Examine the possibility of establishing an elementary school (p-5) at Ferrisview in North Sydney and Jubilee in Sydney Mines, establish a middle school (6-8) at the Seton facility/Thompson facility in North Sydney and a middle school at St. Joseph's/Sydney Mines Jr. High in Sydney Mines and creating a 9-12 school at the existing 10-12 Memorial High School.

**Consideration**

This scenario reflects the importance attached to retaining a continuum of school facilities in communities that to date have enjoyed the satisfaction of housing school facilities within defined boundaries and serving students at those facilities.

The scenario is built on three assumptions with respect to the Northside Family of Schools.

a) that grade 9 students from North Sydney and Sydney Mines would be housed and served at Memorial High School

b) that former Cape Breton Municipality schools on the Northside would be served by a different scenario

c) that a business case could be built to support the acquisition of a school capital project to refurbish either Seton/Thompson in North Sydney and St. Joseph's/Sydney Mines Junior High in Sydney Mines upon the completion of an engineering study to identify residual value.

Engineering studies have been initiated with respect to comparing the costs of conducting capital repairs to existing individual Northside Family of Schools Junior High buildings with the costs of refurbishing a single existing Junior High site. A review of the costs associated with converting Seton and St. Joseph's to junior high school buildings would need to be initiated if this scenario was to be pursued.
This scenario, if implemented, would result in the identification of either one school or the other (Seton/Thompson and Sydney Mines Jr./St. Joseph's) in a future school review process. The implementation of such a scenario would have some impact on other scenarios with respect to former Cape Breton Municipality schools on the Northside.
Examine the option of creating a P-8 or P-9 community school to serve the Westmount area consistent with the grade level configuration model to be adopted by the Board.

**Consideration**

Students in the Westmount area have been well served by the former Murphy Road school, and now by Robin Foote Elementary School and MacLennan Junior High. Upon completion of their elementary education students in the Westmount and Coxheath areas, students have had the option of enrolling in late French immersion at Malcolm Munroe Junior High School in Sydney River. MacLennan Junior High School has the capacity to accommodate either a P-8 or P-9 student population based on statistical generated projected enrolment. Were the concept of a Westmount community school to be explored utilizing a P-8 or P-9 grade level configuration, consideration would have to be given to transitioning students that completed grade 6 at Coxheath Elementary to Malcolm Munroe as opposed to transitioning to the MacLennan building. An engineering study as to the residual value, infrastructure improvements required and the program space alterations required would need to be undertaken.
Examine the feasibility of establishing one Primary to grade 2 school, one grade 3-5 school, and one middle school grades 6-8 from the southside of the Victoria Road overpass to Grand Lake Road to Prime Brook (current catchment area for Cusack, Brookland, Shipyard and Sherwood Park) primary - grade 8 school children in the catchment area. Grade 9-12 students from this catchment area along with Whitney Pier students would attend school at Sydney Academy.

Consideration

Since 1996 all ageing and deteriorating school facilities within the former city of Sydney (with the exception of Cusack Elementary and Whitney Pier Memorial Junior High) have been replaced by new program-appropriate facilities. Cusack Elementary opened in 1980 underwent a major addition that was opened in 2012 to allow Ashby and Cornwallis School students to attend school at Cusack. In Whitney Pier, Harbourside Elementary replaced five older school facilities thus enabling the primary to grade 6 student population of Whitney Pier and South Bar to be accommodated under one roof. Harbourside Elementary is one of seven P-3 schools built in 2000.

Based on existing enrolment patterns either Cusack or shipyard would be positioned to house the primary to grade 2 student population and Brookland would be better positioned to accommodate the grade 3 to 5 student population.

Grade 6-8 students from Whitney Pier and Sherwood Park could be accommodated at Sherwood Park Education Center thereby enabling Whitney Pier Memorial to be identified for possible school closure.

Grade 9 – 12 would be housed at Sydney Academy under this scenario.

Should this scenario be adopted for implementation it is worthy to note that some of the students served by the Sydney Family of Schools would experience an additional transition from school to school as compared to the current program delivery model.
Examine the feasibility of constructing a new 6-8 wing on the Breton Education Center site reconfiguring the portion of the building to house the grade 9-12 and demolishing those portions of the existing facility deemed to be excess to a reconfigured building. All New Waterford, New Victoria, and River Ryan primary-5 students would be housed in Greenfield Elementary.

**Consideration**

The outcome of the engineering study at BEC will reveal what portions (if any) of the facility could be retained as well as the costs associated with refurbishing that portion of the building to be retained. Cost estimates with respect to the addition required to house grade 6-8 students in a separate section of a reconfigured building will also need to be determined. Applying the program spaces template within a study, a determination could be made as to what spaces would potentially be lost and what additional spaces would need to be developed.

A determining factor in refurbishing an existing facility is the cost of the addition/alteration and demolition verses the cost of new construction.

This scenario implies that Greenfield Elementary School would be recommended for retention (lease extension or purchase) when the P3 lease negotiations are undertaken.
Examine the option of retaining Greenfield Elementary as a P-3 school to serve the New Waterford, River Ryan and New Victoria Primary-3 student population and recommend the construction of a new school to serve the grade 4-6 student population from the aforementioned communities. This scenario assumes a solution for the secondary students currently served by BEC will result from the engineering study currently underway at Breton Education Centre.

**Consideration**

This scenario would see a recommendation from the retention of Greenfield Elementary as a P-3 school for all New Waterford and area early elementary (primary to grade 3) school children. In addition, this scenario calls for the construction of a new grade 4-6 elementary school in New Waterford to replace the aging St. Agnes and Mount Carmel school buildings (including F.J.Angot).

While construction of a new elementary facility in New Waterford (irrespective of grade level configuration) would right size the school relative to student enrolment and negate excess capacity with respect to St. Agnes and Mount Carmel, the capacity filter utilized by approval bodies would mitigate against such a request ultimately gaining ratification at the provincial level. Greenfield would be positioned with a year or two to accommodate grades primary to 5 at that facility.
In the seaside communities of New Aberdeen, Bridgeport, Dominion, and the neighboring community of Reserve examine the feasibility of refurbishing up to two of the existing school facilities (J.B. Croak, Bridgeport, MacDonald, and Tompkins) with a view to creating up to two new educational school communities from among these four existing community school facilities.

Consideration

An operational review of facilities conducted by the Board in 2010 revealed that all of the aging facilities (38 years plus) require major capital expenditures if one or all of these buildings are to be sustained as school facilities in the future. To this end the Board has commissioned an engineering study in the fall of 2012 to examine these existing facilities and to identify costs and other considerations associated with:

Renovating space in each building

Establishing new space to accommodate 275 students resulting in the establishment of a new school community involved two of the four existing facilities in one location and another new school community for the other two facilities at a second site.

Establishing new space to accommodate all four existing student bodies at one existing location

From a student capacity perspective both Bridgeport and Tompkins fall among the 15 schools that have 50% of more excess student capacity. J. B. Croak falls with the category of being one of 14 schools in the 40% to 50% excess student capacity. While MacDonald Elementary is at near student capacity, some program spaces are lacking (eg: gym) and others are deemed inadequate (eg: library/resource) relative to facility standards in similar sized P-6 schools within the Board.
Considerable community consultation would be required in pursuit of this scenario as the results of the engineering study would have to be examined with respect to the creation of any newly created school community.