

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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School skepticism

It is somewhat encouraging that provincial government and Regina public school board officials have responded to concerns by providing assurances that planning for a new Connaught School is on schedule.

Things are not quite so encouraging in the Lakeview-River Heights neighbourhood, where Athabasca School has now been closed for five years.

When Athabasca was closed, repeated assurances were given in both public and private meetings that students would not simply be sent to an existing school in a nearby neighbourhood.

A sparkling new school was promised, to be built on the existing Argyle School property, but available for use by former Athabasca School students. There was even one public meeting at which parents, students and commu-

nity members were invited to give their ideas on the design of this wondrous, but so far fictional, new school.

Five years have passed and the new school doesn't seem to be any closer. Some of the Athabasca students from a few years ago now are in university. Others are wrapping up high school, or will enter high school within the next couple of years.

For all of these former students, the promise of a new elementary school will remain forever hollow.

I began by saying it was "somewhat" encouraging that school board officials say the Connaught project is proceeding. The extent that people are encouraged may vary, depending on how much trust they have in the board.

Personally, I take everything the board says with a large dose of skepticism.

Long live Athabasca School!
Neil Scott, Regina