6		

Survey: Proposed catchment boundary changes

Q4 What grade is your eldest elementary-aged child in?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 8

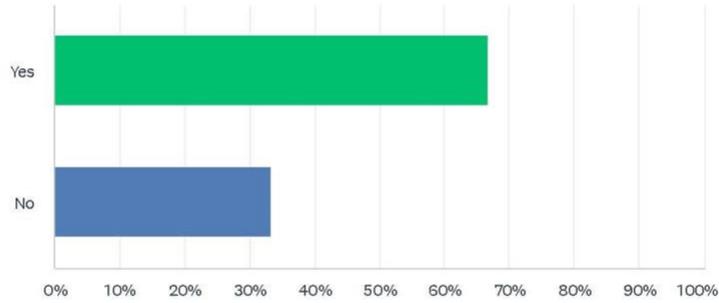


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Kindergarten	50.00%	3
Grade 1	16.67%	1
Grade 2	0.00%	0
Grade 3	0.00%	0
Grade 4	0.00%	0
Grade 5	33.33%	2
Grade 6	0.00%	0
Grade 7	0.00%	0
TOTAL		6

Survey: Proposed catchment boundary changes

Q5 Do you have any younger children?

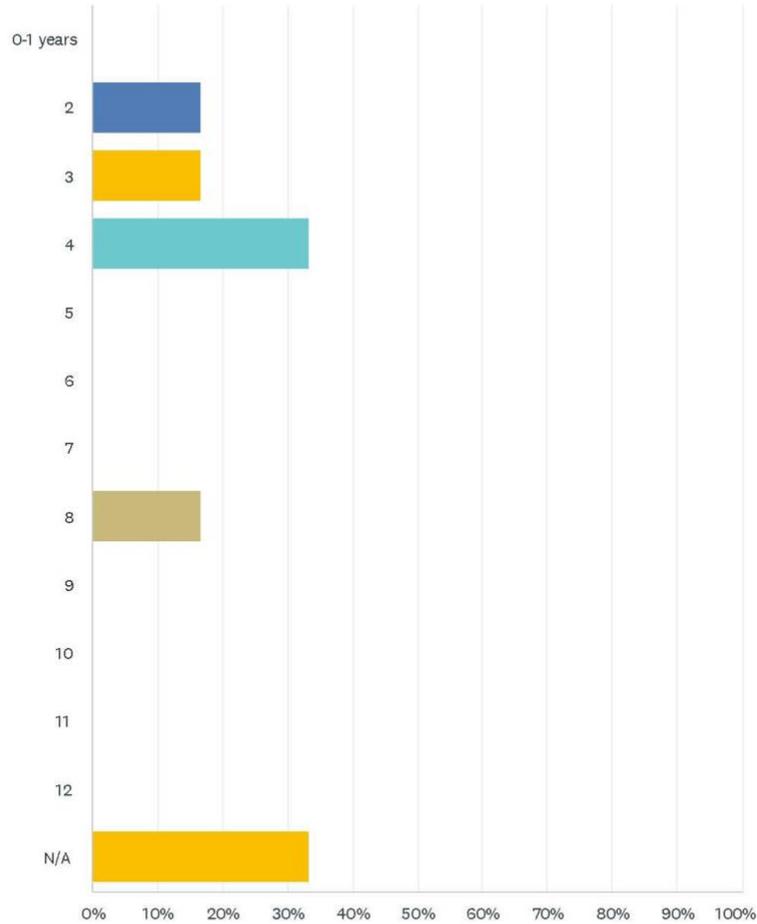
Answered: 6 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	66.67%	4
No	33.33%	2
TOTAL		6

Q6 If yes, what is the age of your youngest child?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 8



