Examine the option of creating a P-8 or P-9 elementary (middle school) junior high school to serve all students along route 327 (Marion Bridge) and route 22 (Louisbourg Highway).

**Considerations**

The Marion Bridge School serves the communities of Gabarus, Grand Mira North, Grand Mira South as well as the community of Marion Bridge and all spur roads off route 327. This primary to grade 6 facility was constructed in 1960 and expanded in 1989. It currently has 80 students and enjoys the benefits of small school funding under Hogg funding Formula I. This school is served by 4 buses and the earliest pickup is 7.10 a.m. for an 8.40 a.m. school start.

George D. Lewis is the last school facility in Louisbourg. In 1995-1996 there were 215 students. In 2012 there are 113. The school was constructed in 1968 and has a capacity of 300. Both the elementary enrolment and the junior high student body have been reduced almost in half since amalgamation.

Riverside elementary opened in 2000 as part of the P3 School Capital Construction Program. This P-6 facility has a capacity of 350 students. In 2012, there were 170 students attending Riverside. The communities of Main-a-Dieu, Albert Bridge, and Catalone came together to form the new Riverside School Community. Riverside will be a topic of discussion when deliberations with respect to the P3 lease come up for consideration.
Mira Road Elementary

This 18,500 square foot facility was built in 1977 and has a capacity of 175 students. In September 2012, 137 primary-to grade 6 students attended Mira Road Elementary. While the building is in good shape for a facility of its age, its location and the location of the student body it serves presents an opportunity to examine its long term future within the infrastructure requirements of the Board.

The creation of a P-8 or P-9 school to serve students from Route 22 and Route 327 would also impact the future student numbers for Malcolm Munroe Junior High as elementary students from this catchment area would not be attending Malcolm Munroe except for those who elect to enroll in late French Immersion. The future decline in numbers at Malcolm Munroe could also impact the future of MacLennan Junior High.

Three options exist with respect to the realization of this scenario.

1. Refurbish and expand G.D. Lewis to accommodate a P-8 or P-9 student population ranging from 400-450 students. Identify Riverside to return to the P-3 partner and Marion Bridge and Mira Road Elementary to be identified for inclusion in a school review process.

2. Construct a new school strategically located for a student population ranging from 400-450 students identifying Riverside for return to the P3 partner and identifying Marion Bridge, G. D. Lewis and Mira Road Elementary for inclusion in a school review process.

3. Request the Department of Education to purchase Riverside from the P3 partner and request a school capital construction project for Riverside to accommodate the junior high/middle school
grade levels. G.D. Lewis, Marion Bridge, and Mira Road Elementary would be identified for a school review process.