

**GREATER VICTORIA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOUNDARY REVIEW CONSULTATION: OPEN HOUSE INPUT #3**

**Engagement session #3:** Tuesday, February 26, 2019

Group: Community

# of attendees: 122

Location: Oak Bay High School

<p><b>What do you think about the proposed Elementary School catchments?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Please include Lansdowne slope (between Foul Bay, Middowne, Eastdowne &amp; Lansdowne) in willows, Monterey &amp; Oak Bay family. - walkable -community -safe route - neighbourhood school</li> <li>● Please keep proposed Victor Catchment FRIMM Track</li> <li>● Please don't separate us from our community! Lansdowne (Foul Bay to Cadboro Bay) is a natural border. We can walk to Willow but are in Campus View :(</li> <li>● We are located on Oakdowne Rd below Midowne Ridge, Lansdowne Rd and Eastdowne Rd. The current and proposed catchment boundary does not prioritize our children's safe active travel to school or limited walking distance to school. The current boundary puts us 3-4 km away along high traffic roads. It is DANGEROUS! We should be in Willows catchment. The current proposed catchment boundaries for our house do not appear to be with the spirit of the guiding considerations. The catchment doesn't not limit walking distances and provide saf travel routes for our children. The catchment boundary needs to be expanded slightly to Lansdowne from the existing midowne cutoff. We live at the upper part of Oakdowne Road.</li> <li>● Please review having Middowne a a divide for willows school. It is walking distance to Willows but not Campus View. Please include the Lansdowne slope (south of Lansdowne north of Middowne) in Willows/Oak Bay catchment all schools are walking distance and are part of a community</li> <li>● Please consider including the area South of Lansdowne Rd., north Middowne between Foul Bay &amp; Cadboro Bay Rd in the Willows Catchment. In order for my children to get to Campus View from home they need to:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cross Lansdowne Rd (50Km/h) which has no well marked crosswalk</li> <li>2. Travel up Foul Bay Rd. during UVlc Rush hour :                 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. lots of young drivers</li> <li>b. busy bike land full of student commuters</li> <li>c. busy sidewalk full of student</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> <li>● change McKenzie catch to include area west of Pat Bay from glandford school → McKenzie area</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● which middle school do French Immersion students at George Jay go to if they live in the new “Victor” English catchment? They should go to Central w/ all other George Jay French students.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What do you think about the proposed South Park catchment boundary?</b></p> <p><b>What do you like? What potential concerns do you have?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I think many parents at parents at South Park feel entitled having had additional choices for so long. I think they should engage more assist more and make a positive change -&gt; as things in those school change</li> <li>● There are a lot of opinions. Do you have any evidence - based research to support these proposals</li> <li>● Closing this program will not create more space in the district for students</li> <li>● South Park supports all types of learners and does it well. Family involvement is the reason our school is so successful. Please find other options for crowding in all schools.</li> <li>● South Park school was created by a group of co-op preschool parents. This model works well. Parent participation makes for an enriched environment</li> <li>● Non-traditional learns need choice in <u>elementary</u> too.</li> <li>● There would not be a wait list to get into SP if it wasn’t working well. Why close it then?</li> <li>● I am not a South Park parent, <u>and</u> I’m still upset to hear proposal to eliminate it. Please it!</li> <li>● Programs of choice are necessary to meet students learning needs. How will you address this?</li> <li>● How can you end programs of choice with no analysis of the educational impact?</li> <li>● Where will students of South Park and how will closing the program create more space in schools?</li> <li>● Allow us to take on more students to save our 45+ yr. program.</li> <li>● Why close a school that is working so well?</li> <li>● The district has adopted many of the practices at SP. . . .student-led conferences, portfolio and anecdotal reporting, parents as partners eliminating competitive sports for young children.</li> <li>● Different Learning styles require different needs. . . We need <u>MORE</u> choices for students NOT LESS.</li> <li>● There <u>MUST</u> be a way Southpark can maintain its incredible, unique program AND support the education of all of our children. IT is the boards job to hear our COLLECTIVE voice, find those compromises and keep Southpark a family school!!</li> <li>● Where are the numbers showing that this will be a “full” and “sustainable” school longterm as catchment? Who are all these “downtown” families?</li> <li>● Keep South Park Family School as a school of choice! For 45+ years it has been a leader in progressive education</li> </ul>

practices. The community it fosters is unique and a model for parent participation. Do not destroy this legacy!

