



LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51

Approved: November 14, 2000

Amended: May 12, 2009

Amended: April 29, 2014

903.1 School Closure

Policy

The Board directs that procedures be established for the closure of schools.

Regulations

1. The closure of a school may be considered by the Board when one or more of the following conditions exists:
 - 1.1 continued operation of the school will create unnecessary costs to the District;
 - 1.2 student enrollment of the school makes it difficult to provide an instructional program equivalent to those offered in the other schools in the District;
 - 1.3 the school is needed for other District purposes;
 - 1.4 the condition of the school building is such that the comfort and/or safety of students may be adversely affected;
 - 1.5 the location of the school is such that it is not easily accessible to a sufficient number of students who are within the school boundary.

2. Where the Board is considering the closure of a school, the Board:
 - 2.1 shall raise the matter through a notice of motion at a regular meeting of the Board;
 - 2.2 shall inform affected staff of the notice of motion and the decision making process to be used;
 - 2.3 shall notify, in writing, the parents/guardians of every child and student enrolled in the school who will be affected by the closure of the school;
 - 2.4 shall organize and convene a public meeting for the purpose of discussing the possible school closure and its implications for children and students, the community and the school system and to discuss implementation plans for closure as well as alternatives to closure;
 - 2.5 shall provide an opportunity for Lethbridge City Council to submit a statement to the Board of the impact the closure may have on the community;
 - 2.6 may hold other meetings with respect to the closure at times and places as the Board may determine;
 - 2.7 shall meet all expectations of Alberta Education for school closures.

3. The Board shall not make a final decision on the proposed closure until at least three weeks have passed since the date of the public meeting referred to in regulation 2.4.

4. The Board shall give due consideration to any submissions on the proposed closure that it receives after the public meeting referred to in regulation 2.4.

5. The Board

5.1 shall by resolution decide whether to close the school; and

5.2 if the decision is to close the school, shall forthwith notify the Minister of Education in writing.

6. All school closure procedures shall be initiated and completed within the school year in which the decision to close the school is made.

The Board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to develop the procedures necessary to implement this policy.

References

Alberta School Act: 58

District Policies: 202.1 .2 Conflict of Interest, 504.7 Temporary School Closure

Other: Alberta Education – Policy, Regulations and Forms Manual – Closure of Schools Regulation