

DATE: June 20, 2017

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Before and After School Care - Escuela Mill Creek School
(Response to Request for Information #221)

ORIGINATOR: Dr. Lorne Parker, Executive Director

**RESOURCE
STAFF:** Leanne Fedor, Terri Gosine, Christopher Wright

REFERENCE: May 23, 2017 Board Meeting (Trustee Stirling)

ISSUE

The following information was requested:

1. What steps are being taken to ensure that space for before and after school care programming is available as a part of the replacement school design of Escuela Mill Creek School? 2. What is required to make this space available? 3. What additional resources might be needed in order to provide daycare options on site?

BACKGROUND

The Escuela Mill Creek replacement school project was announced as approved on October 8, 2014, in response to the District's submission of the Three-Year Capital Plan 2015-2018, approved by the Board of Trustees on April 24, 2014. Subsequent to the announcement, funding to develop a detailed design for the project was approved on January 23, 2015. The District was instructed to include construction funding requests within the Three-Year Capital Plan 2016-2019, which was approved by the Board of Trustees on April 7, 2015. Construction funding for a replacement school was announced in the fall of 2016.

The District is in the very early stages of planning the design of the replacement school. On May 10, 2017, the District hosted a community visioning session where families and community members were invited to learn about the project and provide their input and vision for the future replacement school. One of the pressing issues for the community that came forward in this session was the need for the provision of child care in the new building.

CURRENT SITUATION

The approved capacity of the replacement school is 350 students. The Spanish Bilingual program is anticipated to grow to two full classes per grade within three years at Escuela Mill Creek School. This enrolment will occupy all available approved student spaces in the school.

Escuela Mill Creek School currently leases space to both a Spanish playschool program provider and a day care/out of school care provider. These stakeholders utilize a total of four classrooms of space as well as the sharing of the gym and the stage. A number of the current and future students of Escuela Mill Creek School utilize the programming provided by these lease groups.

KEY POINTS

- Child care is a valuable wrap around service provided at many of our District schools and it is the intention of administration that the District will continue to offer this service in the replacement building for Escuela Mill Creek School.
- In order to facilitate the ability to offer wrap around services, leasable space will be contemplated in the physical design of the replacement school above and beyond the approved student capacity of 350 students.
- Funding for purpose built space that does not accommodate K-12 programming has traditionally not been provided to the District. A financial model will need to be developed in order to fund the construction of these purpose built spaces.
- The administration is currently exploring models in which out of school care can be delivered within replacement school projects, including Escuela Mill Creek School.
- Further information will be provided to Trustees when a viable, sustainable and repeatable concept has been identified.

ATTACHMENTS and APPENDICES

N/A

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