



Coast Mountains Board of Education School District 82

SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES PLAN 2011 - 2021

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION – KITIMAT REGION
JANUARY 2012**



PURPOSE

The purpose of a School District Facilities Plan (SDFP) is to guide facilities development decisions of both the district and the Ministry over a long period of time.

The Annual Capital Plan that is submitted to the Ministry should always address specific needs already justified at the macro level by the SDFP.

Readers must be aware that the SDFP is a **Facilities Plan**, not an educational study of the appropriate grade structure of schools or the viability/desirability of small schools.



PRINCIPLES

It is imperative that the School District Facilities Plan:

- takes into account the changes in school enrollment, future growth or decline in school age population, building condition, and district philosophy on grade structure changes
- identifies and supports the facility needs of any revised grade structure that the district has set as its next goal
- recognizes the importance of small rural schools as the heart of the community in isolated areas of the district
- allows for Ministry of Education initiatives such as Full Day Kindergarten, Pre-Kindergarten, and Neighborhoods of Learning
- supports the unique First Nations cultural and educational development needs



OBJECTIVES

Our objectives are to provide:

- viable educational facilities capable of accommodating the catchment population
- school facilities capable of providing a successful educational environment for the assigned grade structure
- healthy and safe physical facilities as schools
- accessible community spaces in support of the local population's educational and cultural needs, recognizing the importance of the school building as a resource to the community



MINISTRY REQUIREMENTS

The Ministry of Education's 2009-2010 Capital Plan Instructions require Boards of Education to develop and maintain a comprehensive School District Facilities Plan.

The Ministry of Education's instructional cover letter states:

Under the planning and procurement process, boards of education must develop long-range facility plans that support capital projects being submitted to the Ministry for capital investment consideration. These facility plans must identify capital requirements for school expansion and consolidation; school replacement or upgrades based on building condition, seismic vulnerability and ongoing maintenance/life cycle costs; as well as new government initiatives.



GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

Currently, the Ministry of Education's initiatives include:

- **Early Learning:** Full-day Kindergarten for five year olds, and up to full-day Pre-Kindergarten for three and/or four year olds.
- **Neighbourhoods of Learning:** Adding community services such as early learning or child-care programs, office or meeting rooms for non-profit organizations, health clinics, sports programs, family resource or seniors' centres, industry training, or branch libraries.
- Integration of new capital works with the **Seismic Mitigation Program.**



SDFP OVERVIEW

The SDFP is based on four basic areas of information:

- Existing Infrastructure
incorporating the Building Facility Index (building condition)
- Community Demographics
- Enrollment Projections
- Educational Programs



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COAST MOUNTAINS REGIONS

The SDFP focuses on three geographical regions:

- Kitimat
- Terrace/Thornhill
- Northeast Region (includes the Hazeltons, Kitwanga and Stewart)



EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

Schools currently in operation in the Kitimat Region include:

School	Grades	Student Capacity	Built	Area Sq. mtrs.	Facility Conditioning Index
Kildala Elementary	K - 7(6)	80/500	1957	4,924	0.54
Nechako Elementary	K - 7(6)	80/450	1955	4,051	0.37
Mount Elizabeth Secondary	8(7) - 12	1125	1955	14,346	0.38
Kitimat City High	8(7) - 12	200			



EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

SURPLUS properties in the Kitimat Region include:

Original Designation	Location	Built	Area sq. mtrs.	Current Use
Kitimat City High (Former)	651 Columbia	1974	626	leased
Alexander Elementary	1352 Alexander	1970	2,683	leased
Old Kitimat Maintenance	175 7th Street, Industrial	1958	509	SD Storage
Board Office Kitimat (Former)	1515 Kingfisher Avenue	1975	723	leased
Roy Wilcox Elementary	7 Carlson	1963	2,958	vacant



EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

As the facility condition index scores indicate, our schools are in need of improvement.

A combination of capital projects and Annual Facilities Grant Projects have been identified and reported to the Ministry.

Project Identification Reports on some of the proposed capital projects have also been submitted to the Ministry.

Our Facilities Department continues to make every effort to maintain our buildings to the highest standards possible with the limited funding that is provided.



DEMOGRAPHICS

After 1996, though the Province's population continued to grow, the area of our School District experienced a decline.

Population of our school district dropped by 6,416 between 1996 and 2006.

Figure 3.4 Historical Population Trends The Province, Regional District and School District			
Year	Province	Regional District	School District
1976	2,533,899	39,169	36,820
1986	3,003,621	40,157	37,274
1996	3,874,317	45,368	41,963
2006	4,243,580	38,803	35,547

Sources:
Provincial Population – BC Stats; retrieved from bcstats.gov.bc.ca
Regional District Population – BC Stats; publication bcstats.gov.bc.ca/pubs/qrs/rd49.xls
School District Population – BC Stats; retrieved from bcstats.gov.bc.ca



DEMOGRAPHICS

The population of youth and young adults in our district has generally been decreasing.

Middle age groups rose, peaked in 1996, and then declined.

The senior age group has continued to increase over the same 30-year period.

