Appendix A

Responses to
Looking Inward Proposals
and
Alternate Proposals

Victoria South Family of Schools

ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

Make Middle River Consolidated a P-5 school, and move its Grade Sixes to Baddeck Academy, which would then be configured as a P-5, 6-8 (middle school), and 9-12 facility.

The Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board decided to implement a new grade level configuration of P-5 elementary, 6-8 middle school, and 9-12 high school. The proposal for Victoria South Family of Schools will be implemented September 2015.

ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL

Because the schools in Victoria South are truly unique learning environments, we believe it is best to maintain the status quo in Victoria South. Middle River would continue as a P-6 facility, and Baddeck and Iona would retain their current configuration.

The Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board decided to implement a new grade level configuration of P-5 elementary, 6-8 middle school, and 9-12 high school. The proposal for Victoria South Family of Schools will be implemented September 2015. As such, this alternative proposal will not be implemented.

The concerns raised in the FSSASG report are being considered in the transition plan developed to make the board wide change of grade level configuration occur as effectively as possible.

Victoria North Family of Schools

ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

Reconfigure North Highlands Elementary and Cape Smokey Elementary Schools from Primary to Grade 6 facilities to Primary to grade 8 school facilities and reconfigure Cabot Junior / Senior High School from a grade 7-12 school to a grade 9-12 school.

The Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board decided to implement a middle school model, however, in consideration of the community views not in the P-8 configuration suggested in the original proposal.

ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL 1

To recommend the retention of both Cape Smokey Elementary School and North Highlands Elementary School as primary to grade 6 school facilities as the P3 lease renewal process is being considered. (Original Scenario # 4) This also implies that Cabot Junior Senior High School would remain a grade 7-12 school.

The Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board decided to implement a middle school model, however, in consideration of the community views not in the P-8 configuration suggested in the original proposal.

In January, the board made the decision to move to new grade level configurations of P-5 elementary, 6-8 middle schools, and 9-12 high schools. In respect of the community view to retain the older students at Cabot, the decision was to move forward with this grade configuration with P-5 elementary schools and 6-12 at Cabot.

Northside Family of Schools

Proposal 1 - Scenario # 6 – All grade 9 students go to Memorial High

This proposal has been acted upon by the board with the decision to create a system configuration of P-5 elementary, 6-8 middle school, and 9-12 high school board wide.

Proposal 2 - Scenario # 8 – New Middle School

This proposal is presented in Option 1 for the Northside Family of Schools. The capital proposal is before government and contains two possibilities – a new school or a renovation at the Staff Development Centre. The proposal requires a School Option Committee to consider closure of Sydney Mines Jr High and Thompson Jr High.

Proposal 3 - Scenario # 9 – Consolidate St. Joseph's with Jubilee

This proposal remains and option for consideration. As such, it should be provided to a School Options Committee for consideration in a School Review Process.

Proposal 4 - Scenario # 10 – Seton to consolidate with Ferrisview

This proposal remains and option for consideration. As such, it should be provided to a School Options Committee for consideration in a School Review Process.

Proposal 5 - Scenario # 12 – Dr TL Sullivan to become a P-8 school

This proposal remains and option for consideration. As such, it should be provided to a School Options Committee for consideration in a School Review Process.

Proposal 6 – SAC Scenario # 4 – Boularderie to consolidate with Bras D'Or

This proposal is not included in options for the Northside Family of Schools. The loss of revenue from the grandfathered small school funding and from the loss in square footage, as well as the remaining debt on the, relatively, new school caused the board to discard this proposal.

Alternative Proposal 1 - Scenario # 7 – All middle school students go to Dr TL Sullivan

This proposal would result in a middle school of approximately 600 students comparable to Oceanview Education Centre in Glace Bay with 541 students in 2014 and Malcolm Munroe Jr High in the Riverview Family of Schools with 525 students.

The strengths and weaknesses are articulated in the SAC's final report.

This option is not being considered as the board judged the option of a new middle school and utilization of Dr. T.L. Sullivan as a P-8 as the preferable option.

