Examine the option of retaining at least one P-9 school facility within the Glace Bay Family of schools to provide an alternative for students to attend a school in a smaller community school setting deemed to be more suitable for their academic and social needs.

Considerations

Parent's representatives for School Advisory Councils in the Glace Bay Family of Schools reaffirmed their belief that school facilities exist to provide programs and services for students.

While there was consensus that the provision of programs and services need to be equitable across the system there was a realization that some students thrive in instructional settings in smaller schools.

Both Bridgeport and Donkin Complex are viewed as school facilities containing appropriate junior high instructional spaces consistent with Oceanview Education Center but on a much smaller scale. In 2012, Bridgeport housed 44 Junior High School students while Donkin housed 36 Junior High students.

Parents contend that the retention of one or both of these P-9 school facilities would provide an alternative to attendance at a larger junior high school for students for whom such settings are desirable. Initiating an application through the current student transfer policy would enable students to gain access to this alternative setting.

Transportation arrangements similar to those initiated for students attending other schools for programs (IB, Vocational, French Immersion) would have to be put in place.