

# Snokomish Catchment Boundary Report.docx

NOVEMBER 2024

LEADERSHIP IN LEARNING

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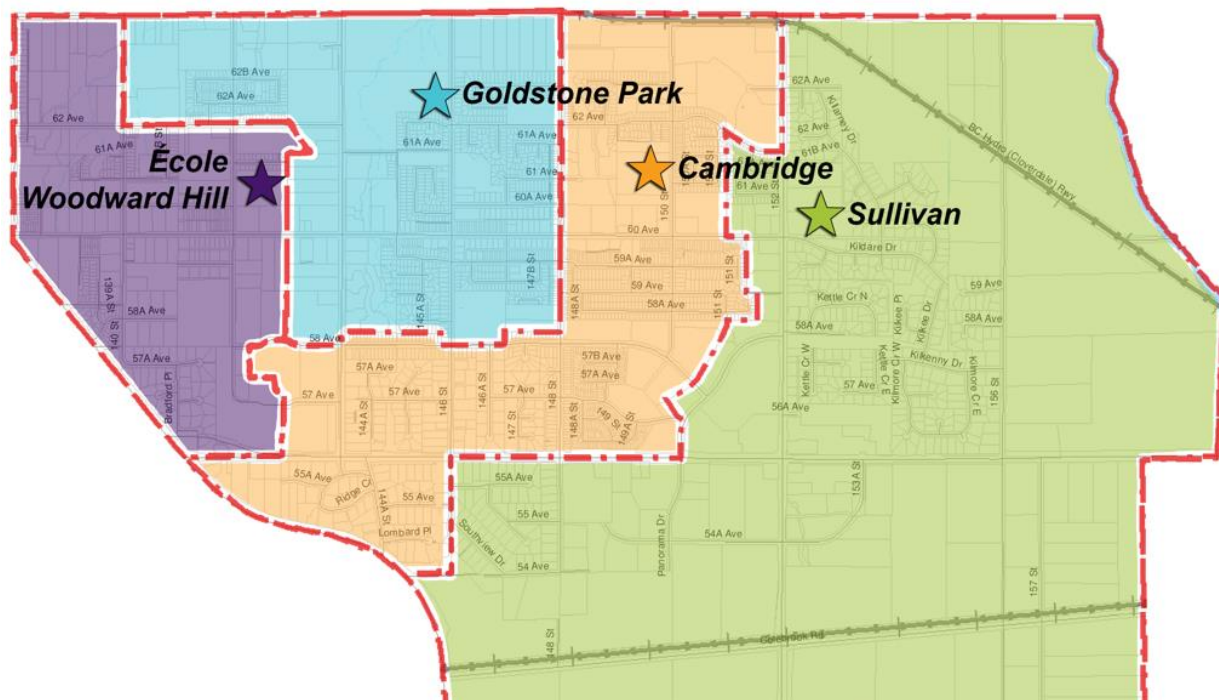
## 1.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board

1. Receive this report and presentation for information; and
2. Approve the recommended option for boundary changes for the new Snokomish Elementary, attached as Appendix I.

## 2.0 Background

Within the South Newton area, there are 5 existing schools, including McLeod Road which hosts a Traditional education program. The area is roughly bounded by King George Blvd to the west, 64<sup>th</sup> Ave to the north and the Agricultural Land Reserve to the south and east. All 4 regular schools are over capacity, with more development under construction and being planned for the overall area. The existing catchments are shown here:



The South Newton area of the City continues to see rapid development with more dense housing being built, specifically closer to 64<sup>th</sup> to the north and King George Blvd to the west within the above map. As of October 2023, the average population of all 4 schools is at roughly 132% capacity.

In response to the overcapacity and expected growth, in April 2021, a new elementary school was announced by the School Board and Ministry of Education. The new school is located at 14778 58B Ave. Named by the Board formally as Snokomish Elementary, it is currently under construction and scheduled to open in Spring, 2026. To prepare for that opening a new catchment is required to determine which students will attend Snokomish Elementary. Creating a new catchment has impacts on all 4 existing schools within the South Newton area, as detailed in this report.