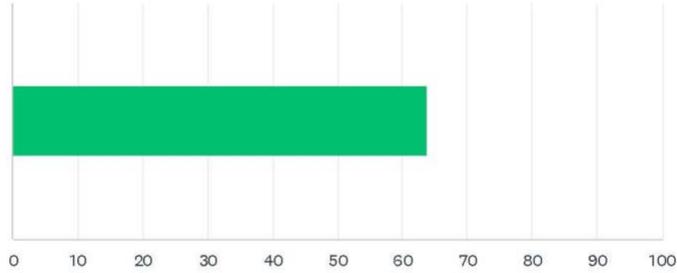
Survey: Proposed catchment boundary changes

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0-1 years	0.00%	0
2	16.67%	1
3	16.67%	1
4	33.33%	2
5	0.00%	0
6	0.00%	0
7	0.00%	0
8	16.67%	1
9	0.00%	0
10	0.00%	0
11	0.00%	0
12	0.00%	0
N/A	33.33%	2
Total Respondents: 6		

Survey: Proposed catchment boundary changes

Q7 How satisfied are you with your current catchment boundary?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 8

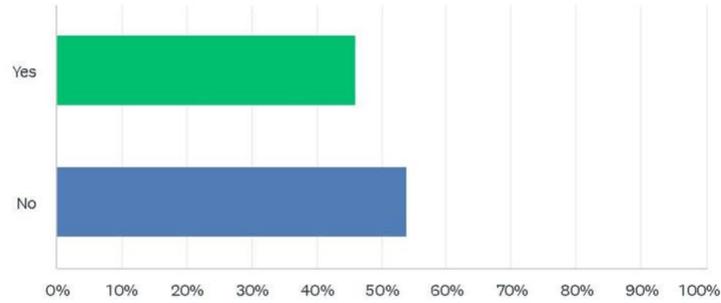


ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	64	383	6
Total Respondents: 6			

Survey: Proposed catchment boundary changes

Q8 Did you attend an information session on December 6?

Answered: 13 Skipped: 1

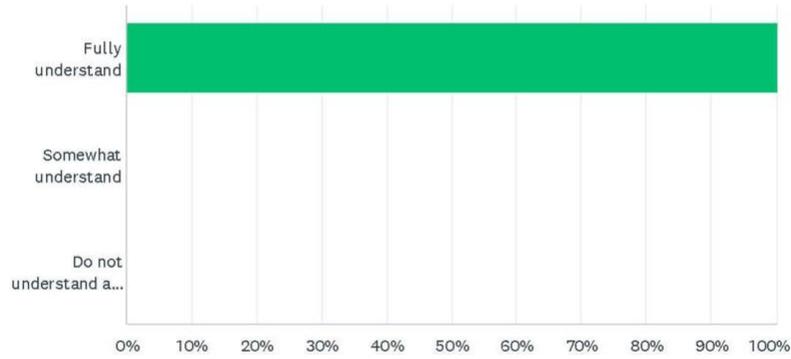


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	46.15%	6
No	53.85%	7
TOTAL		13

Survey: Proposed catchment boundary changes

Q9 Did you understand the information at the information session?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 8

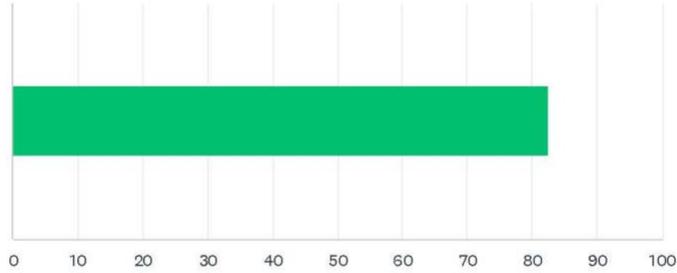


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Fully understand	100.00%	6
Somewhat understand	0.00%	0
Do not understand at all	0.00%	0
TOTAL		6

Survey: Proposed catchment boundary changes

Q10 How helpful was the information that was presented on December 6?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 8

