Examine the option of investing in MacDonald Elementary School with a view to providing all program and learning support spaces consistent with offering the Public School Program at the elementary level.

Considerations

MacDonald Elementary School was constructed in 1964 and consists of two floors of classrooms. MacDonald Elementary School was part of MacDonald Complex prior to the demolition of MacDonald Complex in 2002 due to a subsidence issue. Prior to its demise, MacDonald Complex housed a gymnasium, music room, art room, and provision for students with exceptionalities. The demolition of MacDonald Complex after the subsidence issue left the 1964 elementary building devoid of many program spaces found in neighboring schools. In 2003, several portable classes were constructed on site to provide a library, lunchroom, music room, and a corridor connector to the main building. Students at MacDonald have been bused to neighboring Bridgeport School for physical education.

Since the loss of MacDonald Complex the school board has made requests to the Department of Education for a new gym for MacDonald Elementary School along with a request to refurbish the existing facility to provide appropriate instructional facilities consistent with other school facilities required for the delivery of the elementary school curriculum.

To date no project request has received approval to allow construction to begin.

The elementary school enrolment has remained relative constant over the years and the school community believes that a new project proposal should be generated to provide an equitable opportunity for students from Dominion to receive educational program offerings in appropriate instructional spaces consistent with those received by other students under the jurisdiction of the school board.
While an engineering study has been conducted on residual value at MacDonald Elementary School with respect to Looking Inward Scenarios 31 and 32, the time is right to cause an assessment to be done (including a program space description and cost estimate) to refurbish MacDonald Elementary, add a gymnasium and other instructional support spaces identified in the Design Requirements Manual in order to establish a baseline data that can be utilized in the development of a new capital construction project for MacDonald Elementary School.