

For immediate release

16 February 2022

**Changes coming to boundaries for Royston and Courtenay elementary schools**

**COMOX, VALLEY B.C.** – At a special meeting the Board for Comox Valley Schools voted unanimously on adjusting the boundary for Royston and Courtenay elementary schools, so there is enough space for students in the south end of the district.

The boundary adjustment shifts the Courtenay Elementary catchment boundary further south (include parts of Fraser road, Comox Logging Road, South Island Highway and Ridge development).

Tonia Frawley, Board Chair for Comox Valley Schools, said “We are experiencing enrolment growth and we are projecting further increases throughout much of SD 71. Royston Elementary School is growing faster than we forecast, so we made this difficult decision because it is part of a longer-term solution.”

The Board also passed a motion requesting the superintendent prepare a transition plan for students impacted by the boundary shift and for Courtenay Elementary School to welcome incoming families to the school.

We realize this shift is impacting some families and we are working to support students who are changing schools,” said Tom Demeo, Superintendent, Comox Valley Schools. “There are also other growth pressures in SD 71 that we are actively working on finding solutions for, to ensure we have adequate space for our programming and students.”

Comox Valley Schools board and staff have spent hundreds of hours analyzing enrolments and information, engaging with the public, and responding to questions. This work is ongoing.

The Courtenay-Royston catchment boundary changes will occur for the beginning of next school year, in September 2022.

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