Year	Age Cohort (in Years)							
	Under 1	1-4	5-12	13-17	18-24	25 - 44	45 - 64	65+
1976	761	3,126	6,702	4,141	5,114	11,263	4,755	958
1981	803	3,122	6,335	4,057	5,977	13,062	5,253	1,066
1986	729	2,774	5,529	3,635	4,485	12,830	5,928	1,364
1991	757	2,872	5,681	3,421	4,399	13,668	6,946	1,823
1996	693	2,708	5,846	3,521	4,386	14,172	8,209	2,428
2001	470	2,105	5,080	3,416	3,440	12,079	9,372	2,936
2006	387	1,671	4,116	3,048	3,029	9,416	10,282	3,598

Source:
BC Stats, BC Ministry of Citizens' Services; retrieved from bcstats.gov.bc.ca



DEMOGRAPHICS

BC Stats population projections for the next 10 years indicates that:

- school age population will decline
- the family-forming group of 20-44 years will modestly increase
- the senior age category of 65+ will almost double

Figure 3.22
Population Projections by Age for School District Area, 2011 to 2036

Year	Under 1 Year	1-4 Years	5-12 Years	13-17 Years	18-24 Years	25-44 Years	45-64 Years	65 Years and over	All Ages
2011	407	1,635	3,460	2,594	3,919	8,208	10,818	4,404	35,445
2016	400	1,617	3,281	2,133	3,391	8,297	10,752	5,651	35,522
2021	392	1,598	3,315	1,970	2,863	8,682	9,943	7,011	35,774

Source:

P.E.O.P.L.E. 35 projections, BC Stats, BC Ministry of Citizens' Services; retrieved from bcstats.gov.bc.ca



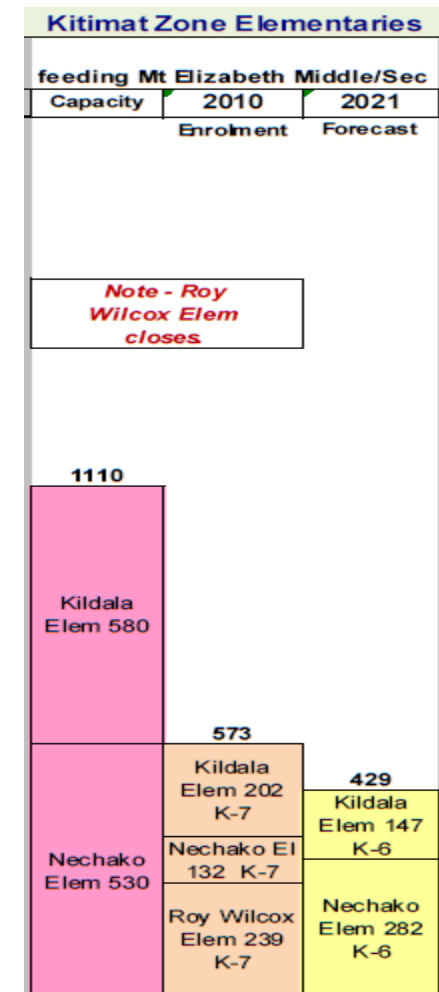
CAPACITY UTILIZATION

The Ministry of Education manages school infrastructure needs by examining capacity; the percentage of occupancy compared to building capacity.

The higher the capacity utilization, the more efficiently a district is using its facilities.

Capacity in our Kitimat Region in 2010 in our Elementary schools was 52%.

By 2021, it is expected to drop to 39%.





CAPACITY UTILIZATION

Capacity in our Kitimat Region in 2010 in our Secondary schools was 52%.

With the inclusion of grade 7 students, by 2021, it is expected to increase slightly to 55%.

As these trends predict that there will be no need for additional schools over the next decade, we must continue to focus on rationalizing existing space and maintaining or upgrading the aging facilities that exist.

Kitimat Zone - Secondary			
FTE	Capacity	2010	2021
		Enrolment	Forecast
1250	1200		
1200	Kitimat Qty 25		
1150			
1100			
1050			
1000			
950			
900			
850			
800			
750			
700		623	657
650	Mt Elizabeth Sec 1175	Kitimat Qty 43	Kitimat Qty 45
600			
550			
500			
450			
400			
350		Mt Elizabeth Sec 580 (Gr 8 - 12)	Mt Elizabeth Mid/Sec 612 (Gr 7 - 12)
300			
250			
200			
150			
100			
50			



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Dispose of surplus properties
- Verify enrollment projections annually
- Continue operating small schools in rural areas
- Where possible, combine dual projects in Capital Plan submission
- Consolidate within under-utilized schools and closed-off areas
- Remove old buildings and clean up vacant sites
- Consider closing an elementary school in Kitimat within a few years
- Consider consolidating remaining Thornhill Schools into one



IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

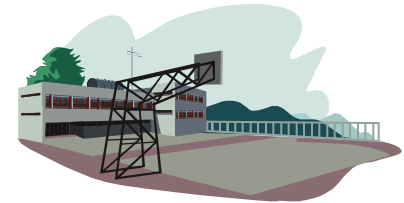
- Continue to put pressure on the Ministry of Education to gain approval of proposed capital projects
- Update Project Identification Reports for all top priority capital projects
- Work with local government and other organizations to aggressively seek potential buyers or lessors for surplus buildings
- Re-assess enrollment projections each year and if current trends continue, consider additional school closures



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THANK YOU!



Please visit our web site at www.cmsd.bc.ca for the following reports and feedback form:

- CMSD 2011-2021 School District Facilities Plan Report
- CMSD 2011-2021 School District Facilities Plan Executive Summary
- CMSD 2011-2021 SDFP Public Consultation Feedback Form