### 3.0 Option Development

To begin the process of developing potential options for catchment boundary creation, the following were considered:

- Alignment with Surrey Board of Education policy
  - Policy No. 9200 – School Catchment Areas
  - Regulation 9200.1 – School Catchment Areas
  - Policy 9320 – Registration and Placement of Students
  - Regulation 9320.1 – Registration and Placement of Students
  - Policy No. 8320 – Community Initiated Programs
- Current and projected enrolment
- Review of the Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) along with projected residential development and student population growth in conjunction with City of Surrey staff
- Input from school administration
- Input from school staff, parents and the public

Through this, a set of guiding principles were established that included:

- a. Keep students as close to their neighbourhood schools as possible;
- b. Provide relief to schools most overcapacity now and in the future;
- c. Create boundaries that will stand the test of time and that align with the District's long-range planning;
- d. Boundary considerations should include development applications in process; and
- e. Programs of choice to be considered alongside adjustments to neighbourhood catchments.

Through this, four options were presented for community engagement. These four options aimed to balance enrolment now and in the future (both short term and long term) and reduce the need for temporary space (portables). Option C was presented as the preferred option through public consultation. The 4 options along with their projected enrolments are presented in Appendix II.

## 4.0 Community Engagement Process

Given the nature of changes to the existing catchment boundaries of the four elementary schools, establishing new boundaries is a task that needed to be approached with thoughtfulness and in consultation with those impacted. The following is a summary of the community engagement efforts:

- Letter to Parents / Open House Save-the-Date – April 26, 2024
- Presentation to the Board to formally commence public engagement – May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- Launch of Engagement Process / Information Packages – May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024
  - surreyschools.ca News Story and Information Page
  - Online survey (Running for 1 month – May 9<sup>th</sup>-June 9<sup>th</sup>)
  - Media Outreach / Press Release
  - Social Media (Facebook and Twitter)
- Four public open houses:
  - May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Cambridge Elementary
  - May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 – Goldstone Elementary
  - May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Sullivan Elementary
  - May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Woodward Hill Elementary

Community engagement efforts were focused around information sharing, presenting options, providing clarification and seeking feedback. Information from the public open houses, a copy of the materials presented, and a link to a survey was posted on the Surrey Schools website.

No option for new catchment boundaries will be perfect when combined with the desire to have minimal impact on local schools. Options were presented that reflect the best possible boundary changes in the current context.

## 5.0 Community Feedback

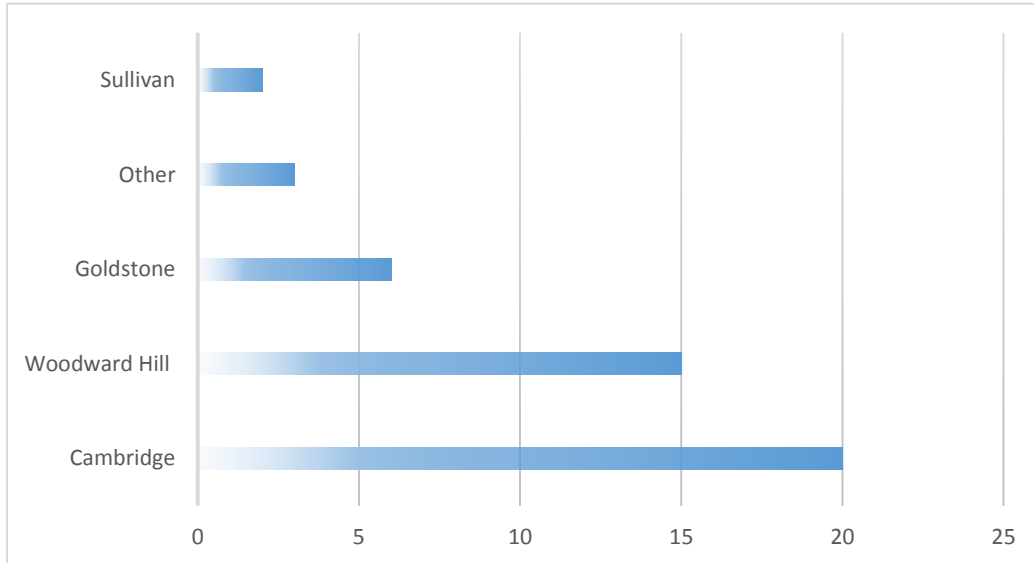
### Feedback Statistics

- Survey Feedback
  - Survey Feedback: **45 responses**
- Community Forum Attendance
  - May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Cambridge Elementary – 22 public and staff.
  - May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 – Goldstone Elementary – 20 public and staff.
  - May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Sullivan Elementary – 0 attendees.
  - May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Woodward Hill Elementary – 25 public and staff.