- Please find a creative solution which does not destroy over 45 years of innovative education practices at South Park. Not all kids learn the same – keep South Park a Family school and an elementary school of choice!
- South Park is a model of what works. It should be maintained + used to model other schools on it. We need schools of Choice!
- Our voice is unanimous: Keep South Park a non-catchment school of choice! We've been a progressive alternative school and a leader in this district since 1972.
- Please consider moving SJD boundary into James Bay to alleviate enrollments issues in James Bay. That way SPFS could remain a program of choice.
- Please provide a detailed explanation of alternatives that were considered PRIOR to suggesting elementary school of choice be eliminated in the district. Specifically SP Family school, but also CTS. Please detail how boundaries could have been drawn so that these school could be maintained as district programs. What other alternatives were looked at? What suggestions could you make now that would maintain elementary schools of choice?
- Choice {does not equal} privilege. Choice = options for a diversity of learning and support systems
- As a school of choice, we support options within the public school system. If you take away all choice – you take away opportunities for families to decide what school setting would be most successful for our children. Whether your child is academically challenged, emotionally or physically challenged neuro-atypical or simply unable to fit into the standard “sit in your chair” and learn system – you go where you're told. NO options, no choice of support systems, skilled EA's marginalized or co-operative family-staff partnership and support models. What we all need to do is sit back, settle in and look at some long-term 15-20 year planning that incorporates all statistics, dynamics, population trends, needs of families of varying challenges to access, etc. No more Bandaid, decision making without appropriate consultation and planning!

<p><b>What do you think about the proposed Cloverdale catchment boundary?</b></p> <p><b>What do you like? What potential concerns do you have?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● From the survey, it was stated that a sense of community is very important to the people in SD61. Cloverdale Traditional has an amazing community of families and staff who support the students.</li> <li>● Have you examined how other Canadian cities have handled boundary review? Have you considered the evidence-based advantages of a traditional school? The other programs of choice? Or, are you weighing your decisions on opinions? Being that children are a vulnerable population, we owe them a higher standard of care when making decisions: expert advice.</li> <li>● Traditional system is best. Expand the capacity. Please keep the sibling priority admissions on.</li> <li>● I think instead of changing it, expand the traditional school program because its our future. This helps to keep our culture and failure generation to get destroyed.</li> <li>● It is unacceptable for the boundary committee to suggest the the removal of schools of choice without a clear study of the educational impact of terminating schools of choice in the district.</li> <li>● Please embrace change. Having kids at other schools other than open catchment we have adapted to embrace change.</li> <li>● Best option ~ should a change be necessary, leave Cloverdale "Traditional" &amp; give "Catchment" kids priority.</li> <li>● Why do you want to get rid of the "Traditional" model? It is a very successful model and <u>all</u> students are welcome, including in catchment students. Over 60% of students there are already from the new proposed catchment.</li> <li>● I am concerned with losing the traditional school model. We would lose our culture and inclusive buy in that we get from our parents students and teachers. Why is our program of choice treated as less important?</li> <li>● Would love to see hard evidence that shows how removing the "traditional" from Cloverdale will help alleviate overcrowding at surrounding schools.</li> <li>● Do you truly believe that changing Cloverdale to a catchment school with help all the overcrowding in our district? Quadra has a large capacity and will continue to act as overflow for French Immersion.</li> <li>● Rather than taking program that has proved itself so successful, why not look at expanding an amazing system, so highly in demand, and offering our philosophy around the District. We are proven success!</li> </ul>
<p><b>What do you think about the proposed Victor and Oaklands catchment boundary?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● N/A</li> </ul>

