



SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 23, 2024

Changes to School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay) Cranbrook Elementary and Middle School Catchment Boundaries Effective for the 2024/2025 School Year

School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay) (the “District”) wants to inform you of recent changes approved by the Board of Education at a special meeting on January 22, 2024, regarding the catchment boundaries of Cranbrook elementary and middle schools, applicable to all school registrations for the 2024/2025 school year.

Recognizing the need to address current and long-term enrollment pressures while maintaining an equity in educational options available to all students, the District began an internal review of all Cranbrook boundary catchments during the Summer of 2023. Three public consultation evenings were conducted between October 2023 to January 2024, providing a platform for community input. The feedback has played an instrumental role in shaping the decisions made regarding the catchment boundaries of our elementary and middle schools. Specifically, allowing cohorts to move through the K-12 system together for purposes of continuity was noted as a community priority.

The elementary school catchment revisions impact Steeples Elementary School, Highlands Elementary School, and Kootenay Orchards Elementary School. Specifically, the catchment area for Highlands Elementary School has been expanded to include the Gold Creek catchment area and a specified portion of Steeples Elementary School catchment area south of 2nd Street North and between 14th Avenue South and 24th Avenue North. **This revision only impacts Kindergarten registrations.** All other students will remain at their current elementary school to minimize any disruptions experienced. The process for out of catchment students has not changed.

Laurie Middle School and Parkland Middle School are also affected, with Laurie Middle School’s catchment area now encompassing the entirety of Amy Woodland Elementary School’s catchment area in order to allow the Amy Woodland cohorts to move together to middle school. Amy Woodland Grade 6 students moving to middle school in the 2024/2025 school year will now all attend Laurie Middle School. The Gold Creek middle school catchment area will remain to be an option area where students can choose to attend Laurie or Parkland Middle Schools.

The Board of Education of School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay) appreciates your time, insights, and dedication to ensuring the best possible educational experience for all students. Your involvement reflects the true spirit of community collaboration, and we look forward to continued cooperation as we work together to support the success of every student.

For any inquiries, please contact your school administrator or School District Board Office at 250-426-4201.