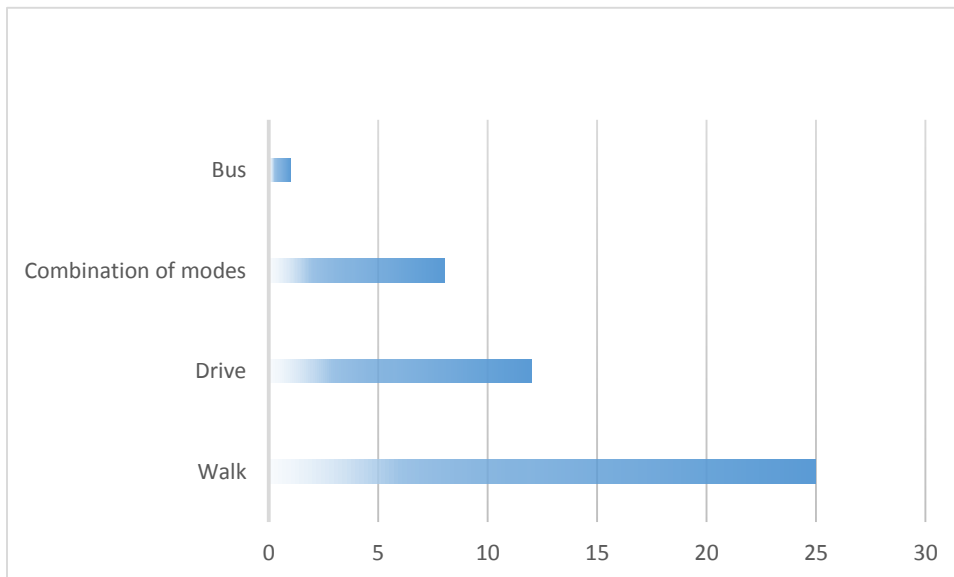
## Survey Summary

The breakdown of returned summaries is as follows:

What school do you currently work/attend?



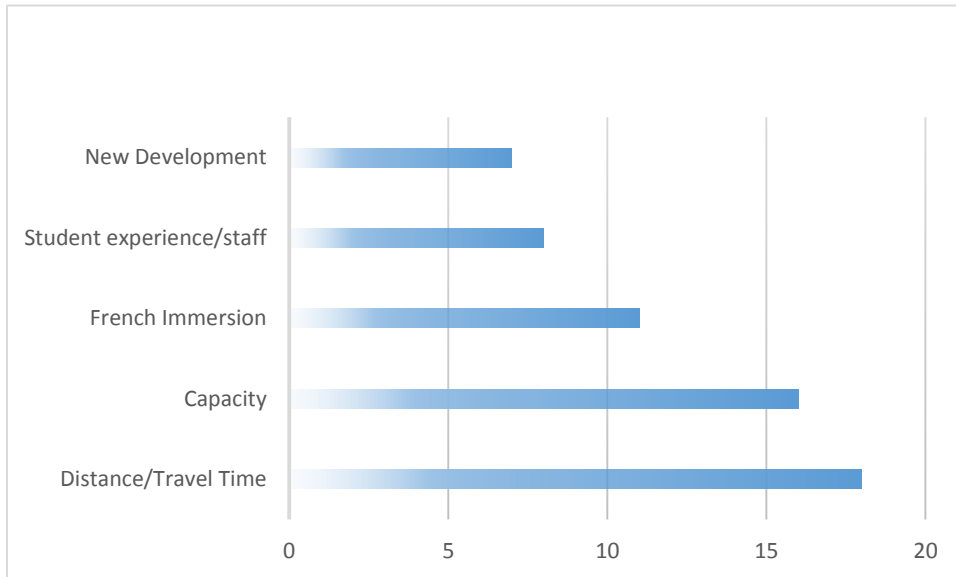
How do you currently get to school?



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What are important factors for us to consider?



