

WWSD CAPITAL PLAN 2014-17

PREAMBLE

Completion of the Previously Announced Modernization Project for the Magrath Schools (Awaiting Tendering Process – as of March 2015)

- Remains a high priority for Westwind School Division is to ensure funding commitments from all partners and see this project through to completion.
- This project is progressing with a number of community and corporate partners who come to the table with commitments for additional funding.
- The current plan includes a shared community/school library space, and enhanced fine arts space and a community-funded CTS complex to be built adjacent to the school. This CTS building will be used for decanting throughout the construction phase of this school modernization project.

CURRENT BOARD PRIORITIES

- 1. Modernization for Stirling School (Announced – funding for planning has been allocated and received – now waiting for formal funding allocation for project)**
 - a. Alberta Education & Infrastructure led the board and interested stakeholders through an initial “value management” process that resulted in an announced by Alberta Infrastructure for approval for Stirling School to be modernized. Funding is still pending, with hopes that an announcement will come soon. When funding is announced, the architects will be able to proceed with design options for provincial consideration.
 - b. Given emerging new budget realities in the province, the board is waiting for further information regarding the status of this project – which places it as our number one priority.
- 2. Raymond Junior/Senior High School – Need for Additional Instructional Space (with an identified need for an increase in space for the band program)**
 - a. With increased student K-6 enrolment in Raymond, there is an anticipated need for more instructional space for Raymond Junior High School and Raymond High School as these students transition through the system.
 - b. While modular classrooms have value, there is a need for flexible learning spaces to accommodate 21st century learning pedagogy it could be accomplished as additional space attached to the existing plant or as an annex facility that could include a more suitable space for the band and show choir programs.
 - i. It was determined at the Board Planning Session in January 2015, that the Raymond High School need for a larger “music/band room” deserved to be included as a capital priority.
 - ii. The growth of the band program in Raymond has created a pressing need for a larger music room. The current band room was designed for about half of the current enrolment numbers for orchestral band.
 - c. There is an interest within the board, school and community to explore the possibility for an enhanced CTS program with a facility similar to the one planned for Magrath. The current plan is to conduct a feasibility study for this type of

facility in Raymond and to see if there is sufficient public support and potential for the necessary financial partners to support such a project.

3. Cardston Junior High School – Learning Commons/Flexible Learning Spaces

- a. This school was originally constructed as an elementary school and, as such, has no gathering area, canteen area and has limited flexible learning spaces in the school.
- b. There is a need to renovate a portion of the school to convert the current library into a learning commons that can open up into and include a new gathering area, adjacent to the current office.
- c. It is proposed that the library be moved into current classroom space across from the office, with retractable walls (like garage doors), which would open up to include a new gathering space created from the space currently used by the existing library.
- d. The plan also includes the construction of two classrooms (second floor) within the raised ceiling space of the current library – still leaving part of the raised ceiling above the gather area to let in natural light.
- e. This project will not require a change in the roof or outside walls of the school – but would require engineering to create the new classroom space (second floor).

4. New School Plant for Raymond

- a. As the Town of Raymond continues to grow, in large part, because of its proximity to the City of Lethbridge and its desirability as a “bedroom” community. Lower housing costs specifically draw young families from the city, creating increased demand for elementary education and associated services.
- b. With anticipated growth forecasts by the Town of Raymond, the board is working with the Town to ensure that suitable property is zone for new school construction. Then, as increased student enrollment warrants, a case would be made with Alberta Education and Alberta Infrastructure for the construction of a new school in Raymond.
- c. A new school plant could be an Elementary or Secondary School, depending on need at that time.

School Utilization Rates (Chart)

Maintenance + IMR Costs per School (Chart)

- Past 3 years and projected Maintenance Costs for each school

Division Map (with school locations)