

Secondary Fine Arts School Expression of Interest Survey

The Board of Trustees is interested in getting a response from parents about the possible introduction of a secondary fine arts school in Kamloops.

A group of parents has made a request to the Board to extend the current elementary fine arts school concept at Beattie Elementary School of the Arts into a high school setting. The Beattie Elementary School of the Arts opened in September this year and caters to all grades from kindergarten to seven. The focus of the new proposal is to build on the foundations of the elementary program and to extend it to the secondary level in time for the beginning of the 2005/2006 school year.

The Board has initiated a feasibility study to determine whether such a program would be supported by a sufficient number of parents to make it viable. Should there be sufficient interest, the superintendent will commission a comprehensive study to provide details on the type of program, location, grades and all of the details necessary to permit parents to make an informed decision. This information should be available in time to include it in budget preparations for the next school year.

It is not possible to provide a detailed description of the various models that may be offered but there are some components parents should consider when completing this survey:

- The proposed school would offer a strong academic program along with enhanced instruction in components of the fine arts. The parents have expressed a strong preference for a secondary program that integrates the fine arts into the academic program.
- A secondary program would provide opportunities for children to experience a wide exposure to the arts but would also offer opportunities for performance in some forms.
- There will only be one school initially, located in an area of the city where there is space.
- Transportation policies shall be the same as for French Immersion and Montessori. That is, transportation is the parents' responsibility although students may ride on school bus routes subject to available space.
- Initial grade levels included in the program will be determined by parent interest and financial viability.

We ask that you complete the attached survey in order to determine the level of support there is for such a venture. You have not been given many details because we need to judge the level of support before we do too much planning.

The full parent proposal is available on the District website at www.sd73.bc.ca

Parents of all children are welcome to complete the survey. Please indicate their grade level placement as of September 2005. The Board is particularly interested in students who are currently in grades seven to eleven because they are the

ones who will be immediately involved should a decision be made for next September.

Proposed Secondary Fine Arts School Survey

Expression of Interest

I (we) are seriously interested in enrolling our child(ren) in a secondary fine arts school. I (we) understand there are many details yet to be worked out.

1. I (we) would register our child(ren) in an existing secondary school in the following area(s) of the city: (**Check only one box**).

- Only south shore secondary schools _____
- Only north shore secondary schools _____
- Any secondary school in the city. _____

2. List children by **name** and by **grade** as of September 1, **2005**. You are welcome to list younger children who will attend in the future.

e.g. John Smith Grade 7

3. Family Information:

Name of Parent(s) _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ **Email** _____

Nearest High School _____

4. Please list questions, comments on back or a separate sheet.

5. Return this survey by December 15. Return details below.

For any questions regarding this survey, please contact Ross Spina, Director of Secondary Education at 374-0679.

Please complete and return this form to your nearest school or the School Board Office by December 15. It can be faxed to the school board office at 372-1183. The survey can also be accessed on the District Website.