In summary, while there were some responses regarding moving the French Immersion program, capacity after the school opens and safety/travel concerns, we did not receive a significant amount of feedback on any one issue of note. There were also some comments regarding McLeod Road Traditional School and why it is not being used as space for regular elementary students. The future of McLeod Road Traditional School and other Traditional schools is being reviewed and should the decision be made to convert McLeod Road to a regular elementary school, a future catchment change would then be required.

## 6.0 Recommendation and Next Steps

As noted above and presented to the community, Option C is the recommended option.

Through the summer of 2024, staff reviewed the feedback from the community engagement process and also gave consideration to:

- The catchment and enrolment implications of potential future funding announcements for new elementary schools and additions in the region.
- Any changes in pace of development/enrolment trends. The school district is working with the City of Surrey to re-examine the unit projections for high growth areas.
- How concerns expressed that involve other agencies will be communicated and managed (e.g., TransLink, City of Surrey).

The feedback received was mixed, with no one option strongly outweighing any other. The option to move French Immersion was also mixed, with some opposed, some understanding the need to change, and some in full support. While opposing community desires were identified in the community forums, online surveys and emails, Option C continues to be the recommended option through this consultation process.

There are currently a combined 25 portables at Woodward Hill, Goldstone, Cambridge and Sullivan Elementary schools. With the construction of Snokomish expected to be completed in the Spring 2026, the objective will be to move students into this new facility mid-year and have students benefit from a new school as quickly as possible. As such, staff intend to move forward with option C on the assumption that Snokomish is open for instruction in Spring 2026 and if not, the change will commence with the 2026-27 school year.

#### **Students who currently attend Cambridge, Goldstone, Sullivan or Woodward Hill Elementary**

- When it is time to move to Snokomish Elementary, students in Grades K-6 who reside in the Snokomish catchment area will transition to Snokomish Elementary.
- Grade 7 students will not transition to Snokomish Elementary during the 2025-2026 school year. These students will complete their Grade 7 year at their current school before moving to secondary school. Siblings of these Grade 7 students can choose to move to Snokomish Elementary when it opens or may choose to remain at their current school until June 2026, and then move to Snokomish Elementary starting September 2026.

#### **Students who currently attend Woodward Hill Elementary in French Immersion**

- When it is time to move to Snokomish Elementary, students in French Immersion Grades K-7 will transition to Snokomish Elementary.

A map detailing the new catchment areas is attached as Appendix I.