Alternative Proposal 2 – SAC Scenario # 4 – Florence to consolidate with Bras D'Or

This proposal suggests Florence to be consolidated at Bras d'or rather than Dr. T.L. Sullivan.

This proposal is not being considered as the proposal being put forward suggests Florence students being accommodated at Dr. T.L. Sullivan.

Alternative Proposal 3

- To re-configure Memorial High School from a Grade 10-12 to a Grade 9-12 school.
- Boularderie School to be re-configured from a P-6 to a P-8 school.
- Bras d'or Elementary to be retained as a P-6 school.
- Dr. T.L. Sullivan to be re-configured to a P-8 school including students from Florence Elementary and Grade 7 and 8 students Bras d'or Elementary.
- Jubilee Elementary to become a P-8 school to include students from St. Joseph's and Sydney Mines Junior High Grades 7 and 8.
- Ferrisview to become a P-8 school to include students from Grades 7 and 8 at Thompson and students from Seton Elementary.

Alternative Proposal 3 provides an option which accommodates all students from the Northside Family of Schools.

The first element, 9-12 at Memorial High, has been acted on by the board and will be implemented in the 2015/2016 school year.

The second element, reconfiguration of Boularderie from a P-6 to a P-8, will not be acted upon. The small number of students at the middle school level is insufficient to provide the middle school program in the manner anticipated by the board.

The third element of Alternative Proposal 3 suggests retaining Bras d'or as a P-6 school. This will not be acted upon as the board has decided to move to a middle school model with P-5 selected for Bras d'or.

The fourth element, to reconfigure Dr. T.L. Sullivan to a P-8 schools, will be suggested as an option for a School Options Committee to consider within the School Review Process, albeit with Boularderie and Bras d'or as feeder schools rather than just Bras d'or.

The fifth element of Alternative Proposal 3, and the sixth element of Alternative Proposal 3 suggested P-8 schools at both Jubilee and Ferrisview. In both circumstances, a project expanding the buildings in the range of 20,000 square feet would be necessary. Site constraints would prohibit this project. As such, these elements of Alternative Proposal 3 will not be acted upon.

Alternative Proposal 4

To examine the option of:

- Reconfiguring Memorial High to a 9-12 school
- Constructing a new middle school to replace Thompson Jr High and Sydney Mines Jr High
- Reconfigure Boularderie Elementary, Bras d'or Elementary, and Florence Elementary in P-8 schools
- Convert Dr. T.L. Sullivan into the Board offices and Staff Development Centre
- Establish a P-5 school at Jubilee in Sydney Mines and a P-5 school at Ferrisview.

Alternative Proposal 4's first element of reconfiguring Memorial High to a 9-12 school has been *acted upon by the board and will be implemented in the 2015/2016 school year.*

The second element of the Alternative Proposal 4 of replacing Thompson Jr High and Sydney Mines Jr High with a new middle school remains an option for consideration and will be provided to a SOC for School Review. The capital project business case for this remains before government.

The third element of reconfiguring Boularderie, Bras d'or, and Florence to P-8 schools will not be acted upon. Boularderie and Florence because of the small number of middle school students and Bras d'or because site constraints would prohibit the expansion necessary.

The fourth element of cost converting Dr. T.L. Sullivan to board office, will not be acted upon as the proposal for the Northside Family of Schools require Dr. T.L. Sullivan.

The fifth element of establishing P-5 schools at Ferrisview and at Jubilee remain options being considered and could be provided to a School Options Committee in a School Review Process.

Alternative Proposal 5

To examine the option of combining all Northside Grade 6-8 students in a new middle school and utilize Dr. T.L. Sullivan as the Primary to Grade 5 school to serve all P-5 students from Kempt Head to Florence.

This proposal will not be acted upon as the proposed new school would be too costly.

Alternative Proposal 6

Examining the option of creating P-8 learning environments in the Northside Family of Schools communities of Florence and Boularderie and explore the feasibility of the P-8, 9-12 in other schools.

