

April 20, 2009

To the Board of Education of School District #71:

The Parent Advisory Council of Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School met this evening, and a motion was passed unanimously to send a statement to the School Board prior to the next Board meeting and prior to the formation of an ad hoc committee to study the future configuration of District #71. It is our understanding that there will be three options considered by the committee in question, including a three-high-school model (Grades 8-12); a three-high-school model (Grades 9-12); and a two-high-school model (grades unspecified).

The statement is as follows:

That the Mark R. Isfeld PAC is in support of a three-high-school model rather than a two-high-school model, and that at this point in the process of forming an ad hoc committee there should be no statement regarding which high school would be closed in considering the option of a two-high-school model, in order to best protect the students and staff at Mark R. Isfeld Secondary and in view of the negative impact on the morale of the staff, students and parents at the school that a statement of intent to close Mark R. Isfeld Secondary by changing its configuration would have. We feel that the strength of school spirit within the school, the sense of community among students from Grade 8 to Grade 12, and the sense of ownership that is felt by English, French Immersion and international students at the school, is too valuable to be jeopardized by a premature discussion of configuration involving Isfeld Secondary.

Thank you very much for considering our recommendation, and we look forward to partnering with you in the process of moving forward as a school district.

Sincerely,

The Executive and PAC of Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School