



Dear BRSD Resident:

Earlier in this term of the Battle River School Division Board of Trustees, a decision was reached to review School Attendance Boundaries. In undertaking this work, the Board established the criteria and rationale for doing so, since no comprehensive boundary review had been undertaken since School Divisions were regionalized in 1995:

- a. Schools, particularly in rural communities, are properly supported to provide quality educational opportunities
- b. Boundaries are not influenced by artificial factors, notably municipal boundaries
- c. Updated boundaries reflect changing demographics and
- d. Attendance boundaries and logical and efficient for each school

In commencing this process the Board retained a consultant from the Alberta School Boards Association to assist in the process. Public meetings were set and held in the Fall of 2023 in Camrose, New Norway, Ryley and Daysland. An online survey was conducted, and over 200 responses were received from this public consultation effort.

Following the receipt of the Consultant's report, the Board met and accepted the Consultant's report and recommendations. In reviewing the feedback received, the Board, through the Community Engagement Committee, determined that a third option should also be developed reflecting this feedback and the desire to address some geographical considerations, largely in the eastern areas of the School Division.

Information on the Board's Boundary Review, including the consultant's report, can be found on BRSD's website using the following link: <https://www.brsd.ab.ca/our-division/brsd-boundary-map>

Our work so far leads us to why we are writing to you today. The Board determined that direct communications on these options to all residences that may be impacted by these options was a needed next step. There will also be an additional online opportunity for all Battle River School Division Parents and Residents to review all options and provide their comments on them to the Board prior to decisions being made. Please use the link below to provide your feedback.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScfZsxmxepl1JvGOk5pPp5TCi3kCR82ZSpJrsUkIOa0m-MPA/viewform?usp=pp_url

Following this additional consultation period over the next month, the Board will then meet to consider this feedback and determine any changes to Attendance Boundaries going forward. The Boards' intention is that if any changes to Boundaries are made, they will be in effect this September for the 2024/25 School Year. In the event that changes to attendance boundaries are made, the issue of attendance grandfathering of current attendees will be addressed by the Board prior to the summer break.

Thank you, on behalf of the Board, to all community members that have taken the time to respond to surveys, attend consultation sessions and those who watched our online video on the Division website, for your interest in the entire process.

If you have any questions related to this process, please contact Patrick McFeely, BRSD Board Chair, at pmcfeely@brsd.ab.ca Thank you for your interest and participation in this important effort.

Sincerely,



Pat McFeely
Board Chair