This proposal suggests all schools on the Northside would become P-8 schools. This will not be acted upon as site constraints prohibit this at Ferrisview, Jubilee, and Bras d'or. A middle school at Boularderie would be too small to deliver the middle school programs.

Riverview Family of Schools

Proposal 1 – This proposal, the retention of a P-8 or P-9 school on Route 22, is discussed further in this document along with Alternative Proposals 2 and 3. *See Page 8.*

Proposal 2 for the Riverview Family of Schools suggests closure of East Bay School and accommodate these students at Mountainview. This proposal is being retained and, as such, is suggested to be provided to a School Options Committee within the School Review Process.

Proposal 3 for the Riverview Family of Schools suggests creation of a P-9 facility at Westmount. With the board's recent decision to change grade level configurations, this would now be considered in the context of a P-8 school. In light of spring 2015 enrolment figures for this school, the board judged Scenario 17 should be re-examined which would see MacLennan considered for consolidation at Malcolm Munroe and would see Robin Foote retained.

Given MacLennan Jr High was constructed as a Junior High and, consequently, has many of the required program space, it is suggested to create the P-8 school in the MacLennan building. If a P-5 option is decided upon, Robin Foote would be the better school.

The outcome of this is to suggest the alternate proposal be given to a School Options Committee for consideration of permanent closure of Robin Foote Elementary and accommodating these students at a P-8 configuration at MacLennan Jr High or as a P-5 configuration at Robin Foote.

Proposal 4 and Alternative Proposal 1

Proposal 4

Relocate students attending Mira Road Elementary to Sydney River Elementary.

Alternate Proposal 1

1. We begin with Sherwood Park Education Centre by building on the proposal for "Review for Closure" and as in Scenarios 21 & 22 for the Sydney Family of Schools, we would suggest that Sherwood Park Education Centre be returned to the owner.
2. Building on Proposals #6-8, Scenarios 23, Public 12 and suggest that Brookland Elementary be considered as middle school, grades 6-8.
3. Building on Scenario #20, Proposal 9-12, Sydney Academy would accommodate all 9-12 students in the Sydney Family of Schools.
4. Building on Scenario #23, Public 12, make Shipyard Elementary a P-5 school plus some of Brookland students based on a boundary realignment.
5. We suggest making Mira Road Elementary a P-5 school plus some Brookland students based on a boundary realignment.
6. Cusack Elementary could maintain its status quo or be able to accommodate students from Brookland, if necessary.

7. Mira Road Elementary students will attend Malcolm Munroe Jr High based on a boundary realignment to include students from Brookland Elementary

The seven points being put forward in Alternate Proposal 1 are being acted upon by moving Mira Road to the Sydney Family of Schools and considering Mira Road within the Sydney Family of Schools as part of Option 1. It should be noted these students would remain in the Sydney Family of Schools for the duration of their attendance in public school.

Proposal 5

Proposal 5 suggests retention of Marion Bridge. This proposal is included in the option suggested for the Riverview Family of Schools.

Proposal 1, Alternate Proposal 2, and Alternate Proposal 3

Proposal 1

Retention of a Primary to Grade 9 school on Route 22 to serve students currently served by George D. Lewis School and Riverside Elementary.

Alternate Proposal 2 from George D. Lewis SAC

To explore the opportunities to retain George D. Lewis as a "hub" school consistent with the efforts of the Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic site which is in the process of exploring re-location options to the Town of Louisbourg.

Alternate Proposal 3 from Riverside Parents and SAC

To examine the Business Case and supporting information that enhances the proposal to retain Riverside Elementary as the Route 22 school.

The original Proposal 1, along with two Alternate Proposals, are in the context of Looking Inward's suggestion of a single school to serve Route 22 students. The responses provide two viewpoints supporting two community schools. As such, they are being responded to in this light.

The first point to be considered is the grade level configuration of the school to serve Route 22. A P-8 school is envisioned here. There is concern the number of middle school students may not support the concept on Route 22. Of significance in this is the impact of French Immersion at Malcolm Munroe and the high percent of students from this area that opt for French Immersion. Having said this, there is also the view sufficient numbers of students would remain at Riverside in a P-8 setting and there are sufficient numbers in the catchment area to support this thought.

