



BLACK GOLD
REGIONAL
DIVISION NO. 18

Backgrounder

BGRD Beaumont Family of Schools Configuration

Background Regarding Black Gold Regional Division No. 18's Beaumont Family of Public Schools Boundary and Grade Configuration Review

Beaumont is home to many young and growing families and is one of the fastest growing communities in Canada. As Beaumont's population increases so does the demand on Black Gold Regional Division No. 18's (BGRD) public school system.

On October 8, 2014, Premier Jim Prentice made a new school Capital Project announcement addressing the shortage of schools in Alberta. Included was the announcement of a new Kindergarten to Grade 9 school for Black Gold Regional Division No. 18 (BGRD), located in the Town of Beaumont, with a capacity of 900 students. Additionally, a modernization for École J. E. Lapointe School was announced. The anticipated building completion for the École Champs Vallée School (ECVS) is late Fall 2017 and École J. E. Lapointe School is September 2018.

As a result of enrolment growth, and the construction and modernization announcements of École Champs Vallée School and École J. E. Lapointe School, respectively, school attendance area boundaries, school grade configurations, student enrolment capacities, and student transportation were reviewed at *all* of BGRD's Beaumont Family of Public Schools.

This review process started in February 2016 and included a Working Committee, Advisory Committee, staff, school council and community engagements. The configuration process was guided by the following review objectives: program viability; community values; viable enrolments; available facilities; and budget constraints.

Opportunities for public engagement were provided in October 2016 at public engagement nights and also included an online survey that captured 350 responses to proposed configuration options.