



Memorandum

Date: October 8, 2021
To: Board of Education
From: Planning and Facilities Committee
From: Delta Carmichael, Acting Secretary-Treasurer

Information Item: Westside Catchment and French Immersion Programming Review - Update

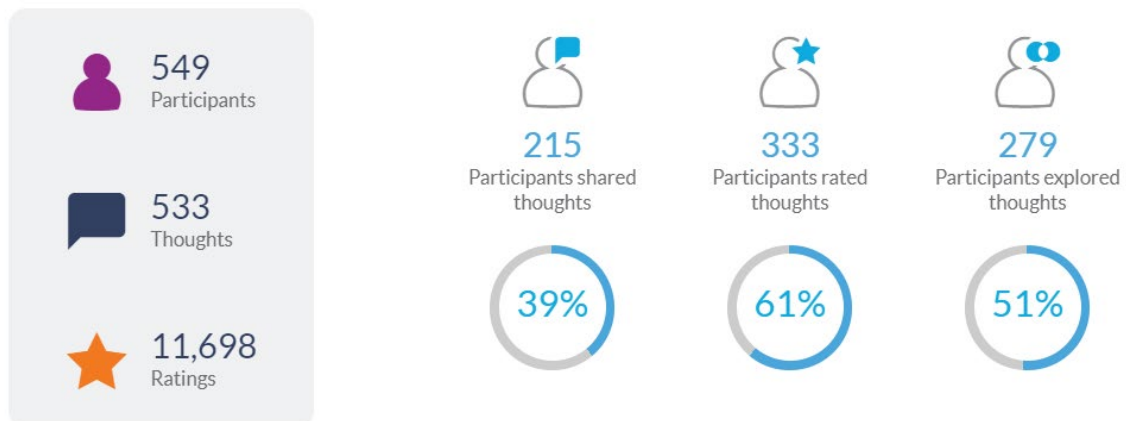
1.0 BACKGROUND

The District is currently conducting a public consultation process to develop a plan to address the significant growth in the Westside community.

Step 1 of this process was a community survey utilizing ThoughtExchange which is a tool that allows stakeholders to provide thoughts and engage with the other ideas proposed in their community. The ThoughtExchange survey was available to staff, students, parents and community members to provide input for two weeks ending September 30, 2021. The survey responses will be collated and themed and will form part of the considerations of this review.

2.0 INFORMATION STATEMENT

The preliminary survey results show that there were 549 participants that provided 533 thoughts and the thoughts were assigned 11,698 star ratings as indicated below:



Participants are organized into the following categories.



| % | Person Icon | Answer |
|-----|-------------|--------------------|
| 93% | (502) | ■ Parent/Guardian |
| 1% | (7) | ■ Community Member |
| 6% | (32) | ■ Staff Member |
| 0% | (1) | ■ Student |

At the October 6, 2021 Planning and Facilities Committee Meeting, the Committee approved revised timelines (see *Appendix A*).

3.0 NEXT STEPS

Considerations will be presented at the Planning and Facilities Committee meeting on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 (please note date change). Next steps include a public engagement session on the considerations. The public engagement sessions are planned for late November 2021.

4.0 ACTING SECRETARY-TREASURER COMMENTS

The acquisition of property and construction of schools is primarily funded by the Ministry of Education. Districts must submit a 5-year capital plan to the Ministry of Education to obtain approval and funding to build new schools. School districts are almost entirely reliant on the Ministry of Education's Capital Branch and the provincial government's Treasury Board to fund school builds. The Ministry of Education must receive approval from the provincial government's Treasury Board for their provincial capital plan that supports all 60 school districts in the province.

Central Okanagan Public School continues to be one of the province's fastest growing districts. As a result, the district will be faced with several decisions to navigate facility challenges while awaiting government funding approval for capital priorities. The District is hoping that this review process will increase community awareness of the significant facility investments that are required throughout the district and that decisions made to address these challenges focus on the educational needs of its communities.

5.0 APPENDIX

A. Revised Westside Catchment and French Immersion Programming Review Timeline