



Over the last few years the communities of Chemainus and Crofton have grown faster than projected. This growth has brought a flood of new families and children into our school system. Couple this growth with last year's closure of St. Joseph's, and the new class size and composition language in the recent collective agreement, and the elementary schools in both communities quickly reached capacity.

Over the last month, three separate events have taken place as our Community Conversation into the North Zone Long-Range Facilities Plan. This plan, once decided upon, will help the communities of Chemainus and Crofton facilitate their new and existing families in their schools.

Parents, students, and concerned citizens, have engaged with the Board of Education over these conversations and brought forward a number of suggestions and concerns. These items have then been researched and reported back on by staff in order to help the community and the Board better understand the options presented and their potential impacts on both communities.

The Board must now decide as to what form this long-range facilities plan will take and will take into consideration all the information provided through the Community Conversations as well as reports from staff.

The four possible solutions that have been distilled from these conversations are:

1. Expanding the purchase of portables for both Chemainus and Crofton
2. Moving the grade 7's to Chemainus Secondary
3. Moving the grade 6's and 7's to Chemainus Secondary
4. Moving the grade 7's for the 2019/20 school year and then the grade 6's in 2020/21

The Board wanted to ensure all parents, whether they were able to attend the Community Conversation or not, have access to the same information prior to the Special Board Meeting on February 27 where the final decision will be made.

The Special Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. at the School Board Office. For those not able to attend, the meetings are recorded and posted to our YouTube channel. Special Board Meetings are board meetings that the public are welcome to attend. All information to be discussed at the board meeting will be compiled for board consideration prior to the meeting. As such, no further information is presented at the meeting.

If you have information that you have not yet provided at the Community Conversations that you feel would be pertinent for the board to know, please submit it to trustees@sd79.bc.ca before Tuesday, February 26 at 4:30 p.m.

This information package includes:

- Links to the SD79 website where the slides from all Community Conversations are posted.
- Links to the videos that were captured during the second and third conversation.
- A link to a video created by Chemainus Secondary Principal Lori Hryniuk as a follow up.
- A fact sheet in the form of a Q and A.

We hope you find the following information useful.

Thank you,

