



COMMUNITY UPDATE

École Sage Creek School

February 2018

[École Sage Creek School](#) (ÉSCS) opened its doors on September 5th, 2017. The school’s official **capacity** is **600** students. The school’s September enrolment was **627** students. The Board first submitted a request for a first school in Sage Creek to the Public Schools Finance Board (PSFB) in 2007 and has updated its Five-Year Capital Plan Request for a second school in Sage Creek, since its 2013 submission.

Based on the continued growth in new housing in Sage Creek, the migration rate in Sage Creek, the youth population residing in existing housing, and the capture rate of that population, we have developed the following forecast.

École Sage Creek School: Baragar assumptions with local knowledge January 2018													
Total Enrolment Projection													
	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1-3	4-6	1-8	K-8
2018	107	120	112	86	85	69	70	45	45	318	224	632	739
2019	128	112	121	112	86	86	69	71	46	345	241	703	831
2020	121	133	112	120	113	87	87	70	72	365	287	794	915
2021	115	125	134	112	120	114	88	88	71	371	322	852	967
2022	128	119	127	134	112	122	115	89	89	380	349	907	1035
2023	138	134	121	126	133	113	121	117	90	381	367	955	1093
2024	141	144	135	120	126	135	114	124	119	399	375	1017	1158
2025	145	147	145	134	120	127	135	115	124	426	382	1047	1192
2026	146	151	149	145	134	121	128	138	117	445	383	1083	1229
2027	150	151	154	148	144	136	122	130	139	453	402	1124	1274

The projected enrollment for 2018-19 is **740** students.

Since sharing [information](#) with the parent community at ÉSCS on January 25th, 2018, we’ve been working to integrate parents’ concerns and suggestions into our planning. Over the last three weeks, we have developed a plan

- to revise our registration process, and
- to accommodate all 740 projected students in the school, despite the government’s decision to not approve our request for 4 modular classroom units.

The decision to accommodate 740 students must be an interim solution that cannot be sustained for a period extending beyond one or two years without potentially compromising the educational opportunities for students and staff at ÉSCS.

To accommodate the projected number of students for 2018-19, ÉSCS will need to convert the current Art Room and Science Lab into classroom spaces. In addition, the main floor Learning Commons will need to be converted into a classroom space (this will require the use of partitions to provide some separation for the classroom in this central location of the school). The Learning Commons was not designed as a classroom space, but rather a breakout space.

The goal at this juncture must be for the board and the [community](#) to continue to raise awareness about our rationale for the provision of additional spaces for ÉSCS (4 modular classroom units are allowed on the current site and would assist to alleviate the overcrowding in the immediate timeline). Additionally, placing such large numbers of students in a single facility requires the maximization of the common learning spaces. The gymnasium is currently housing up to 3 classes of students at a single time. The library will be difficult to access once the number of students exceeds the school's designed capacity. In addition, the Art and Science rooms will no longer be available as additional learning spaces, limiting the learning opportunities to the actual classroom and potentially limiting experiences in these discipline areas. Students will still be getting a good Art and Science learning experience, but in their own classroom and in the commons areas. It is important that everyone appreciate the losses and sacrifices associated with overcrowding a school and understand that their children's learning will be impacted by these decisions.

As a result of the impact on the learning environment that overcrowding creates, it is critical that this decision be understood as a [temporary measure](#). We are going forward with this provisional accommodation in parallel with a concerted and ongoing effort to provide data analysis and rationale to government to approve our request for 4 modular classroom units on the current school site and accelerate the process of approving a second K-8 school with a capacity for 600 students in the Sage Creek development. To that end, we had a recent meeting with the Qualico Communities team on Friday, February 2nd, 2018 to discuss the latest information related to the Sage Creek development and specifically the second school site. Qualico Communities has provided us with a letter of intent to service the second school site for construction.

We have also developed 2 additional projection models for ÉSCS. Our data analysis suggests that all 3 projection models show a similar pattern of enrolment. These recent planning analyses will be added to the documentation we provide to government to support our request for 4 modular classroom units and a second school.

Recent Meetings with Government

Senior administration met with Deputy Minister Wilson, Assistant Deputy Minister Santos and Konrad Erickson from PSFB on February 14th, 2018. We have requested a meeting for the chair, vice-chair and acting superintendent to dialogue with Minister Wishart.

