Examine the option of converting one of the Board-owned elementary schools in Sydney (excludes Harbourside and Whitney Pier Memorial) into a junior high.

a) Reconfiguring boundaries to accommodate elementary students in 3 existing schools that are strategically located.

b) Consider converting one of the elementary schools to a junior high school

Considerations

Facilities to house and support junior high school programs differ substantially from element school spaces in size. For example, elementary physical education facilities are 3250 square feet while junior high gymnasiums are 5400 to 6500 square feet depending on enrolment.

Site restrictions at Brookland and Cusack would limit opportunities for expansion of an existing elementary structure to accommodate a junior high program where science lab/classroom, technology education, family studies, and special education classrooms would need to be constructed. Shipyard does have land area on which an expansion could be constructed.

Prior to considering a grade level configuration for an elementary school in the Sydney area, a major boundary review would need to be conducted. For example, students from south of the Whitney Pier overpass and Ashby would have to be included in the Harbourside catchment area as there are 1013 students (September 2012) being served in the three elementary schools. The current capacity of Cusack and Brookland is 825.

Under this scenario Sherwood Park would be returned to the P3 partner.