



Public Meeting SIMS

December 16, 2020

Most Asked Questions So Far

- ◇ What is happening with French Immersion?
- ◇ Where will the students be next year?
- ◇ What is going to happen to the buildings when the school closes?
- ◇ Is there capacity in the other schools on the island?
- ◇ Will students have opportunities to explore areas of interest?

French Immersion

- ◆ Will begin at Grade 6 at Saltspring Elementary – 1 class/year
- ◆ Registration will be open winter/spring of previous year and will be structured.
- ◆ Outer Island students that are accepted will be standard riders on the water taxi while in the program. If a student leaves French Immersion they will return to their catchment schools.
- ◆ The SD64 Coordinator and school principal will be issuing notice in the new year after the School Board vote.

Student Locations 2021/2022

- ◇ Current grade 7 and 8 students move to GISS in September 2021
- ◇ Current grade 6 students remain at SIMS for one year in a location decided by students, parents, and staff.
- ◇ Current grade 5 students remain at their elementary catchment school.
- ◇ Busing will be catchment specific for all schools.

SIMS Buildings

- ◆ The district will retain the ownership of the land and buildings.
- ◆ As a community asset, the district will work with interested parties over the next couple of years to secure a long-term lease.
- ◆ The district does not have the capacity to be the operator of a community rental facility in the long term.
- ◆ School/district/classroom resources and assets will move with the teachers and be distributed equitably to our other schools if there is any surplus.

SSI School Capacity

- ◆ The capacity of our elementary schools and GISS on SSI was considered as part of the modelling in the reconfiguration scenarios.
- ◆ Each school principal confirmed that the Ministry calculated school capacity was reasonable and that the expected student numbers would fit.
- ◆ In the future, catchment areas may be modified to ensure that student numbers are balanced throughout the elementary schools on the island.

Student Programs

- ◆ Each school community will work with students, parents, and school staff to create opportunities for students to explore various areas of interest.
- ◆ The SIMS teachers will be moving to other schools in the district and will bring their skills and knowledge to their new school communities.
- ◆ SIMS classroom resources will be distributed to the new school communities.