<p><b>What do you like? What potential concerns do you have?</b></p>	
<p><b>What do you think about the proposed Eagle View catchment boundary? What do you like? What potential concerns do you have?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Facilities Report: Capacity is 241 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In catchment enrollment is 113 (2020)</li> <li>○ Projected enrollment is 235 (2020)</li> <li>○ Catchment students 152 (2020)</li> <li>○ Where is the growth coming from?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>What do you think about the proposed Middle School catchments?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Concerned parent of Margaret Jenkins French Immersion kid - not being feasible to walk to middle school. Not environmental to drive child to school &amp; not safe to bike &amp; not good for their maturing/independence to be driven to school every day. Thx.</li> <li>● Please give siblings priority access when impacted by catchment area change.</li> <li>● Transport bus route from our home CHR → Arbutus direct. Not the options for Cedar Hill.</li> <li>● Disappointed about the lack of walkability for Margaret Jenkins French kids transitions to Lans(downe).</li> <li>● Please include the Lansdowne slopes in the Willows/Monterey/Oak Bay catchment. Middowne divide is splitting the community.</li> <li>● Please consider geographic proximity to schools!</li> <li>● Walkability is out of the question with these catchments. We are 3 blocks from Central but are in the Lansdowne <u>catchment</u>. Please consider distance from school. e.g. school should be as equidistant from as many house as possible.</li> <li>● Disappointed at lack of continuity for Campus View FI kids to continue on to current stream Arbutus. Very disruptive and difficult to move schools with no supports or friends. (Kids split into splinters between multiple middle schools)</li> <li>● Lansdowne pocket - an oversight? (Foul Bay - Cadboro Bay - Middowne) Please include this neighbourhood in the Willows/Monterey/Oak Bay Catchment. Our kids can't walk or bike safely to Campus View / Mt. Doug. Our community - friends, family, neighbours - are in Oak Bay catchment. Don't separate us! And we don't want to have to transfer each time we change schools.</li> <li>● The Margaret Jenkins catchment is too far away from Lansdowne to be a viable choice. There are 2 middle schools that are closer that could house FI, Monterey and Central.</li> <li>● I am worried that the middle school capacity issues are not being adequately addressed.</li> <li>● This has a huge effect on the neighbourhood 'vibe' as there will be no "walking busses" and makes it very hard to get to school. The lack/lost opportunity for kids to be independent</li> </ul>

	<p>and get to school on their own (re: Marg. French Transition) Will the the Central teachers be moving to Lansdowne?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What will this do to the drop off in the French group? (Marg Jenkins French)</li> <li>● The commute from South Oak Bay to Lansdowne is dangerous by bike, difficult by bus and &gt; 1 hour to walk.</li> <li>● Children of any age should not be crossing the highway for education. Rogers is a huge catchment and should be grouped by area and not school for middle school. Please review Roger’s catchment.</li> <li>● We live in Ross Bay area + kids go to Margaret Jenkins, and walk or bike. One of our kids currently goes to Central. That is ok for distance. It’s <u>too far</u> for kids to get to Lansdowne by walking or bike. And, we don’t want to/afford a bus pass. And less exercise by bus it’s too far of a commute for middle school.</li> <li>● French Kids walk to school <u>too!</u></li> <li>● Monterey Dual Track!</li> <li>● French immersion at Monterey would avoid a standalone grade 6 French Class at Lansdowne. Monterey can have portables too!</li> <li>● Where is Cedar Hill Road on this board? I am not certain what zone are we in?</li> <li>● Lansdowne MS: Any way to have house that are <u>very</u> close to the NE included? If not, we will have to drive kids to school - not ideal!</li> <li>● Not as safe of bike route to Lansdowne from Fairfield. It’s safe to get to Central. Add portables at Central for French, instead of Lansdowne.</li> <li>●</li> </ul>
<p><b>What do you think about the proposed reopening of Richmond Elementary?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● isolation of grade 6 and then they have to adapt again in grade 7</li> <li>● no segregation of english French classes</li> <li>● include Gr 6 in the atmosphere of the rest of LMS</li> <li>● this proposal has not been well communicated to parents. Needs consultation with impacted pathway schools</li> <li>● seems a departure from the middle school model - 6,7,8 together, why not mix up 6-8 on both campus</li> <li>● otherwise not really park of lansdowne</li> <li>● would it make more sense to house grade 8s here?</li> <li>● concerns: equal access to advisories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ social experiment of grade 6s in one school - provide evidence for this model</li> <li>○ culture of community</li> <li>○ supervision - timeline 2020 too soon</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- major highways need to impact boundary considerations. Kids in kindergarten shouldn't have to cross a busy highway to get to school
- transfer/enrolment priorities should have include distance/and promimity to school
  - out of catchment yet geographically close to school
- are there concerns with drinking water (lead etc) in the older building?
  - concerns with asbestos
  - how will these issues be mitigated before opening?
- will richmond be fully outfitted as a French Immersion school?
  - signage, library resources, tech/tools?
- what about making Richmond a 5-6 school and Lansdowne campus 7-8
  - take the 5s from Oaklands and/or Willows
  - provide late immersion @Richmond and full immersion @Landowne
- please provide evidence that this model (275 + students in one grade in one building) is good for students. It is too isolating.
- creating a “ghetto” environment for Gr 6
- a vacuum means Gr 6 don’t have models to help in transitioning to greater independence
- what kind of integration will be done between English and French kids?
- could be a good opportunity to better integrate French and English kids (some stereotypes there.)
- This would prolong the transition into middle school. Where is the middle school community?
- Is there subsidy for bus passes?
- Is this a temporary or permanent solution?
- Will extra-curricular be connected to grade 7/8s?
- Please publish school start and end times. Please tell us size of grade 6 cohort?
- More details on this proposal need to be published ASAP
- This building is in rough shape. Can SD61 afford to fix/repair it?
- A grade 6 stand alone school takes away from the middle school model that has always been so important to this school board
- concern around resource and being part of the community
- Please ensure program equivalence between Gr 6 @ Richmond and central
- How can you ensure a safe walk from South Oak Bay to Richmond Lansdowne?
- How will a primary school building accommodate middle school program such as band, home ec, shop, etc?

