To examine the option of establishing an early French Immersion Program at Middle River School.

**Considerations**

The Middle River School was constructed in 1960 and once housed a primary to grade 8 student body in multi-aged groupings. Today it serves a primary to grade 6 student population of 23 (September 30, 2013) in a multi-aged instructional environment.

The Cape Breton Victoria Regional School Board has a longstanding tradition of late French Immersion instruction in various centers throughout the Board.

In addition to the innovative suggestions put forward in other scenarios relating to the sustainability of Middle River School as a rural community school - (model multiage center, green school, and entrepreneurial center) - this scenario advocates for the establishment of Middle River School as an early immersion center for the Victoria South Family of Schools.

Rankin School of the Narrows successfully implemented Gaelic instruction in a small rural school learning environment.
As an early immersion center Middle River could provide a home for an early immersion multiage instructional environment. The opportunity would exist for the Board to offer this program option to neighboring schools providing busing for these students as it does where late French Immersion programs have been implemented.

Staffing considerations, French special project application considerations, and transportation considerations would be part of implementing this scenario.