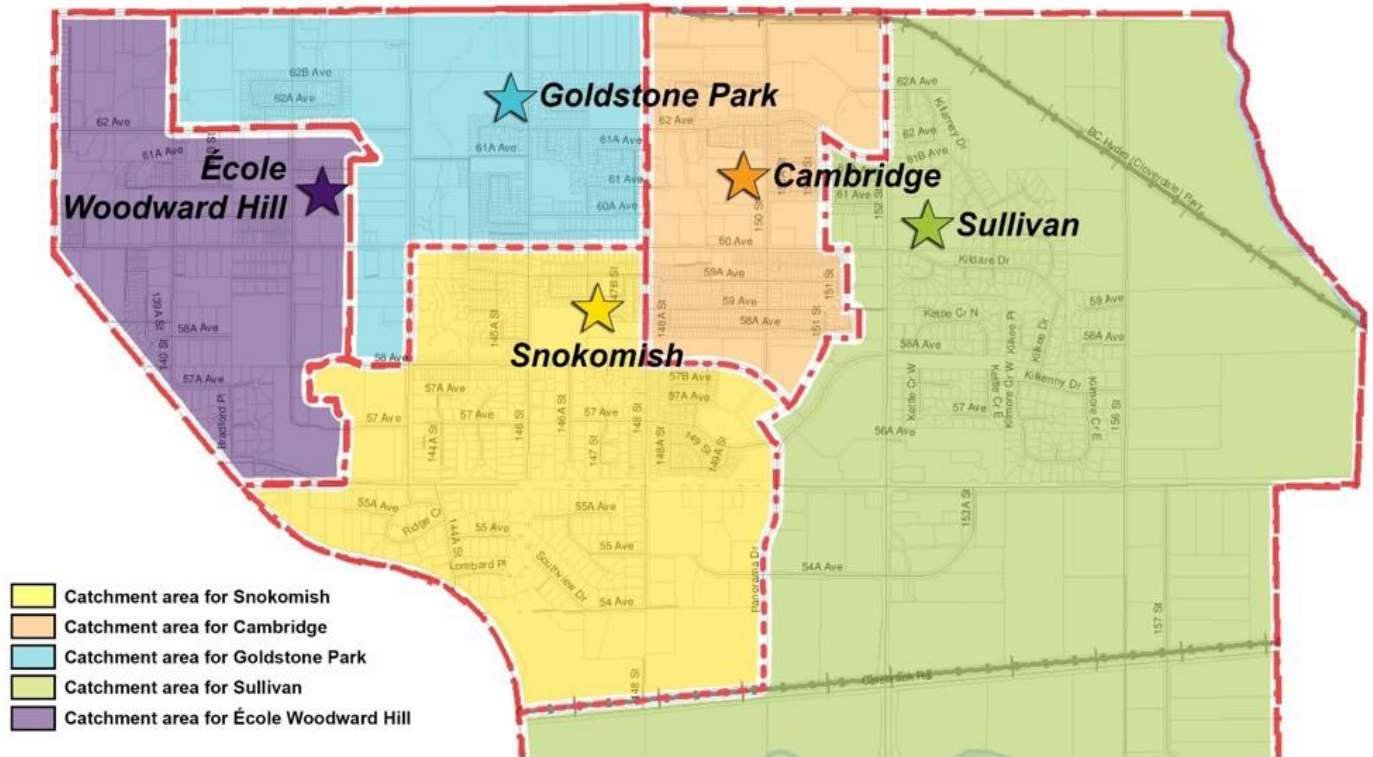
## **7.0 Conclusion**

It is recommended that the Board

1. Receive this report and presentation for information; and
2. Approve the recommended option for boundary changes for the new Snokomish Elementary, attached as Appendix I.

# Appendix I

Recommended catchment for the new Snokomish Elementary.



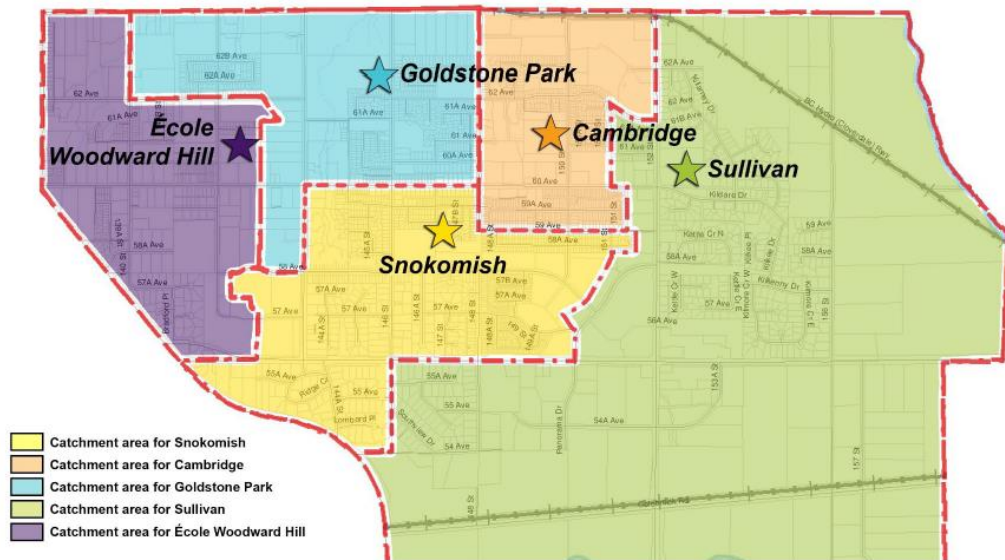


## Appendix II

The 4 catchment options presented through public engagement along with projected enrolment.