<p><b>What do you think about the proposed Secondary School catchments?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● one grade 6 class will be lonely</li> <li>● We live up the street from Oak Bay High (top of Eastdowne Rd) but are in the Mt. Doug catchment. Please keep us in our community.</li> <li>● Please include Lansdowne Sloe (lotw Foul Bay, Lansdowne, Middowne, Eastdowne in the Willows, Monterey, &amp; Oak Bay family). Safety, community, &amp; walkable.</li> <li>● Putting Oaklands area in a different catchment than Fernwood is a ridiculous idea.</li> <li>● Please include the Lansdowne slopes (middowne to Lansdowne) in the Oak Bay catchment. It is a 10 minute walk only crossing one busy street versus taking 2 buses to Mt Doug. Middowne is a quiet street in the neighbourhood and should not be the divide as it breaks up the community.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What do you think about the proposed Hillcrest catchment boundary?</b></p> <p><b>What do you like? What potential concerns do you have?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● what is the French Immersion option for this?</li> <li>● capacity is 373 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ catchment students are 336 (2020)</li> <li>○ enrollment projection is 285</li> <li>○ catchment enrollment is 190</li> </ul> </li> <li>● what are you doing to draw enrollment to Hillcrest from oversubscription schools?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Your Thoughts?</b></p> <p><b>Tell us about how you see these changes affecting your family. Are there any ideas or concerns that need to be considered?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Please inform trustees that questions were not documented in the open houses. How do you feel you are able fully represent the concerns of community if you are not documenting feedback. Also please insure that you let the trustees know that questions were completely left unanswered and unresponded to when sent to the boundary review email. I sent at least 7 that were not answered at <u>all</u>.</li> <li>● Please explain why “walkability” is being favoured over access to schools of choice. You frequently reference how this is what parent feedback provided. Yet you ask no questions re: elementary schools of choice and have eliminated them in this proposal. You also ask questions regarding french immersion in your survey, yet refuse to discuss/look at these programs in light of capacity. French is a valued program, but should be included in a true review of capacity issues in SD61.</li> <li>● ← Fill Craigflower</li> <li>● Facilities Report: Campus View. Functional capacity is <u>328</u>, operational capacity is <u>464</u>, enrolment projection is <u>462</u>, catchment residents are 273, catchment enrolment is 259 (French/English). Where are the kids in enrolment projections coming from? What are you doing to reduce enrolment to functional capacity? Do you think recent catchment priorities might solve the capacity issue here?</li> <li>● What are you doing to fill Craigflower?</li> </ul>