Registration Details

The [Louis Riel School Division](#) (LRSD) recognizes that parents in the Sage Creek catchment area have a preference to have their children attend ÉSCS. However, as set out above, due to capacity restrictions, not all children in the Sage Creek catchment area can be enrolled in ÉSCS for future years.

To ensure an objective and fair selection process for children in the Sage Creek catchment area to attend Kindergarten at ÉSCS, LRSD will be guided by two principles:

- (a) keeping families together; and
- (b) giving priority to children based on the length of time the parent/legal guardian and children have resided in the catchment area.

Therefore, if a parent/legal guardian has a child currently attending ÉSCS, their siblings are automatically allocated space in the school. In LRSD, a fundamental criterion when considering school placement is keeping siblings together.

For September 2018 only, parents/legal guardians, in Sage Creek, who have enrolled their child in another program or school for the 2017-18 school year will be permitted to have them register for ÉSCS for the 2018-19 school year without prejudice. However, going forward, those who elect to have their children attend another learning institution will not be guaranteed a seat in ÉSCS and will be subject to the selection process outlined below based on available seats at each grade level. This may include 0 seats being available for any grade level based on the maximum capacity of ÉSCS being set at 740 students or a lower or greater capacity. The final number will depend on our ability to add spaces to ÉSCS.

Parents/legal guardians who have enrolled their child in another school for this year, but want to register them at ÉSCS for 2018-19, should fill out the online [survey](#).

Kindergarten Registration Process

Current projections indicate that **107** Kindergarten-aged children residing in Sage Creek will choose to attend ÉSCS. As of 2017, **120** Kindergarten-aged children resided in Sage Creek. The current plan is to accommodate **107** requests based on this projected number for 2018-19. If we allow **107** students to start Kindergarten in ÉSCS in 2018 and we are successful in adding spaces at ÉSCS, the Kindergarten registration for future years (beginning in 2019-20) will be capped at 80 students (40 in the English program and 40 in the French Immersion program).

*For 2018-19, if the number registering for Kindergarten is greater than the projected **107** students, the length of time a family has been residing in Sage Creek (without interruption) will determine where a child is placed in the queue for the allocated Kindergarten spaces. For 2019-20 and beyond, the length of time the parents/guardians have been residing in the Sage Creek catchment (without interruption) will determine where a child is placed in the queue for the allocated Kindergarten spaces.*

Following the two planned Kindergarten information evenings on February 27th and March 1st, 2018, a Registration Period will open on Monday, March 5th, 2018 and end on Friday, March 23rd, 2018. At registration, parents will be required to provide proof of residency with the acceptable documentation to assess their eligibility for a placement at ÉSCS.

Kindergarten Registration Packages will be distributed at the Kindergarten Information Evenings. Parents/legal guardians with children born in 2013 should RSVP to one of the two evenings by replying to this online [survey](#).

Registrations for Kindergarten and other grade levels will be accepted **after** this initial Registration Period. However, failure to provide the necessary information outlined below, within the deadline specified, will impact where a child is placed in the queue for the allocated Kindergarten spaces.

Acceptable Documents – Residents will provide originals of the selected document – a copy will be made by the ÉSCS staff and the original will be returned to residents:

- (a) Earliest property tax bill in the resident’s name
- (b) Status of title from the property registry identifying them as the registered owner
- (c) Renters: copy of the current lease agreement providing a commencement date **and** a letter from the landlord confirming the commencement date and attesting their status as tenants
- (d) Residents who have transitioned from renters to owners will provide a copy of the lease **as well as** title proof of the purchased home to provide proof of continuous residency in the community
- (e) If residents have purchased a second home within the Sage Creek community (moved from one house to another in the area, without having left Sage Creek) they will need to provide proof of residency for **both homes** to indicate the entire time they have been residing in Sage Creek. Please note: the age of the home is irrelevant, only the length of time a family has been residing in Sage Creek (without interruption) will determine where a child is placed in the queue for the allocated Kindergarten spaces.

N.B. Anyone providing false and/or misleading information will result in ineligibility for enrolment a ÉSCS. LRSD reserves the right to request additional documents, including registration of title if needed. The school will not accept documents after the deadline date. Those children who are not enrolled in ÉSCS, will receive transportation to a designated school within the LRSD.

