



Discovering my community

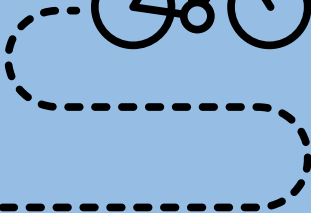
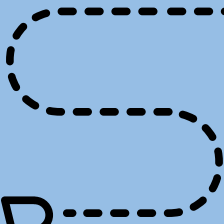
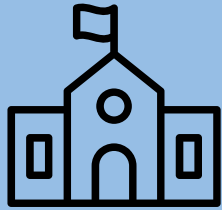


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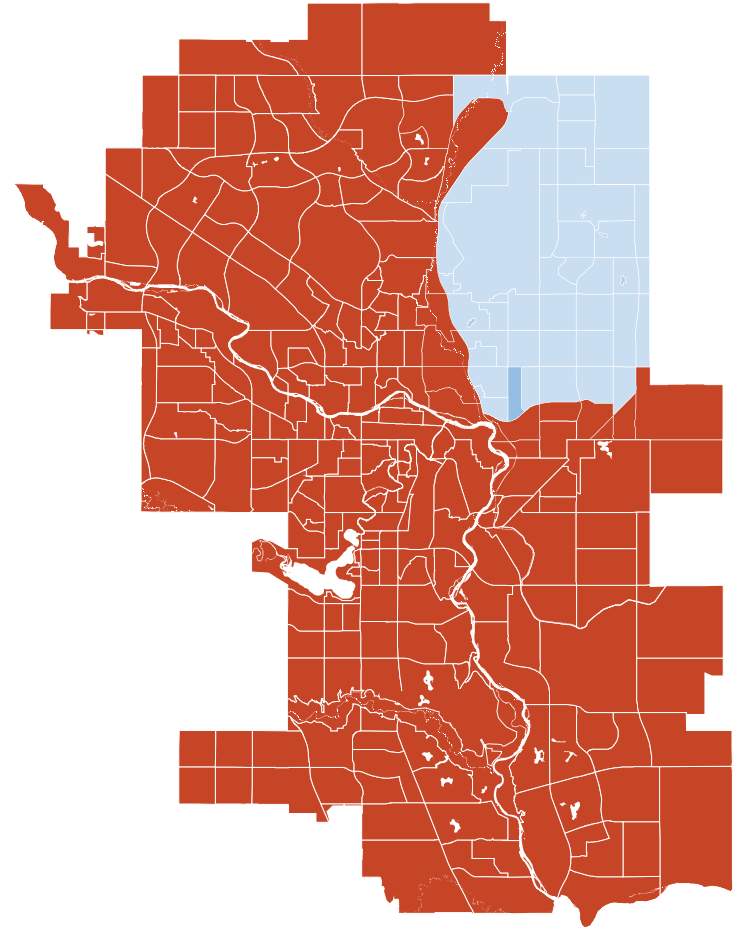
This book belongs to: _____

This book will help you know more about your community and surrounding areas of your school. It will also provide you with lots of information to help you think of some great design ideas for improving your community!

Do you know what the communities around your school are called? Or how many parks and playgrounds do you have nearby? Or how you and your friends travel daily to your school? Let's find out!