- Please include the small pocket (Lansdowne slope) btw Foul Bay, Lansdowne, Middowne, Eastdowne in the Willows OB High Monterey family. Walkable, Safety Community.
- George Jay capacity is 509 - this is too high! Are you reducing enrolment at GJ?
- Why are schools like Macaulay operating at a level over their functional capacity? And what is your solution.
- Please look at alternatives in the proposed South Park Catchment. Walkability is less important than quality learning environments across the entire district. Balance catchments equally - larger in under capacity areas. Smaller in over capacity areas.
- Facilities Report 2020: Frank Hobbs, Capacity 328, Catchment Students 290, projected students 306, in-catchment enrolment 204. Are you expecting growth in this catchment? In catchment enrolment is 128 below capacity. What are you doing to draw students from oversubscribed to schools to FH?
- There are empty and leased out buildings that could facilitate our students and solve some over-crowding. OUR students should come before international.
- Allow our family to get to school safely - within walking / biking distance. We are in the Mt Doug family of schools but cannot walk to any of those schools. We can walk safely to Willows / Oak Bay High. Please keep us in our community our neighbourhood is divided. (Lansdowne slope pocked - Foul Bay - Cad Bay)
- Please explain how the enrollment priorities were meant to balance capacity. How was this data (was there any) used in the current proposed boundary catchments. Please explain clearly what informative suggested this proposal would effectively balance capacity across all catchments.
- Margaret J -> Lansdowne. Concerned that middle school is not a walkable distance, not safe to bike, leaving driving daily as main option. :(
- Over 85% of students at South Park come from near, at, or over capacity catchments. How will making it a catchment school relieve capacity issues? \*SP's capacity is less than 200
- Facilities Report 2020: Doncaster capacity is 241. Enrolment projector is 231. In-catchment students 152. Catchment enrolment is 111. Please confirm basis of a 140% enrolment increase. This school seems underenroled. What are you doing to draw students to this school?
- Make Monterey a French immersion school.
- The results from the survey show key concerns that are not being take into consideration in the decisions made, i.e. Margaret Jenkins - > Lansdowne.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Facilities Report: Braefoot, Capacity is 309. Enrolment projections are 247. Catchment students are 217. In-catchment enrollment is 133. What are you doing to draw enrollment from overcapacity schools to Braefoot (under enrolled)</li> <li>● Instead of a lottery for keeping siblings together consider the number of years a family has already been at the school such as long serving families stay at “home”.</li> <li>● We need solutions for schools to maintain their unique programs (schools of choice) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Keep the schools as is and open invitation from Quadra &amp; George Jay to attend Cloverdale as a traditional school or South Park.</li> <li>○ A great option i.e. the least disturbance for the most students.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Go to sessional for schools that are overcrowded. Morning school / Afternoon school - 2x the students in the same building.</li> <li>● Please reconsider proposed catchments based on <u>geography!!</u> We are in a catchment where we will need to attend schools (middle &amp; high) that are 3x further from our house than the nearest schools. It makes no sense to have to travel 3+ km to schools when there are neighbourhood schools a couple of blocks away.</li> <li>● Facilities Report 2020: Craigflower - capacity is 219, catchment students = 306, enrolment projection = 138, catchment enrolment = 92. What are you doing to draw students from over enrolled schools to Craigflower? What are you doing to keep in-catchment kids in Craigflower?</li> <li>● How exactly does eliminating choice at SP alleviate pressure from its overcapacity neighbours when 56% of our families are already from those schools catchments.</li> <li>● Please allow our children to go to school with the neighbours. The Lansdowne slopes is walking distance to Willows and Oak Bay.</li> <li>● Lansdowne is <u>too far</u> from Margaret Jenkins catchment? Our kids need safe routes to school!</li> </ul>
<p><b>Proposed Catchment Pathways</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Elementary Rogers students go to Glanford Middle School then go to Reynolds for High School while the rest of their friends head off to Spectrum. Why split friends?</li> <li>● Can you call it a “catchment school” if it’s 5km away and your third closest school?</li> <li>● No Margaret Jenkins to Lansdowne.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Enrolling in New Proposed Catchments</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It’s stressful for families to wonder how their kids will logistically travel to two different middle schools and it’s stressful for the kids, not knowing where they will be welcome (or not). <u>Can we not grandfather</u> in this process? Please. * You say this, but I’ve heard it can be extremely</li> </ul>

	difficult to accomodate siblings from out of catchment. ARE you making a stronger commitment to sibling priority? I don't know what to expect.
<b>Information Boards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Why is the overarching value of choice not listed?</li><li>● French Immersion is not the only program of choice!!!</li><li>● South Park Family School is also a school of choice. Your survey failed to mention elementary schools of choice</li><li>● Cloverdale Traditional is a school of choice. Why just mention French Immersion?</li></ul>