The second point is to determine which of George D. Lewis or Riverside should be considered as a P-5 school on Route 22.

Riverside is judged by the board to be the better option for the following reasons:

It has the highest population of P-5 students with 128 students as compared to 34 P-5 students at George D. Lewis. The impact of the high student population is:

- *Moving George D. Lewis to Riverside impacts fewer children;*
- *Moving George D. Lewis to Riverside is more efficient from a transportation point of view. In fact, moving Riverside children to George D. Lewis would result in some elementary children having a bus ride of 45 minutes or longer, whereas, moving George D. Lewis students to Riverside can be achieved in about ½ hour.*
- *The capital cost to move Riverside to George D. Lewis would be higher than retaining Riverside and the result would be smaller classrooms (750 square feet vs 900 square feet) and fewer classrooms (12 vs 14).*

Given this analysis, the following response is provided specific to Alternate Proposal 2.

In order to achieve a Hub School at George D. Lewis, the requirements of the Hub School Criteria would need to be met. These requirements are found in Appendix B of the School Review Policy. The purpose is to "support the use of available space in public school buildings in a way that is appropriate, transparent, operationally and financially viable and most importantly, supportive of student learning and an appropriate schools climate".

In the context of a P-8 school for all of Route 22 students, the condition of space being available, does not exist, therefore, a Hub School is not an option. In the context of retaining an elementary student population at George D. Lewis, this could be a possibility.

Alternate Proposal 3 suggests retaining Riverside as the school for Route 22. This proposal is the option selected. As such, the option being suggested for a School Option Committee within the School Review Process is retain Riverside and consider George D. Lewis for permanent closure.

Sydney Family of Schools

PROPOSAL 1

All grade 9-12 students (with the exception of French Immersion) in the Sydney Family of Schools are to be accommodated at Sydney Academy.

This proposal has been acted upon by the board with the decision to move to P-5 elementary, 6-8 middle schools, and 9-12 high schools.

PROPOSAL 2

Examine the option of converting one of the Board-owned elementary schools in Sydney (exclusive of Harbourside) into a Middle School (grades 6-8)

This proposal has been considered by the SAG who articulated the strengths and weaknesses in their report. It remains a potential solution for the Sydney Family of Schools and, as such, should be provided to a School Options Committee in the context of school review.

Two options are provided for further consideration. The first, has Brookland becoming the middle school, and the second has Shipyard becoming the middle school.

PROPOSAL 3

P-8 students from Harbourside catchment area plus grade 7 and 8 immersion to be housed at Harbourside

This proposal has been considered by the SAG who articulated the strengths and weaknesses in their report. It remains a potential solution for the Sydney Family of Schools and, as such, should be provided to a School Options Committee in the context of school review.

PROPOSAL 4

Consolidate administrative offices at the Whitney Pier Memorial facility

This proposal has been considered by the SAG who articulated the strengths and weaknesses in their report. It remains a potential solution for the Sydney Family of Schools and, as such, should be provided to a School Options Committee in the context of school review.

PROPOSAL 5

Return Sherwood Park Education Center to the private sector partner when the initial lease expires.

This proposal has been considered by the SAG who articulated the strengths and weaknesses in their report. It remains a potential solution for the Sydney Family of Schools and, as such, should be provided to a School Options Committee in the context of school review.

ALTERNATE PROPOSAL 1

Maintain Sherwood Park Education Center as the Middle School for grades 6-8 English Program students in Sydney with the exception of students from Harbourside Elementary School

AND

Establish Sherwood Park Education Center as the French Immersion Center for students from Sydney, New Waterford, and Glace Bay Families of Schools

AND

Keep Whitney Pier Memorial Junior High as the P-8 School to serve all English Program students in the Whitney Pier and South Bar catchment areas

AND

Identify Harbourside Elementary School as surplus to the needs of the School Board and recommend to the Department of Education that it be returned to the P3 partner.

