

EIPS Frequently Asked Questions

SHERWOOD PARK REPLACEMENT SCHOOL

LAST UPDATED: July 2024



FAQS: PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

Q: Who is managing the new Sherwood Park replacement school project?

A: Alberta Infrastructure is the project manager for the new Sherwood Park replacement school.

Q: What company was awarded the construction contract for the replacement school?

A: Alberta Infrastructure recently awarded the construction contract—to Sherwood Park-based AMAN Builders Inc.

Q: What company designed the replacement school?

A: ACI Architecture Inc.

Q: What is the overall budget for the project?

A: \$53 Million

Q: How big will the new school be?

A: 8,770 square metres, which is 94,400 square feet.

Q: What size will the classrooms be?

A: Classrooms range between 75 square metres and 92 square meters, which is between 807 square feet and 990 square feet.

Q: When will construction begin on the replacement school?

A: Construction started in July 2024

Q: Why did Alberta Education decide on a replacement school over renovating the existing school?

A: The project was approved as a replacement—as requested by Elk Island Public Schools on its capital plan, based on a value scoping session undertaken by the school jurisdiction in 2020. The cost of fully modernizing the two facilities—Sherwood Heights Junior High and École Campbelltown—was comparable to the cost of constructing a new state-of-the-art school to replace both. Building a new facility will also provide a more functional and energy-efficient building than a modernization could achieve. As well, a replacement school project is much less disruptive for staff and students than a major modernization.

Q: What special features will the replacement school have?

A: Some of the new replacement school features include:

- a three-storey building;
- dedicated kindergarten to Grade 6 learning;
- space in the north pod;
- a two-story learning space for grades 7 to 9 on the second and third floors;
- two gymnasiums to support multiple sporting and event activities; and
- an expansive playground addition.

Q: What will the impacts of a three-story building be on the surrounding properties?

A: Sun-shadow studies completed during the design of the school show minimal impact on the neighbourhood via shadow casting of the building. Shadow casting suggests surrounding properties could be impacted between the months of November and March when the sun sets, around 4:30 p.m.

Q: Will the replacement school have a new parking lot and bus loop? Will it be a bus transfer site?

A: A new parking lot will be completed after Phase 2, which includes the demolition of the existing Sherwood Heights Junior High building. Both the parking and bus loop will serve the school and be fully contained on-site. No buses nor school parking will be located on Fir Street. Also, EIPS won't use the bus loop as a transfer site.

Q: Has Alberta Infrastructure undertaken a traffic assessment study to determine the impact on the flow of traffic around the new school?

A: Yes, a first draft of the traffic assessment has been completed.

Q: Does the replacement school consider the community's projected growth rates?

A: Yes, EIPS determined the capacity of the new replacement school based on the projected enrolment in current and future years and its plans for using surplus space in its other schools in Sherwood Park.

Q: Can the replacement school accommodate modular classrooms?

A: The school has not been designed to accommodate modular classrooms. The replacement school's core capacity is 1,015 students.

Q: How will students be impacted during the construction of the replacement school?

A: Both Sherwood Heights Junior High, as well as École Campbelltown, will remain operational while the replacement school is under construction.

Q: How will the neighbourhood be impacted during the construction of the replacement school?

A: Residents in the neighbourhood may experience some sidewalk closures, potential temporary blockages of the road while equipment is being set up or taken down, and some traffic delays. Depending on the progress of construction, the contractor may, from time to time, also request after-hours exemptions of the noise bylaw. EIPS will share all project updates and any expected neighbourhood disruptions, provided by the contractor, through its [email distribution list](#) and on the EIPS [project website](#).

Q: Will there be an out-of-school care facility within the replacement school, as currently exists at École Campbelltown?

A: The Government of Alberta does not provide additional funding to build third-party childcare accommodations within schools.

Q: Will all students within the boundaries for both École Campbelltown and Sherwood Heights Junior High be designated to the replacement school?

A: Kindergarten to Grade 3 students residing in École Campbelltown’s attendance boundary will occupy the main floor of the replacement school. Grades 4 to 6 students living in École Campbelltown’s attendance boundary will learn on the replacement school’s second floor. Meanwhile, all students residing in Sherwood Heights Junior High’s attendance area will learn on the second and third floors of the replacement school.

Q: Were any public consultations or engagement efforts undertaken before the design of the replacement school?

A: Originally, the design work was undertaken with the understanding the school would be constructed under the P3 model, which builds new schools based on existing designs. In December 2022, the Government of Alberta announced the P3 model would not be used going forward. At that time, the design was largely completed. While EIPS was permitted some input into interior features, the Division is not managing the project. As such, there was no opportunity to consult with the community before the design was selected.

Q: Will there be opportunities for community input going forward?

A: There are two opportunities for public feedback:

- In spring 2023, at a public information session, attendees had the chance to review two colour choices for the exterior of the building—and indicate their preferred choice.
- As construction moves forward, EIPS will request public feedback on name choices for the replacement school. The Board of Trustees will consider suggested school names when deciding the school’s name.

Q: How can school families and community members stay updated on the progress of the replacement school project?

A: The Division will post regular updates on eips.ca. Families and community members can also subscribe to the project email distribution list, which is used to share information about the replacement school, including the latest news, updates and possible disruptions.

Q: Who do families and community members contact if they have additional questions or concerns?

A: School families and members of the public can email EIPS, who will act as an intermediary between the project manager and the contractor to address any questions or concerns that come forward. EIPS will also update the Frequently Asked Questions document accordingly.