



Board Policy 15

Program Reduction and School Closure

In accordance with the School Act and accompanying regulations, the Board of Trustees is responsible for the use of school facilities. The Board of Trustees may make recommendations or set priorities for replacement, modernization or new capital investment for submission to the Ministry of Education. Further, the Board of Trustees may make decisions regarding closure of schools or programs and disposition of property. In keeping with this responsibility, the Board may need to consider program reduction or closure of a school for efficiency and effectiveness of operations and may consider any one or more of the following criteria: the necessity to safeguard the health and safety of students, staff or the public; the sustainability of the operation; student enrolment which makes it difficult to resource instructional programming; the cost of maintaining operable conditions or restoring operable condition is unreasonably high, and the need to consolidate or relocate existing schools or programs to serve the overall interests of public education under the jurisdiction of the Board of Trustees.

Procedures

1. Program reduction will occur when the Board decides it will no longer offer 3 grade programs.
2. During the school year, the Board will receive information as part of regular Board meetings regarding the status of all schools in the system. This information will be received through the annual school summaries report, enrollment reports, transportation reports, capital reports as well as others. In addition to the formal process for receiving information, the Board may also receive information through other sources including parent feedback or parent requests.

The Board may use any or all of this information to identify which schools or programs if any should be considered for complete or partial closure.

3. Based on the consideration of information from various sources, the Board shall raise the matter by way of a motion at a public board meeting that it is considering complete or partial closures of designated schools for the next year.
4. When considering the possible closure or partial closure of a school or school program, the Board will comply with the procedures outlined in the School Act and associated Ministerial Regulations.
5. When the Board of Trustees determines to close a school entirely, the Board shall request Ministerial consent to dispose of the building and site in a manner that is consistent with the best interests of the School Division and with consideration for the community impacted by the decision.

Legal Reference:

- School Act, R.S.A. 2000, C. S-3, S. 58, 200
- Alberta Regulation Closure of School Regulation 238/97

GOLDEN HILLS SCHOOL DIVISION

REPLACING POLICY DATED:

NEW POLICY

BOARD APPROVAL:

MOTION NO.

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December 2009; Sept. 27,
2011;
June 2013 BD20130625.1006

March 2014



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Note: Procedural requirements, including notice, public meeting, time frame are detailed in the Regulation which can be accessed at http://www.qp.alberta.ca/574.cfm?page=1997_238.cfm&leg_type=Regs&isbncln=9780779735167

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