The registration process will also include all the normally required documents to be completed and parents/legal guardians will need to indicate their preference for AM or PM Kindergarten when they submit their registration documents. As in all schools, preference for AM or PM Kindergarten will be granted on a “first-come, first-served” basis when the registration is submitted (starting at 9:00 a.m. on March 5th, 2018).

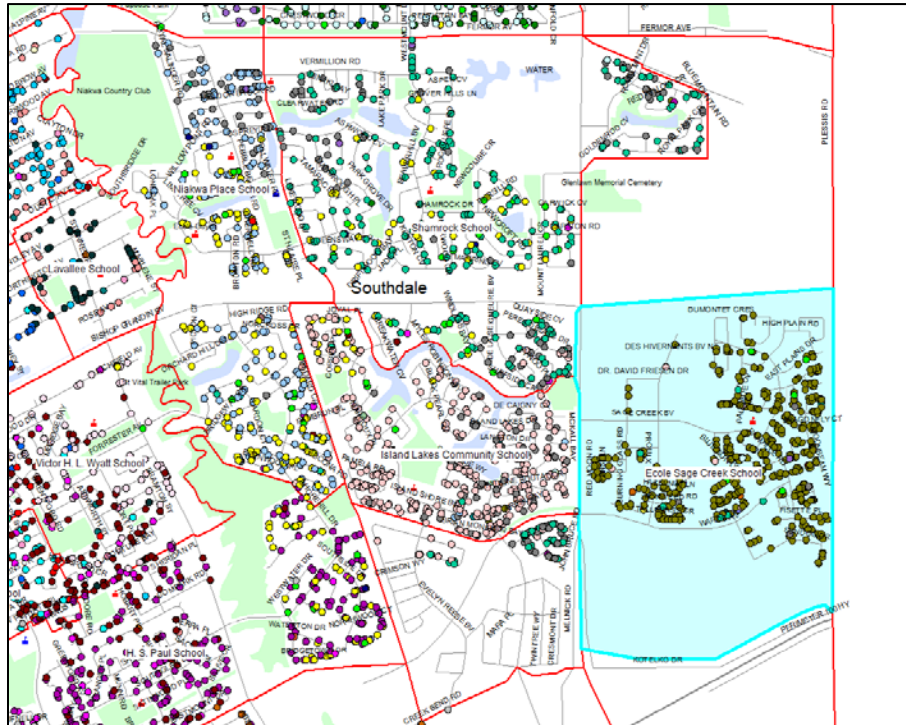
To help us better plan for the coming years, if you **DO NOT** currently have a child at École Sage Creek School, and have pre-school aged children not yet attending school, please fill out this important [survey](#).

For 2018, the school will communicate the outcome of the Kindergarten registration process to parents/legal guardians by April 9th, 2018.

Other Considerations Related to the Registration Process

In addition, priority placement will not be granted based upon a family’s current daycare provider. Although there is childcare currently located in the school itself, there are also external childcare spaces that are in close proximity to the school. Due to the high demand and limited number of childcare spaces in the community, it is fundamentally unfair to consider childcare placement to determine where a child is placed in the queue for the allocated Kindergarten spaces. As a general rule, the LRSD places emphasis on providing access to seats in a school based on residency in the school’s catchment, versus a space in a school-based daycare prior to being school-aged.

As Sage Creek is a defined community that is separated from the rest of the LRSD by a major artery (Lagimodière Boulevard), no consideration will be made for selecting students based on proximity to the school itself. There will be no geographical consideration made to determine priority placement in the school as all residents of Sage Creek are obligated to travel a significant distance to access all other LRSD schools. Furthermore, the continued construction of new homes in many phases of the development and the sale of homes in all phases of the development make it impossible to consider geographical placement of a home to determine where a child is placed in the queue for the allocated Kindergarten spaces.



We will continue to provide updates to the École Sage Creek School community as we learn more about our ongoing efforts to create additional classroom spaces at the school and build a second school for the community.

Should you have any questions about the information provided in this [Community Update](#), please

- [email](#) the Board Office or call at (204) 257-7827 or
- [email](#) the school or call at (204) 253-8199.

Sincerely,

Christian Michalik
Acting Superintendent of Schools
Division Scolaire Louis Riel School Division