



Coast Mountains Board of Education School District 82

SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES PLAN 2011 - 2021

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION – NORTHEAST 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 Northeast Region include:

School	Grades	Student Capacity	Built	Area Sq. mtrs.	Facility Conditioning Index
Hazelton Secondary	8-12	525	1992	7,085	0.09
John Field Elementary	K-7	40/200	1964	2,304	0.24
New Hazelton Elementary	K-7	40/175	1977	1,905	0.24
Kitwanga Elementary	K-7	40/300	1976	3,659	0.14
Bear Valley School	K-12	250	1969	3,243	0.30



EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

SURPLUS properties in the Northeast Region include:

Original Designation	Location	Built	Area sq. mtrs.	Current Use
Silver Standard High /Two-Mile Elementary	5750 Silver Standard Road	1962	294	Maint. Shop - SD
South Hazelton Elementary	2060 21st Avenue	1996	1,498	vacant
STEPPS Day Care	Highway 62	1996	201	leased
Old Hazelton Secondary	4125 River Road	1951	5,053	occupied
Kitwanga Primary	School Road	1974	685	vacant
Stewart Elementary	12th Avenue	1965	2,609	vacant



EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

Other buildings in the Northeast Region include:

Hazeltons: Duplex, Strathern Road

Kitwanga: Duplex, Mountainview Drive
Duplex, Mountainview Drive
House, Mountainview Drive

Stewart: Four-plex, 11th Avenue
Duplex, 11th Avenue
Double-wide Trailer, Railway Street
Double-wide Trailer, 12th Avenue



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.

Figure 3.6
School District Population Trends

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



ENROLLMENT

Though the overall total school age population of our district is expected to continue to decline over the next decade, the decline is not anticipated to be as severe in the Northeast zone.

School	Grades	Nom Capacity	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Hazelton Secondary	8-12	525	353	337	326	324	322	318	316	314	311	309
John Field Elementary	K-7	240	119	117	116	116	115	114	114	113	112	112
New Hazelton Elementary	K-7	40/175	189	186	181	181	179	178	177	176	175	174
Kitwanga Elementary	K-7	40/300	69	68	66	66	66	65	65	65	64	64
Bear Valley School	K-12	250	68	63	64	67	66	66	59	57	56	55



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 Northeast Region in 2010 in our Elementary schools was 52%.

By 2021, it is expected to drop to 41%.

feeding Hazelton and Bear Valley Secondaries		
Capacity	2010	2021
	Enrolment	Forecast
<i>Note - Only elem part of Bear Valley School included here.</i>		
	945	
Bear Valley EI 150		
Kitwanga Elem 340		
	490	386
	BearValley 47	BearValley 36
John Field Elem 240	Kitwanga EI 79 K-7	Kitwanga 64
	John Field Elem 135 K-7	John Field Elem 112 K-7
New Hazelton Elem 215	New Hazelton Elem 229 K-7	New Hazelton Elem 174 K-7

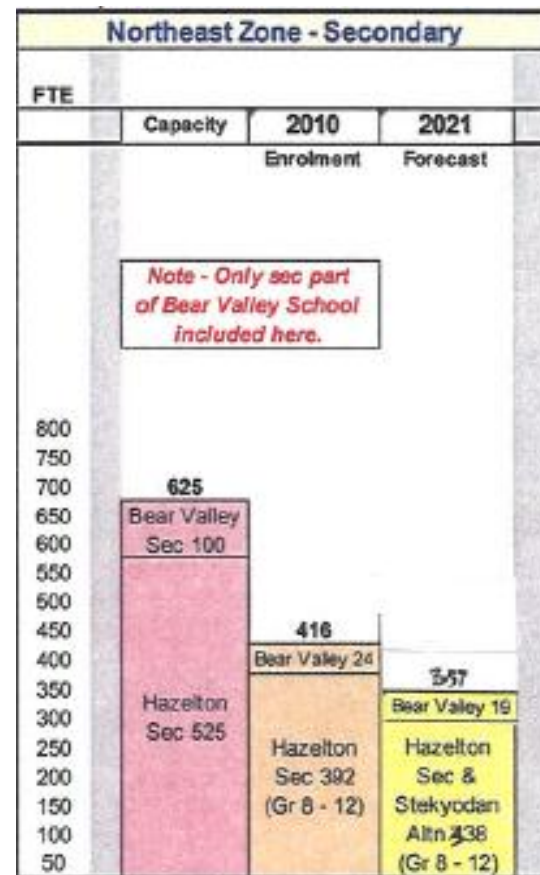


CAPACITY UTILIZATION

Capacity in our Northeast Region in 2010 in our Secondary schools was 67%.

By 2021, it is expected to decrease to 54%.

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.





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

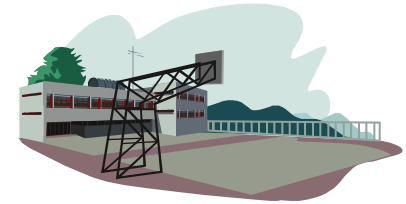


IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

- 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



F.Y.I.