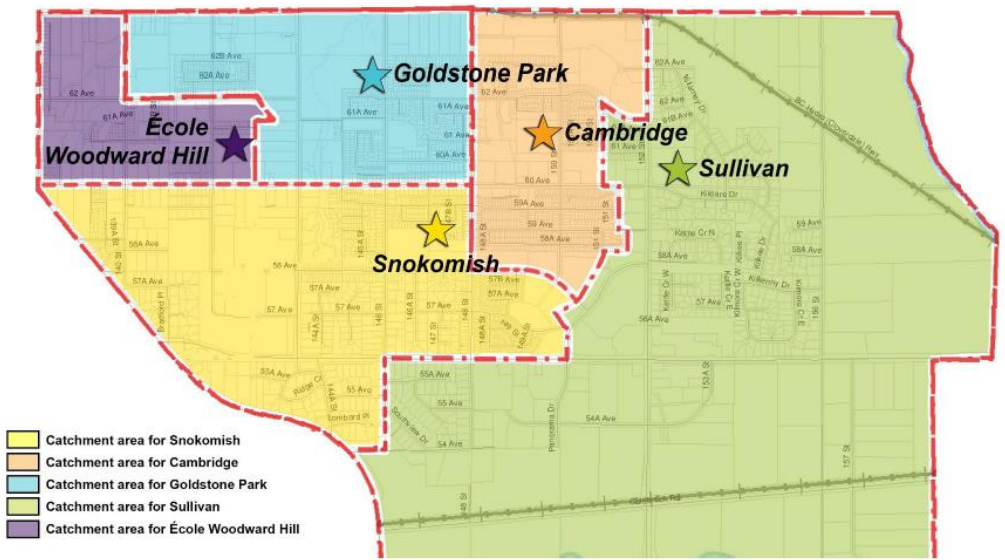
### Option 1

**Option 1: Cambridge & Goldstone Park to Snokomish, No FRIMM Move**  
 K-6 students in the Cambridge (south of 59th Ave.) and GP (south of 60th Ave., east of 144th St.) catchments would attend Snokomish Elementary. French Immersion would stay at École Woodward Hill.



### Option 2

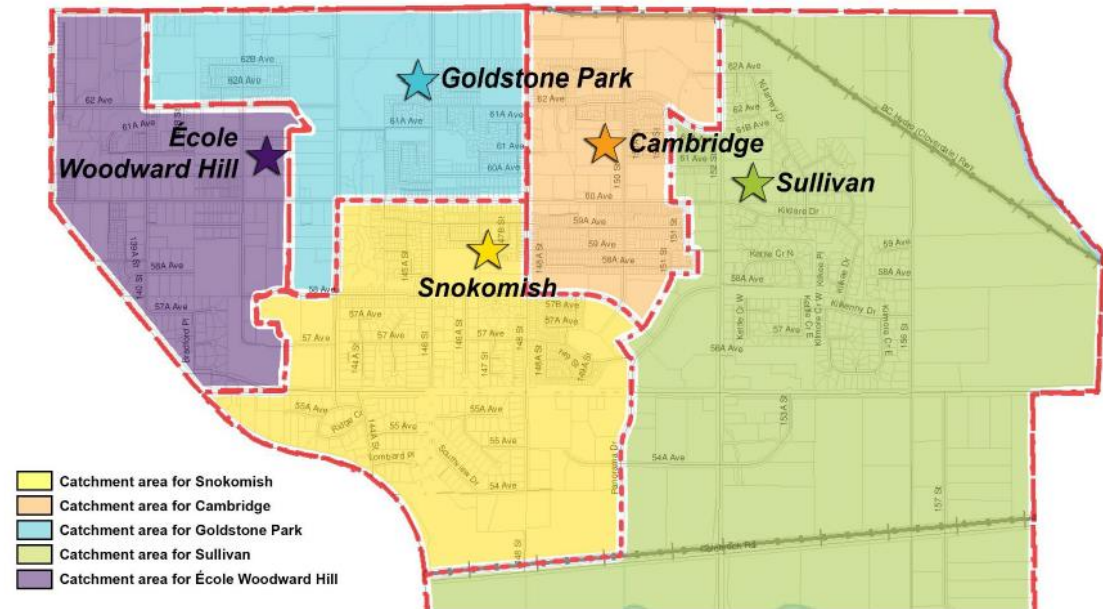
**Option 2: Cambridge, GP & Woodward Hill to Snokomish, No FRIMM Move**  
 K-6 students in the Cambridge (south of 58th Ave.), GP and École Woodward Hill (south of 60th Ave.) catchments would attend Snokomish Elementary. French Immersion would stay at École Woodward Hill.



