Focus remains on new schools for south Edmonton in the 2017-2020 Capital Plan

This morning at a special public Board meeting Trustees approved the District's Capital Plan for 2017-2020. The new three-year Capital Plan consists of nine new construction projects, 10 modernizations and two partnership projects. New school construction consists of the following:

Year 1:

- K 6 in the Orchards at Ellerslie
- K 6 in the Meadows
- K 9 in Windermere/Keswick
- K − 6 in Secord/Rosenthal

Year 3:

- 7-9 in Rapperswill
- K 6 in Horse Hill
- K 6 in Griesbach
- K 9 in Riverview
- K 6 in Big Lake-Starling

"The demand for new schools to address growth pressures in our suburban communities continues to increase," said Board Chair Marilyn Bergstra. "Such pressures are particularly critical at this point in the southwest and southeast sectors of the city with a District utilization rate of 98% in the southwest and a utilization rate of 104% in southeast Edmonton," Bergstra added.

The 2017 – 2020 Capital Plan includes two partnership projects:

- A high school completion centre in Lewis Farms Rosenthal (approximately Rosenthal Boulevard NW and 87 Avenue NW) would provide easy access for west end students and offer alternative methods to complete high school. This project would be a partnership with the City of Edmonton Recreation Centre/Edmonton Public Library which is similar to the successful Cardinal Collins High School Academic Centre in the Clareview Recreation Centre.
- A partnership with the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) is the second project. This Grade 9 to 12 Collegiate School for Science, Technology and the Trades was on the 2015-2018 Capital Plan and would be located at approximately 108 Street and Princess Elizabeth Avenue.

"We believe that new schools and two innovative partnership projects are essential in meeting the future needs of our students," said Joan Carr Superintendent. "Offering these programs helps our students achieve their goals and plan for their future," Carr went on to say.

In addition to new schools and partnership projects in the Capital Plan, the District has also identified 10 schools that are in need of major modernizations: Ben Calf Robe, St. Alphonsus, Austin O'Brien, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, St. Angela, St. Francis of Assisi, Holy Cross, St. Rose, St. Pius X and St. Paul.

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