



BOARD MEMORANDUM

Date: February 9, 2022
To: Board of Trustees
From: Shawna Walter, Acting Superintendent
Originator(s): Shawna Walter, Acting Superintendent
Subject: Town of Legal Catchment

Purpose:

This report is the starting point of the process to address school utilization differences between Sturgeon Public School Division schools in the Town of Morinville and the Town of Bon Accord. None of the recommendations have been approved for action.

Consideration:

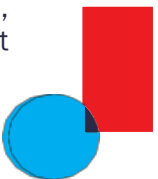
That the Board of Trustees review and provide a recommendation regarding the Town of Legal Catchment Boundary, for approval at the February 23, 2022, Public Board meeting.

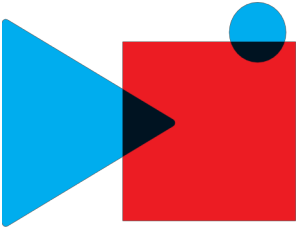
Background:

Sturgeon Public Schools opened Morinville Public School in 2011 and in January 2020, the Division opened its second school in the town of Morinville. The opening of Four Winds Public School separated Morinville Public School into two schools; a Pre-K – Grade 4 school and a Grade 5-9 school. Both schools have dual track French Immersion and English programming. French Immersion has grown a grade per year since 2011; beginning the fall of 2021, the program now includes Kindergarten to Grade 9.

Since Sturgeon Public Schools gained access to the Town of Legal in 2011, the Board has offered families a choice of attending École Morinville Public School (ÉMPS), Four Winds Public School (FWPS), Bon Accord Community School (BACS) or Lilian Schick School (LS), even though the Town of Legal is in the Bon Accord catchment. This practice does not align with Division Policy. [Policy 200 Attendance Areas](#), states that resident students are designated to attend schools in attendance areas as established by the Board:

- While resident students are designated to attend schools in attendance areas established by the Board, educational or programming needs of students or student/parent preferences may warrant consideration of allowing attendance at a school other than the designated school.
- Resident students may register in schools other than their designated school providing there are sufficient resources and facilities available to accommodate the student. Resident students may register in Programs of Choice (e.g. Logos, French Immersion) at Division schools.
- When a student attends a school outside a designated attendance area, transportation may become the parent(s)/ guardian(s)/ independent student's responsibility.





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Enrolment

Monthly enrolment reporting for November 30, 2021:

- BACS has an enrolment of **217** Pre-K to Grade 4 students
 - Legal **6** Pre-K/K students
- LS has an enrolment of **239** Grade 5 – 9 students
- ÉMPS has an enrolment of **565** Pre-K to Grade 4 students
- FWPS has an enrolment of **420** Grade 5 – 9 students

Capture Rates

BACS

- BACS has captured **39%** of the students living in the catchment for 21-22
- **55** K-4 Regular Program students are currently attending other SPS schools

Lilian Schick

- LS has captured **41%** of the students living in the catchment for 21-22 both regular program and LOGOS
- **59** 5-9 Regular Program students are currently attending other SPS schools

ÉMPS

- ÉMPS has captured **48%** of the K-4 students living in the catchment for 21-22 both regular program and French Immersion.
- **20** K-4 Regular Program students are currently attending other SPS schools

FWPS

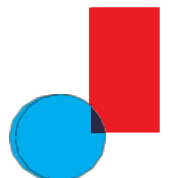
- FWPS has captured **41%** of the 5-9 students living in the catchment for 21-22 both regular program and French Immersion (which has increased since the opening of the new school: 18/19 – 33%, 19/20 – 38%, 20/21 – 38%)
- **16** 5-9 Regular Program students are currently attending other SPS schools

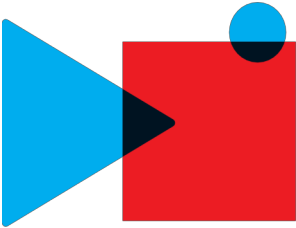
Transportation

Currently, Town of Legal families have the choice to attend a Morinville or Bon Accord school for the same cost = resident rider fee \$225/year.

Choice Rider fee is \$300/year

ÉMPS and FWPS are reaching enrolment capacity and to ensure efficient utilization of SPS facilities the Division must identify strategies that will meet the needs of SPS students for the next 10 years.





**Attendance Pattern
Town of Legal Students
Regular Program**

23 Town of Legal students attend Morinville Schools for regular programming.

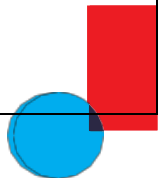
School of Attendance	Enrolment													Subtotals				
	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	PK-4	5-9	10-12	PK-12
Morinville Public School	0	1	2	1	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	12
Four Winds Public School	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	11
Sturgeon Composite High School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	8	8
Lilian Schick School	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Bon Accord Community School	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Camilla School	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Total by Grade	0	2	4	1	4	5	3	1	4	5	1	4	4	0	16	14	8	38

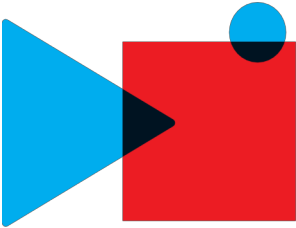
French Immersion

5 Town of Legal students attend Morinville Schools for French Immersion programming = 4 ÉMPS, 1 FWPS

Administration presents the following recommendations to ensure efficient utilization of our Bon Accord Schools.

Consideration	Suggested Outcome	Reason
Recommendation A: Status Quo	Continue waiving the <i>School of Choice</i> Transportation Fee The Board wishes to continue to offer Town of Legal families either Bon Accord or Morinville for their child's SPS schooling experience.	The Board wishes to continue to offer the Town of Legal families the choice of attending École Morinville Public School (ÉMPS), Four Winds Public School (FWPS), Bon Accord Community School (BACS) or Lilian Schick School (LS)
Recommendation B: Choice Rider Bus Fee	Town of Legal Families would be charged the <i>School of Choice</i> Transportation Fee Advise Legal families that effective the 22-23 school year a <i>School of Choice</i> transportation fee will be implemented for ÉMPS/FWPS except for French Immersion students.	The Board wishes to encourage the Town of Legal families to send their child(ren) to Bon Accord Community School/Lilian Schick School for their K-9 SPS schooling experience but still offer choice to families.





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	<p>Current ÉMPS/FWPS students and siblings grandfathered.</p>	<p>Encourages efficient utilization of schools and build programming at Bon Accord Community School (BACS) or Lilian Schick School (LS)</p>
<p>Recommendation C: Closed Boundary</p>	<p>ÉMPS and FWPS move to a closed catchment boundary effective the 22-23 school year.</p> <p>Town of Legal students currently attending the schools will be grandfathered.</p> <p>Siblings of current students will be accepted, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ both siblings will be attending the school(s) next year, and both students pre-enrol before the deadline of April 29, 2022 ○ After pre-enrolment closes at 4 p.m. on April 29, 2022, only resident students who move into the school's catchment area will be able to attend a closed-boundary school. 	<p>The Board wishes to follow Board Policy to ensure efficient utilization of schools and build programming at Bon Accord Community School (BACS) or Lilian Schick School (LS).</p>

Administration is prepared to respond to questions at the February 9, 2022, Committee of the Whole meeting.

Sincerely,

Shawna Walter, M.Ed
Acting Superintendent