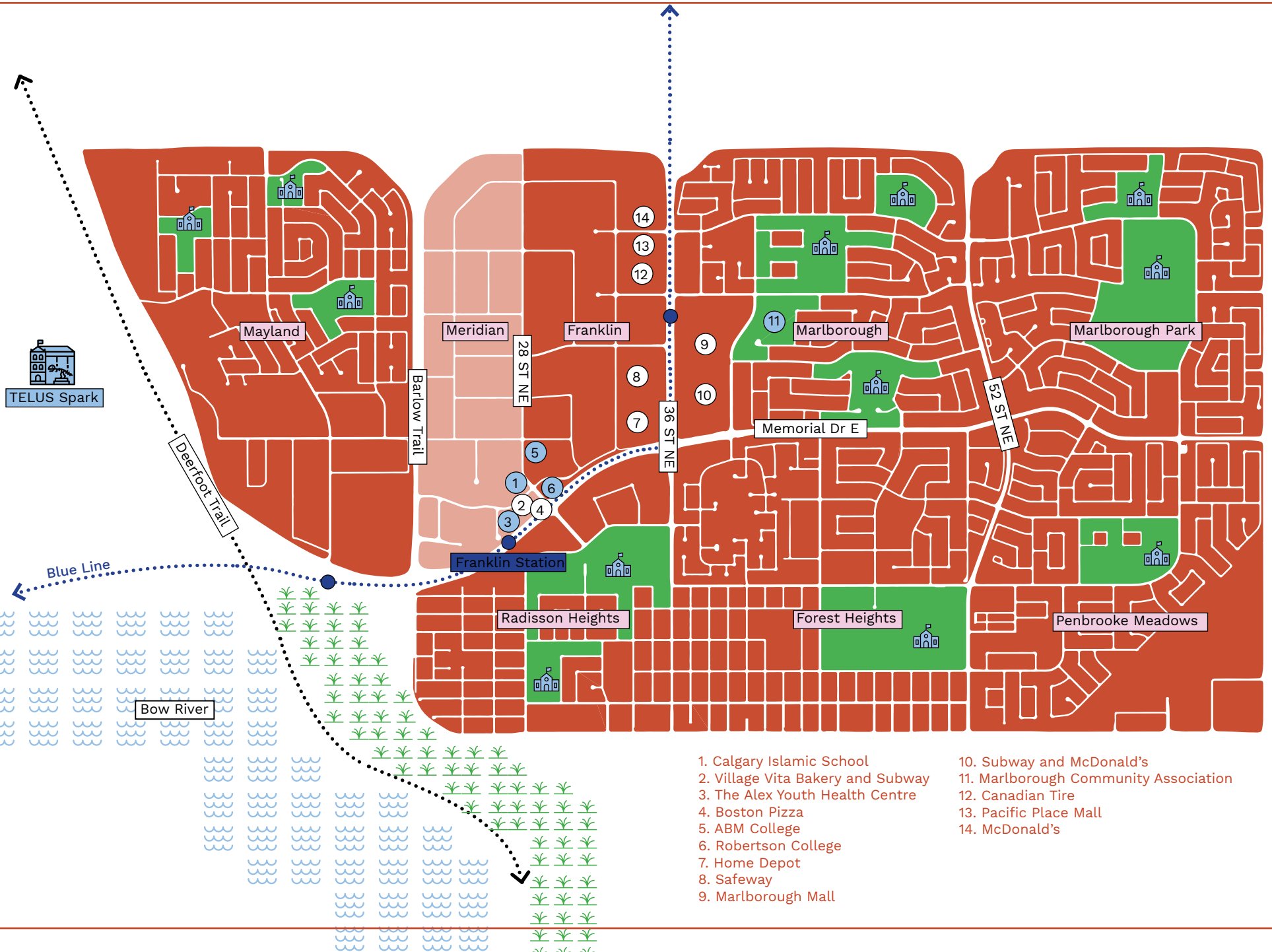


What's my school community?

