



# SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 48

♦ Squamish ♦ Whistler ♦ Pemberton

## PRESS RELEASE

### ENROLMENT AT ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN SQUAMISH

An analysis of projected elementary student enrolments in Squamish for the next seven years has been completed and two significant issues have been identified.

Mamquam Elementary School enrolls significantly more students than the designated capacity of the school and therefore has had portable classrooms on site for many years. The population of Mamquam Elementary is projected to continue to grow for several years and the Board is looking at options to address the space challenges at this school.

Stawamus Elementary School has experienced declining enrolment over the last decade and the Board will also be looking at options to address the challenge of operating this small school. The Board has already determined that they will not be considering the possibility of closing any schools in the Squamish area at this time.

The Board is planning to hold consultation sessions in the community to review options and to receive feedback regarding these options. In addition the Board expects that community members may have suggestions for additional options that will address the student populations at these two schools. **The final decision may affect the other Squamish area elementary schools so all parents are encouraged to participate in the consultation process.** Any changes will be effective no earlier than **September 2011.**

The first meetings will be held:

May 4 ~~7:00 pm Don Ross Secondary School~~ **Rescheduled to May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm – Brackendale Elem.**  
May 5 7:00 pm Totem Hall

The purpose of these meetings is for the Board to present some background information and the various options being considered. The Board will also welcome preliminary feedback (or other suggested options) from community members.

Another set of meetings will be held:

May 31 7:00 pm Don Ross Secondary School  
June 3 7:00 pm Totem Hall

The purpose of these meetings is to hear community feedback regarding options.

#### Opportunities for feedback to the Board include:

- Public meetings on May 5, 6, 31 and June 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Written feedback prior to September 30, 2010
- Requesting a formal delegation to the Board prior to September 30, 2010

The Board plans to make a decision on November 10, 2010 on how to proceed to address the issues of overcrowding at Mamquam and enrolment challenges at Stawamus Elementary School.

We look forward to our community participating in this process.

Yours very truly,

Rick Price,  
Chairperson

April 14, 2010 Amended April 21, 2010