AND

Convert Brookland or Shipyard to Board offices and rent out any surplus space

AND

House grade Primary to grade 5 students from Brookland or Shipyard in one or the other remaining facilities along with Cusack Elementary.

Alternate Proposal 1 will not receive further consideration. The option being put forward suggests utilizing either Brookland or Shipyard as a middle school and closure of Sherwood Park. The suggestion to convert either Brookland or Shipyard, two of the board's newest schools, to administration offices, was judged as not as good an option. It was judged converting an older school to offices was preferable to converting some of the board's newest school spaces.

ALTERNATE PROPOSAL 2

Extend the lease of Sherwood Park Education Center by five (5) years while waiting to secure capital funding to address the refit issues required to change an elementary school space into a middle school.

The lease between the province and the owner of Sherwood Park does not provide an option for a five (5) year extension. To achieve this option would require a change to the lease.

ALTERNATE PROPOSAL 3

Consider Whitney Pier memorial as the middle school site closing Sherwood Park

AND

Maintain Harbourside as a P-5 school closing a Sydney Elementary School

If there was to be a single middle school in the Sydney Family of Schools, it would need to accommodate approximately 650 students and would require 23 classrooms. In this circumstance, with 22 larger classrooms (900square feet vs 750 square feet) and being the newer of the schools, Sherwood Park would be the better alternative. As such, this option will not be included in the Long Range Outlook.

The second element, retention of Harbourside as a P-5, is being put forward as a component of the Long Range Outlook, however, in the context of a P-8 school.

ALTERNATE PROPOSAL 4

To avoid an extra transition for students from grade 5 to grade 6 and to protect the French Immersion Program, we recommend the Board consider beginning French Immersion for Grade six students should a Middle School service delivery model be adopted by the Board.

The Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board has chosen to adopt a grade level configuration consisting of P-5 elementary, 6-8 middle schools, and 9-12 high schools. This proposal was considered in the development of the transition plan. Although not adopted, it did lead to discussion with a view to providing an intensive French option at French Immersion schools.

ALTERNATE PROPOSAL 5

The concerned parents of Brookland Elementary School believe that Alternate Proposal #5 for the Sydney Family of Schools addresses the issues facing the School Board in their efforts to provide suitable and sustainable program space for Primary to Grade 12 within the Sydney Family of Schools.

This proposal: reduces excess space

generates a cost saving

enables the Board to reduce the number of buildings

enables the consolidation of administrative space

expedites some aspects of P3 decision-making

most importantly it puts the students first by placing the

students in age appropriate/space appropriate instructional spaces.

The proposal reads as follows:

Sydney Academy 9-12

Cusack Elementary	P-5
Brookland Elementary	P-5
Whitney Pier Memorial	P-8
Sherwood Park	6-8 (Plus Immersion and 0.25 of Adm.)
Shipyard	Convert to Board offices (0.75 of Adm.)

The first element of this proposal has been acted on by the board with the decision to create a new grade configuration consisting of P-5 elementary, 6-8 middle schools, and 9-12 high schools.

The second element to retain Cusack as a P-5 school is similar to the suggestion of Proposal 2 and will be included in the options of the board Long Range Outlook.

The third, fourth, and fifth elements are not being considered. Like Alternative Proposal 1, these elements require one of the newest schools within the board to be converted to board offices. Whitney Pier Memorial was judged to be the better alternative, enabling this newest infrastructure to be retained as school space.

ALTERNATE PROPOSAL 6

Sydney Academy	9-12
Whitney Pier Memorial Jr. High	6-8 (Plus French Immersion)
Cusack School	6-8 (North end, South end, Ashby, Shipyard)
Brookland and Shipyard	P-5
Mira Road	Possible Board Office
Harbourside and Sherwood Park	Surplus to needs of the Board

Alternate Proposal 6 would require all elementary students in the Sydney Family of Schools (approximately 1200 students) to be housed between Shipyard and Brookland. Site constraints would prevent expansion of Brookland's footprint to the extent necessary to house 600 students thus creating the need for an expansion at Shipyard to house, in the order of 775, students. The board judged other available options resulting in small elementary schools as preferred for this Family of Schools. As such, this alternate proposal will not be included in the boards Long Range Outlook.