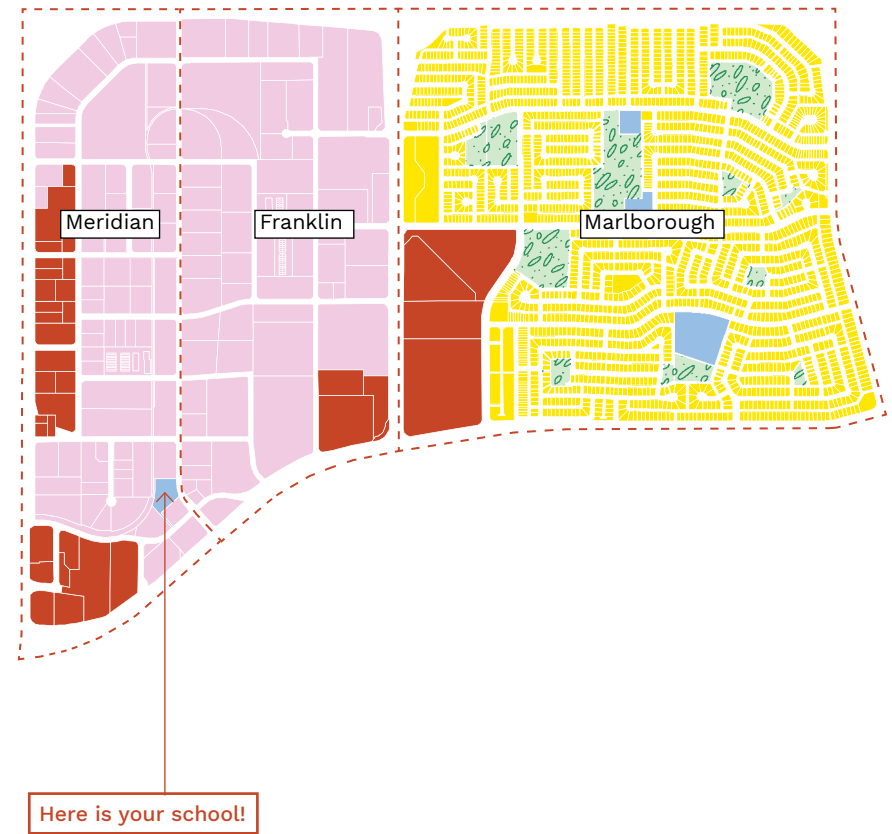
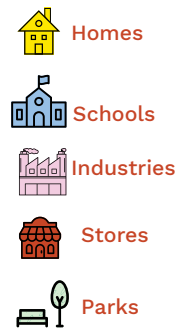


Your city has more than 200 neighborhoods called “communities” and your school is part of a group of communities located at the north-east side of the city. Each of those communities are different and have distinctive characteristics which makes them special and unique. The Meridian community (selected in blue in the map) is where your school is located.

What's in the community?



What's in the community?



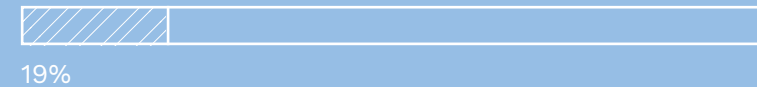
Your school community is mainly surrounded by stores and industries with no parks or outdoor recreational areas nearby. This means that people generally spend a large part of their day in Meridian and travel daily there to work or study. Compare that with Marlborough to the east, a community with many houses and some green spaces. This community is home to more than 2,400 families. Would you like to know more about Marlborough? Keep reading! 😊

How many people live close to your school?

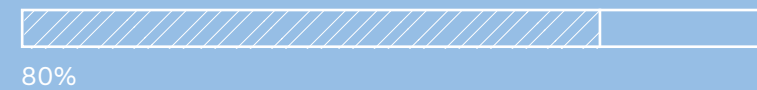
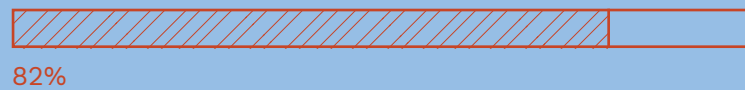
People living in Marlborough
8,989

People living in Calgary
1,222,390

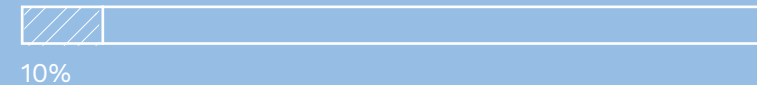
Children (0-14 years)



Teenagers and Adults (15-64 years)



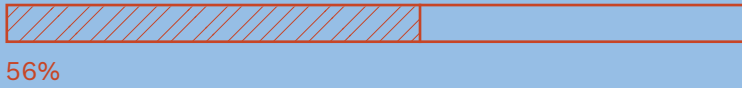
Elderly (65+ years)



What languages do they speak at home?

