

Calgary Board of Education Response



**Calgary Board
of Education**

FACILITIES & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

3610 – 9 Street S. E., Calgary, Alberta T2G 3C5

cbe.ab.ca

March 10, 2021

Calgary Planning Commission (CPC)
C/o City Clerk's Office
Mail Code #8007
P.O. Box 2100, Station M
Calgary AB T2P 2M5

Dear Members,

Re: Cornerstone High School Site

This letter is submitted to emphasize the importance of retaining 10 acres for the Cornerstone High School building identified in application (LOC2020-0136).

The Calgary Board of Education has been notified of a proposal that considers reducing the high school building envelope from City development guideline of 10 acres down to 8.5 acres to accommodate a cricket pitch. While the CBE supports a cricket pitch on the playfield portion of the site, the impact this would have on the size of the building envelope necessary for a high school is significant.

The Province of Alberta establishes the amount of funding allocated to the construction of a new school based upon experience with similar-capacity schools. Construction is then executed by Alberta Infrastructure with the mandate to remain within the funding grant and the total school building area.

From a construction perspective, there are increased design and construction costs associated with building a high school on a smaller footprint, costs that could rapidly account for 10% or more of the total construction grant. Accordingly, to remain within the funding grant, Alberta Infrastructure would be required to make reductions in other areas, such as reducing the total capacity of the school, limiting career and technology studies space, decreasing areas for physical education and prescribing less durable building materials.

From an educational perspective, reductions to student capacity would mean more students would need to travel further due to reduced school capacity, learning opportunities for students designated to this school would be limited in

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comparison to other schools, and program and functional challenges may result in inefficient program delivery.

The CBE is motivated to continue to work on possible solutions to ensure that students designated to this future school are provided with equitable learning opportunities while still providing local communities with the sports areas. Additional time is requested to allow this exploratory activity to occur.

Thank you,



Dany Breton
Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services