New Waterford Family of Schools

The following is the scenario proposed by the Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board administration:

Examine the feasibility of constructing a new Grade 6-8 wing on BEC site reconfiguring the portion of the building to house Grade 9-12 and demolish those portions of the facility deemed to be in excess to a reconfigured building. All New Waterford, New Victoria, River Ryan, Scotchtown, and Lingan Grades P-5 would be housed in Greenfield Elementary School

The New Waterford Family of Schools SAG responded to the board's request for input and provide valued recommendations to consider as the proposal is moved forward.

The first element of this proposal, the Alteration and Addition at Breton Education Centre, remains before government for their consideration.

The second element will be advanced with the board is Long Range Outlook and will consider the recommendations of the FSSASG as it is moved forward.

Glace Bay Family of Schools

PROPOSAL 1

Establish Donkin School as a Primary to Grade 8 facility to house all Donkin and Gowrie Primary to Grade 8 students. This proposal involves:

This proposal remains an option for consideration. As such, it should be provided to a school option committee for consideration in a School Review Process.

PROPOSAL 2

House Bridgeport Junior High students at Oceanview Education Center (OVEC)

This proposal remains an option for consideration.

PROPOSAL 3

Scenario # 30 – Convert Glace Bay High School from a grade 10-12 to a grade 9-12 school with consideration for the impact such reconfiguration would have on Oceanview Education Center

This proposal has been acted upon by the board and will be implemented in the 2015/2016 school year.

PROPOSAL 4

Reconfigure Oceanview Education Centre from a grade 7-9 Junior High School to a grade 6-8 middle school

This proposal has been acted upon by the board and will be implemented in the 2015/2016 school year.

PROPOSAL 5

Request the construction of a new school to serve the Grade Primary to Grade 5 student body from Bridgeport, MacDonald and Tompkins Elementary Schools.

Two options remain, the option of a new school and an alternative of a renovation at Bridgeport. This request remains before government.

PROPOSAL 6

J. B. Croak grade Primary to grade 5 student body to be housed at St. Anne's Elementary.

This proposal remains a consideration; however, may require a capital project. Although capacity calculations suggest this is achievable, closer examination considering class size caps indicates a shortage of a classroom.

ALTERNATE PROPOSAL 1

Explore the option of St. Anne's School being reconfigured from a P-6 to P-8 school.

Alternate Proposal 1 would require capital investment to create learning spaces already in existence at Oceanview Education Centre and would cause the problem of excess real estate to be increased. This proposal has been discarded.

ALTERNATE PROPOSAL 2

Revisit Glace Bay Family of Schools proposal # 6 with a view to retaining John Bernard Croak Memorial School as a Primary to grade 5 school in the New Aberdeen area of Glace Bay.

This proposal is not being advanced. Like other Family of Schools, with similar circumstances, school consolidation remains a consideration.

ALTERNATE PROPOSAL 3

Consistent with Looking Inward Scenario 32, examine the option of combining Tompkins Elementary and MacDonald Elementary in one new school designed for250-275 Primary to grade 5 students.

This proposal is not being advanced. Proposal 2, which includes Bridgeport, is included in the option for Glace Bay.

ALTERNATE PROPOSAL 4

Building on SAC scenario 10, re-examine the option of establishing Bridgeport as a P-8 small school to serve as an alternate instructional setting to the larger school (Oceanview Education Center) in the Glace Bay Family of Schools.

Like other suggestions of small middle schools, this option will not be acted upon as the numbers of middle school students is too small to support delivery of the middle school program.

ALTERNATE PROPOSAL 5

To explore the option of re-creating John Bernard Croak Memorial School as a Primary to Middle School to serve the primary to grade 8 student population of New Aberdeen in the Glace Bay Family of Schools.

This proposal would necessitate re-establishing learning space in John Bernard Croak to create the middle school classes. The capital investment is not warranted in that it would require capital funding to create learning spaces existing at Oceanview Education Centre and would result in increasing the excess capacity within the board.