



May 12, 2021

Board seeking more information on Optimist Park

The Saskatoon Board of Education has approved a motion to continue exploring Optimist Park as a potential location for a new school to serve the King George, Pleasant Hill, and Princess Alexandra school communities.

At its meeting on Tuesday night, trustees passed a motion to continue consideration of Optimist Park as an alternative location for the City Centre Project, and that administration inform the City of Saskatoon and the Ministry of Education, and report back to the board with regards to next steps.

“Our board is determined to find the best location for serving the students and families of these three schools. We want to give appropriate consideration to Optimist Park, which could provide a central location for this new school community,” said Board Chair Colleen MacPherson.

Optimist Park is owned by the City of Saskatoon. The school division would require approval from City Council to build a new school at the location.

On Tuesday, trustees were presented with site evaluation studies on two sites – Optimist Park and the Princess Alexandra School site. The studies included test fits for each site, which provided an idea of the space a school building would occupy on the property. Feedback on the test fits was collected through one-on-one meetings with school families, a virtual public engagement session, and submissions by email and through the website. This feedback was included in the evaluation reports.

“The City Centre Project will provide innovative learning spaces designed to support students academically, socially, physically and emotionally. It will be culturally representative of the community it serves and welcoming for families,” said MacPherson. “We look forward to continuing conversations with students, families, elders and the community as we move forward, and will continue to pursue partnerships with local agencies and organizations to provide wrap-around services for students and families.”

The new school is projected to open in fall 2024. More information about City Centre project can be found at www.saskatoonpublicschools.ca/citycentre

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