Marlborough

English



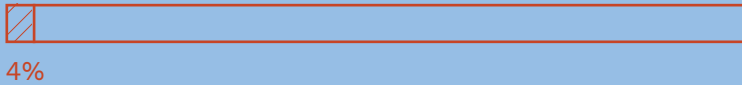
French



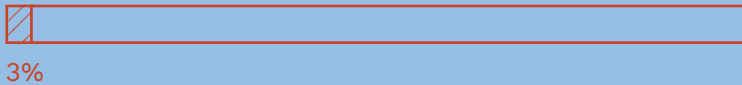
Tagalog



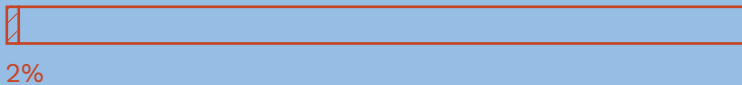
Arabic



Cantonese



Vietnamese



Amharic

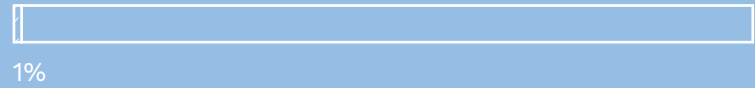


Calgary

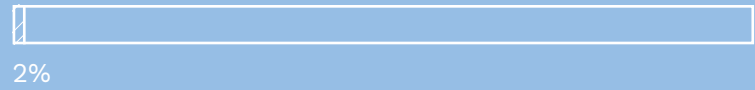
English



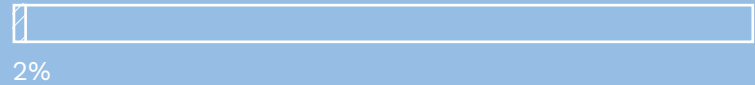
French



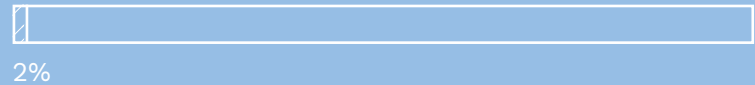
Tagalog



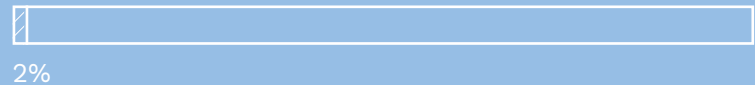
Punjabi



Cantonese



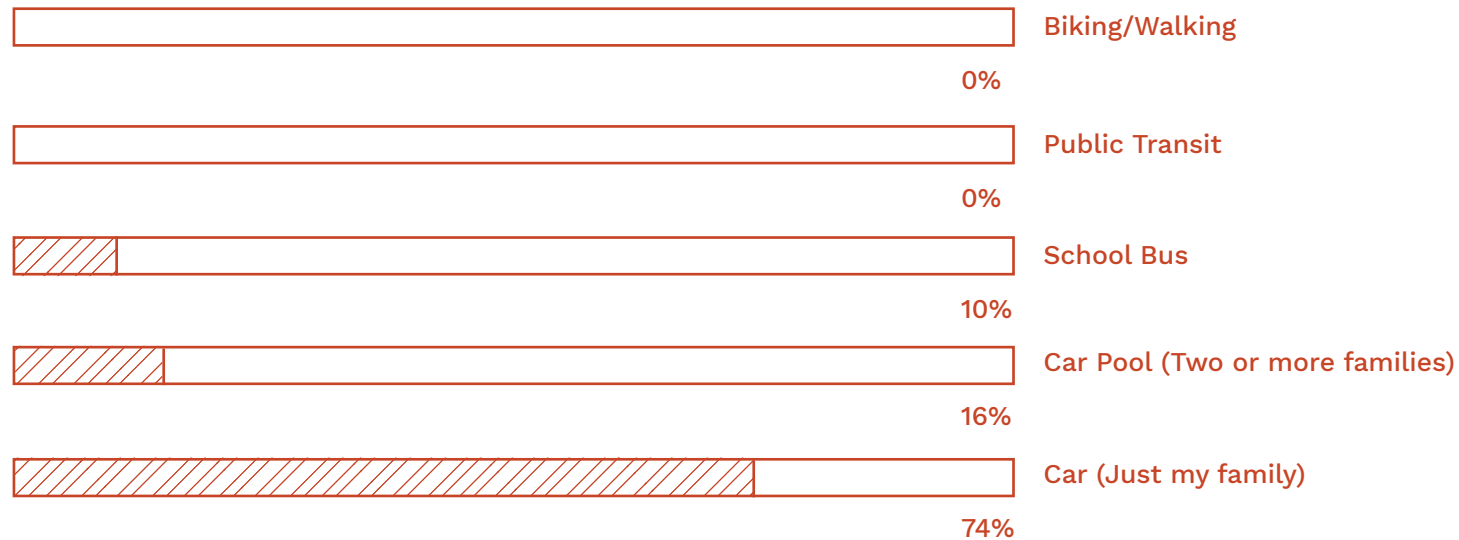
Mandarin



Spanish



How do you and your classmates travel daily to/from your school?



Do you know that 34% of your classmates are not using the school bus to travel to/from school? Would you like to know why?

Turn the page! 😊😊😊

Why would you and your classmates travel to/ from school mostly by car?

1. Distance to school
2. School buses are expensive
3. Convenience (e.g., school on route to work, bussing available)
4. Traffic Safety/ Danger on route
5. Personal Safety
6. Time constraints (e.g., bus pick-up time does not fit family schedule, do not have time to walk or cycle)

Do you know that walking or biking to your school can help you to concentrate better in your classes?

A recent Danish study found that students who cycled or walked to school, rather than traveling by car or public transportation, performed measurably better on tasks demanding concentration.



Walking or biking to
your school is good for
the environment!



The personal vehicle is the largest source of air pollution in the city. More students biking also means less cars on the road. This reduces traffic congestion and therefore reduces pollution around schools.

Green Spaces vs. Spaces for Cars

What color do you see more of in this map? Grey represents spaces for parking and green is showing the few green spaces that you can find in the Meridian community.



What would you like to see close to your school?

Skate rinks and Ice/skate parks

Fewer parked cars on the roads

Green neighbourhoods

Mural art

Bike - Parks and pathways

Play Parks

Trees and forested areas

Mini-libraries

More things within walking/biking distance

Soccer fields and basketball courts

Your priorities:

Parking lot

1. Pedestrian safety
2. Traffic volume/congestion
3. Driver behaviour
4. No sidewalk to transit/LRT stop

School playground

1. Play area needs to be enhanced to appeal to students of all ages (K-9).
2. This space is only available during school hours (after drop off and pick up times); vehicle use is the priority due to limited space and destination school status.

These were some of the things you mentioned.