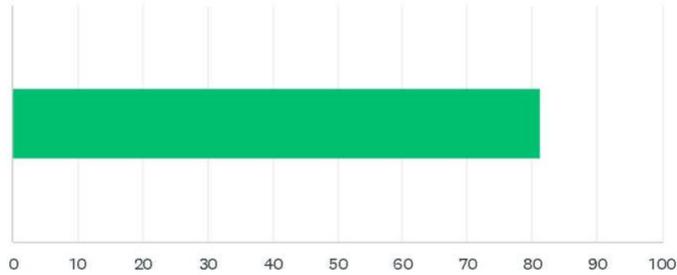


ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	83	495	6
Total Respondents: 6			

Survey: Proposed catchment boundary changes

Q11 How satisfied are you with the opportunities you were given to share feedback about the proposed catchment change?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 8

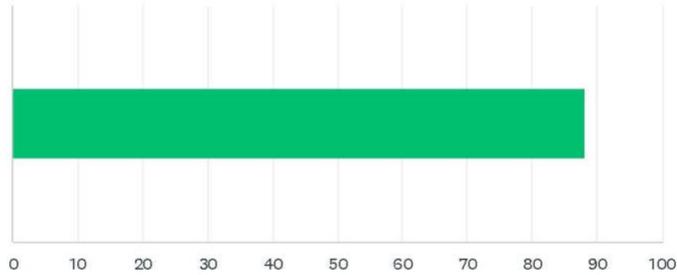


ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	81	488	6
Total Respondents: 6			

Survey: Proposed catchment boundary changes

Q12 How well do you understand the proposed catchment boundary changes?

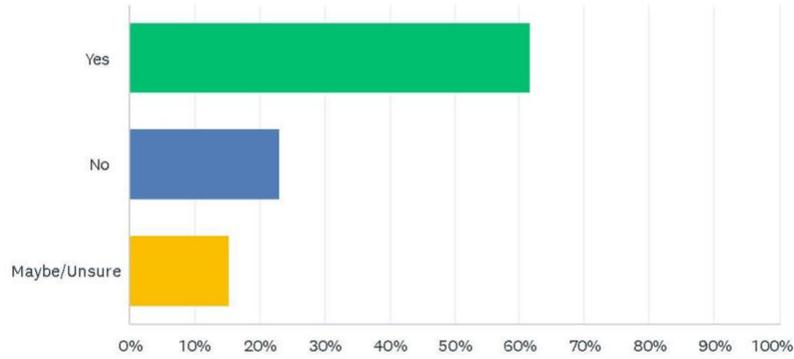
Answered: 13 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	88	1,145	13
Total Respondents: 13			

Q13 Are you in favour of the proposed catchment boundary changes?

Answered: 13 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	61.54%	8
No	23.08%	3
Maybe/Unsure	15.38%	2
TOTAL		13

Survey: Proposed catchment boundary changes

Q14 [Optional] Do you have any other feedback regarding the proposed catchment boundary change?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 8

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	the proposed catchment boundary changes should be held earlier and decision should have been made prior to the K registration to avoid all the confusion. With that said, my family is in favor of the proposed changes.	12/16/2022 3:04 PM
2	The school is not unsafe as the parents are being told. The VSB did not put in a business plan to the Provincial gov't that was accepted. The floors and walls are still there. Does it need to be fixed? Yes, of course, there was a fire. Is the building unsafe? No, it needs to be restored. The staff were escorted into their rooms days after the fire, including the rooms directly under the fire, which moved up into the attic. There was a lot of water damage to the west end of the building but not fire damage. This change to the catchment area is an unacceptable way to get around a school closure process. The school was on the closure list at least twice but more times than that, it was on the seismic list. The initial announcement of seismic upgrade monies to schools was made in the Carleton library by the then Education Minister in 2005. Way before the VSB decided on any seismic upgrades to the surrounding schools. The VSB has wanted this site closed for a very long time and the fire just gave them the means to do it. What school on the Westside of Vancouver would have been abandoned and tarped for so many years? The parents kept believing that the school would be reopened. Shame on all of you for this devious way of removing the student population and therefore circumventing a proper school closure process.	12/13/2022 5:48 PM
3	My biggest worry is increase in classroom size and also reduce in SSW support hours as my child has autism.	12/8/2022 11:04 AM
4	Too many students in one class	12/8/2022 9:48 AM
5	I think you should open up Carleton again	12/8/2022 7:19 AM
6	lock in school resources until the last group of kindergarten has gone to highschool	12/6/2022 3:17 PM

Appendix F: Frequently Asked Questions

Why can't you rebuild Carleton elementary?