Option 3

**Option 3 Recommended: Cambridge, GP & Sullivan to Snokomish, With FRIMM Move**

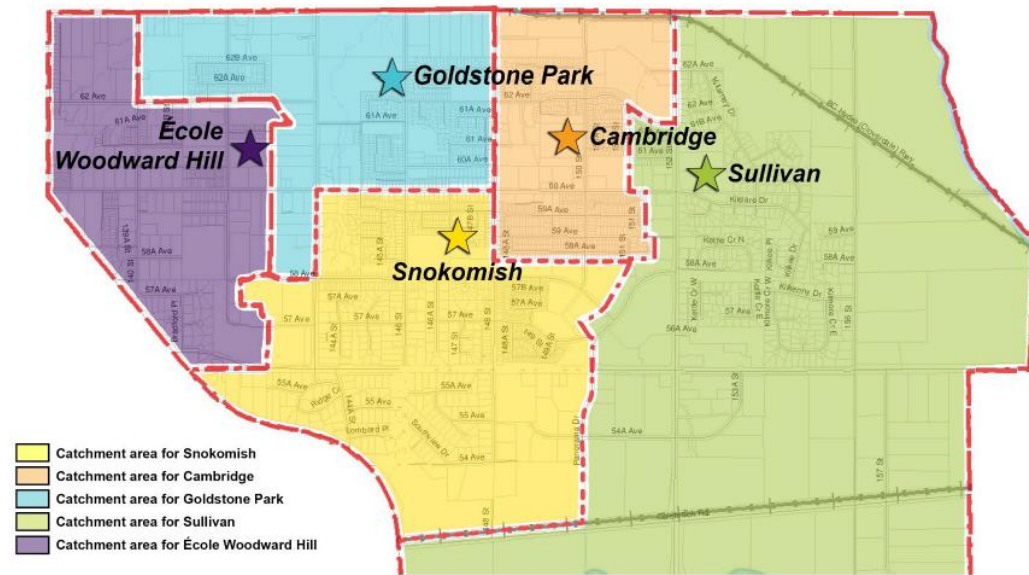
K-6 students in the Cambridge (south of 58th Ave.), GP (south of 60th Ave., east of 144th St.) and Sullivan (north of railway, west of Panorama Dr.) catchments would attend Snokomish Elementary. French Immersion would move from École Woodward Hill to Snokomish.



Option 4

**Option 4: Cambridge, GP & Sullivan to Snokomish, With FRIMM Move**

K-6 students in the Cambridge (south of the line between 58th & 58A Ave.), GP (south of 60th Ave., east of 144th St.) and Sullivan (north of railway, west of Panorama Dr.) would attend Snokomish Elementary. French Immersion would move from École Woodward Hill to Snokomish.



## Enrolment Estimates and Capacities

Existing as of Oct 2023

School	Enrolment *	Operating Capacity
Cambridge	774	495
	156% full	
Goldstone Park	727	518
	140% full	
Sullivan	475	387
	123% full	
École Woodward Hill	719	644
	112% full	

\* 2026 Enrolment projection based on approved Capital Projections 2024-2034

### Option 1

School	Option 1 Enrolment *	Operating Capacity
Cambridge	515	495
	104% full	
Goldstone Park	580	518
	112% full	
Sullivan	475	387
	123% full	
École Woodward Hill	712	644
	111% full	
Snokomish	413	612
	67% full	

\* 2026 Enrolment projection based on approved Capital Projections 2024-2034

### Option 2

School	Option 2 Enrolment *	Operating Capacity
Cambridge	619	495
	125% full	
Goldstone Park	570	518
	110% full	
Sullivan	475	387
	123% full	
École Woodward Hill	576	644
	89% full	
Snokomish	455	612
	74% full	

\* 2026 Enrolment projection based on approved Capital Projections 2024-2034

### Option 3

School	Option 3 Enrolment *	Operating Capacity
Cambridge	619	495
	125% full	
Goldstone Park	580	518
	112% full	
Sullivan	447	387
	116% full	
École Woodward Hill	568	644
	88% full	
Snokomish	481	612
	79% full	

\* 2026 Enrolment projection based on approved Capital Projections 2024-2034

### Option 4

School	Option 4 Enrolment *	Operating Capacity
Cambridge	568	495
	115% full	
Goldstone Park	580	518
	112% full	
Sullivan	447	387
	115% full	
École Woodward Hill	568	644
	88% full	
Snokomish	532	612
	87% full	

\* 2026 Enrolment projection based on approved Capital Projections 2024-2034

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