Homework:

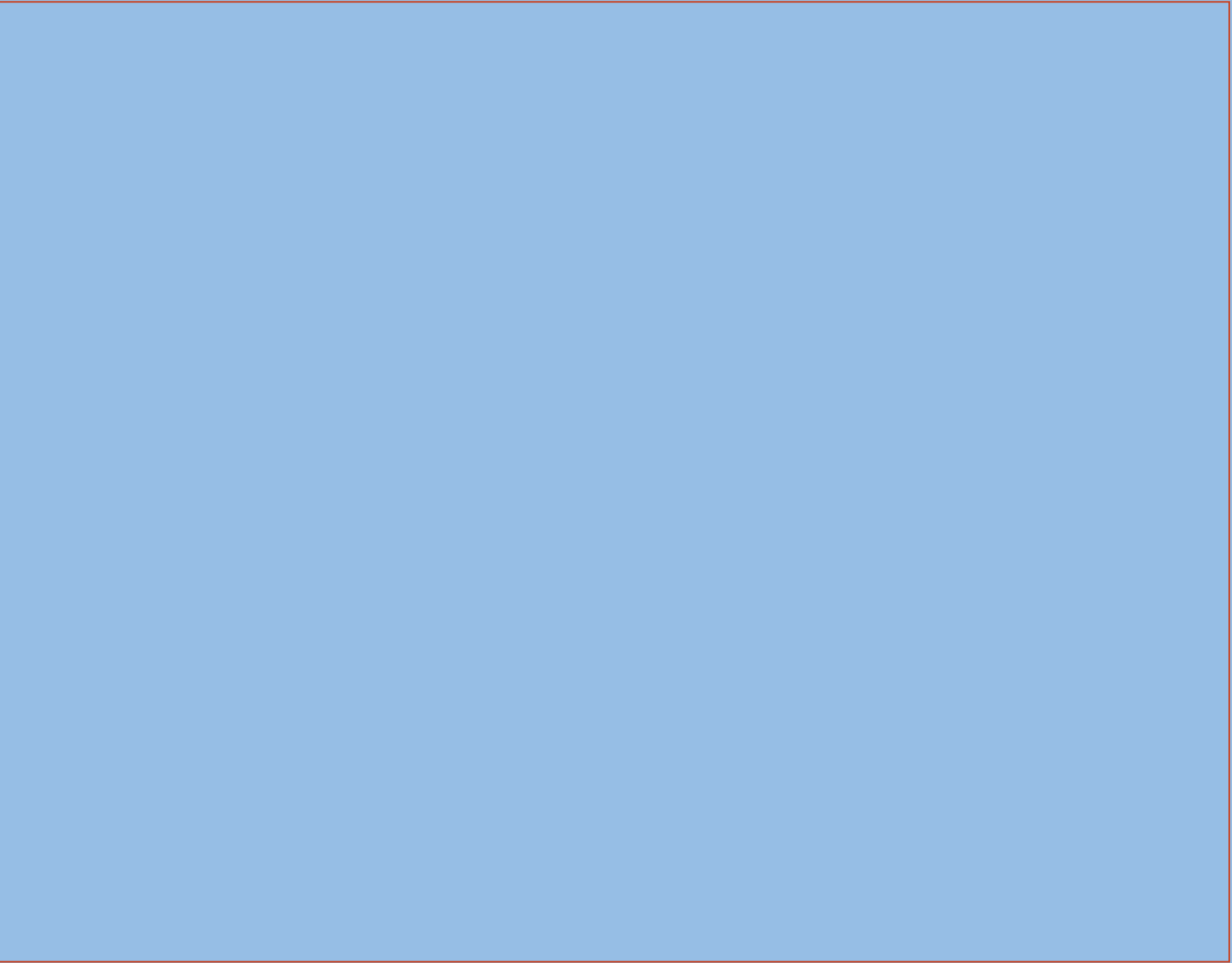
How do you improve your school community?

1. Identify your favorite/ non-favorite places
2. Select one priority location to design in the next session!
3. You can start sketching your ideas as well!



- - - School Playground
- Franklin Station
- Calgary Islamic
- Plaza
- The Alex Centre
- - - Safest Route from Franklin Station to your School
- School bus afternoon pick up.
- School bus morning drop off.
- - - Parents drop off/pick up.







**Sustainable
Calgary**