In 2016, Carleton school was damaged by an unexpected fire, making it unusable for education purposes. Since that time, the school has not accommodated VSB students. Several million dollars would need to be invested to accommodate students, and even then, the school would remain at high seismic risk. Given the extensive damage, re-opening Carleton is not financially feasible now, or at a future date.

If the Board approves the closure, what will happen to the school site?

Should the Board make the decision to remove the catchment boundary, separate processes for considering school closure and land disposal will be followed, as per [Policy 20 – Land Disposal](#). A separate engagement process with stakeholders and impacted groups would take place.

How do the proposed boundary changes to the Carleton catchment affect the kindergarten application and enrollment process for September 2023?

The application process for kindergarten has not changed:

- Beginning November 1, 2022 register your child to attend Kindergarten at applynow.vsb.bc.ca
- The priority registration window is November 1, 2022 to January 31, 2023
- Cunningham remains as the catchment school for families residing in the existing Carleton catchment
- A Board decision regarding the proposed catchment boundary adjustments is anticipated in late January 2023.
- If the Board approves the proposed catchment boundary adjustments, families from the Carleton catchment registering their child to attend Kindergarten will be contacted individually regarding their catchment school and enrolment options

What are enrolment priorities?

Applications to enrol at a school are prioritized based on the principle that schools should enrol students living in their catchment first, as their top priority, followed by cross boundary applicants, and finally out of District applicants.

1. Catchment Applicants
2. Cross-Boundary Applicants
3. Out of District Applicants

What is sibling priority?

Sibling priority is when enrolment of kindergarten students with an older sibling attending the same school is concurrently prioritized over other applicants. The purpose of sibling priority is to enable families to have their children attend the same school.

How does sibling priority work?

Sibling priority for enrolment is limited to the situations below:

- Sibling priority only applies to students who are applying to kindergarten
- There is no sibling priority for students applying for grades 1-12
- Sibling priority is only applicable for kindergarten applications received during the priority registration period: November 1, 2022 to January 31, 2023.

How will sibling priority work for Carleton catchment students if proposed boundary changes are approved?

- All kindergarten applicants from the existing Carleton catchment will have sibling priority for Cunningham Elementary.
- Kindergarten applicants in the new Weir and MacCorkindale catchments will also have sibling priority at their new catchment school if an older sibling is already attending and will be attending concurrently with their kindergarten sibling.

I have a child at Cunningham in grade 5. If the proposed boundary changes are approved, we will reside in the Weir catchment area. Can my child stay at Cunningham?

Yes, all students can remain at their current school.

I have a child in grade 3 at MacCorkindale. My second child will be going to kindergarten next year. If the catchment boundaries change, I will be living in the MacCorkindale catchment. Does my kindergarten child have sibling priority at MacCorkindale?

Yes, if you apply by January 31, your kindergarten child has sibling priority at MacCorkindale because your older child will be attending MacCorkindale next year and you live in the new MacCorkindale catchment. Remember you are applying to Carleton, you will be contacted directly if the Board approves the proposed catchment boundary changes.

I have a child at Cunningham in Grade 1. My second child will be going to kindergarten next year and we will reside within the Weir catchment (if the proposed boundary changes are approved). Can my older child attend Weir too?

Weir *may* be able to accommodate your older child but there is no guarantee of a space at Weir for your older child. Priority for enrolment at Weir will be given to new VSB students in the Weir catchment applying to Weir.

To be assured that your children will be attending the same school, apply for your younger child to attend kindergarten at Cunningham (where they have sibling priority).