



Chignecto-Central Regional School Board
Capital Construction Submission
2016

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION 2016

Introduction

This report of the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board provides background data and information regarding potential new school and additions/alterations projects within the Board to enable a 2016 capital submission to the province.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) is responsible for capital construction related to new schools and major school renewals within the province. A letter was received January 29, 2016 from the Minister, Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development which requested that the CCRSB submit updated capital construction priorities for three year period beginning in 2017-18.

The DEECD has also requested schools as potential skilled trades locations as part of a capital construction plan through a new school or an addition and alteration project. Alternatively it could be a school based project solely for a skilled trades program to be accommodated at a specific site.

This report is to be submitted to the Board on March 9, 2016 to the DEECD no later than March 14, 2016.

Background

A provincial review of capital projects of CCRSB facilities' needs has historically been led by a multi-discipline committee. This included representatives from DEECD, Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal and the Treasury Board. This committee assisted the province in prioritizing new school constructions and additions/alterations requests submitted by school boards. The previous capital construction request from the province to the school board was in May 2015.

Capital construction projects are normally grouped into two categories; the first category is new school construction. These are the new facilities built according to most recent version of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal's Design Requirement Manual DC350, including the Educational Facilities General Design Requirements.

The second category for the Department of Education is additions and alterations of schools. They generally encompass two major components. The first component is a major addition to a school which represents a tangible increase to the building's size or function. The second component is an upgrade to the facility's infrastructure which can extend the buildings expected operating life by fifteen to twenty years.

The Chignecto-Central Regional School Board in May 2015 approved the following capital construction priorities:

1. Pictou East P – 8 - Addition and Alteration
Consolidation of East Pictou Middle School and F.H. MacDonald Elementary
2. Springhill Elementary - New School
Replacing Junction Road and West End Memorial Elementary Schools
3. Cobequid Consolidated Elementary - Addition and Alteration
4. Trenton P – 8 - New School
Replacing Trenton Elementary and Trenton Middle Schools
5. Hants North P-12 - New School
Replacing Hants North Rural High and Kennetcook District Elementary Schools and with the consolidation of Maitland District Elementary, Cobequid District Elementary and Rawdon Elementary Schools.
6. Cobequid Education Centre - Addition and Alteration
7. Shubenacadie District Elementary - Addition and Alteration

The following schools were included for information to the Department as they were part of the process. However, they were not in the top seven schools which was the maximum number of associated business plans to be provided to the Province.

8. Uniacke District - Addition and Alteration
9. Hants East Rural High - Addition and Alteration

The following location for a Skilled Trades Program was also submitted:

1. North Nova Education Centre - Skilled Trades Program

The province and the DEECD are now beginning a three year capital planning process. The planning should begin for the 2017-18 fiscal year for new schools or those with additions and alterations projects.

The DEECD as also requested identification of areas within CCRSB schools where a skilled trades center maybe sought. While they could be with new construction or additions and alterations, they can also be submitted as the sole intent of a capital school project.

Previously the DEECD requested that CCRSB's capital submission be a maximum of seven projects and prioritized. The Department had provided number of factors that would be used in considering the provincial school priorities. It was also stated that a detailed business case would be needed for each of a Board's submitted priorities. The 2016 submission request was simplified by the Department. There were no limits as to the number of potential school projects which could be submitted. Projects were to be submitted alphabetically at this time.

At this time there is not a requirement by school boards to submit a business case for new schools or additions and alterations. Projects that may move forward with the three year planning period will require a business case at a later time.

Current Status

The Province of Nova Scotia with its Capital Plan 2016-17 provides a list of projects by department or agency. Under Education the following are listed for the CCRSB:

Bible Hill P-4 School	-	New School
Tatamagouche P-12	-	New School
River Hebert District High School	-	School Addition or Alteration

Each of these projects are in various stages of planning or actual construction. Those not scheduled for completion in 2016/2017 would continue in subsequent years subject to annual approval of actual cash flows.

The 2016-2017 Capital Plan of the Province also included a category called "School Capital Repairs." This category is proposed to encompass on-going maintenance repairs to schools' infrastructure, many of which represent maintenance work that has been deferred in the past. These projects need to exceed an expense Tangible Capital Asset threshold of \$150,000 and are commonly known as a TCA. These are not included in this submission.

Evaluation Process

The Board had in past capital construction submissions developed a weighing process that led to the development of CCRSB project priorities. These had been based closely on the factors or criteria the province would be considering in reviewing school boards submissions. These factors were not available with this submission. School boards were asked to submit a list of potential projects alphabetically.

In 2013 there was 13 weeks from a provincial capital project request to the required submission date. In 2014 there was a shorter period of 6 weeks while in 2016 the submission development period was decreased to 4 weeks, though a two week extension was subsequently granted. This presented significant challenges to providing the 2016 proposed submission to the Board

Operational Services Committee through to the Board Meeting of March 9, 2016. This 2016 Capital Construction Submission therefore relies significantly on work done with the 2014 and 2013 submissions.

The Board has expressed its desire to submit a prioritized list based on the 2014 weighted criteria as well as alphabetically. As will be noted later, the CCRSB believes there should be an opportunity to revise this list in future.

There is one specific project of Pictou East P-8 with the consolidation of East Pictou Middle School (EPMS) and F.H. MacDonald Elementary School (FHM) which is the CCRSB's highest priority. On March 26, 2014 the CCRSB passed a motion to close East Pictou Middle School no later than five years from that date. There are renovations required at the receiving FHM site to include the Grades 7 and 8 components of the Public School Program. With the subsequent passing of time, there is an increasing urgency for this work.

Results

The 2014 criteria were used in developing the rankings for the projects with new schools and additions/alterations. The results can be seen in Appendix A.

For 2016 there are nine new school and addition/alteration projects to be considered for submission to the EECD. These are listed in Appendix B.

There is a brief description outlining the intent of each project in Appendix C. There is also one item listed which is an amendment to the current Tatamagouche P-12 project. This is in regard to the replacement of the small bus garage on the site of which there have been previous discussions with the Department.

It may be beneficial to consider the list as an ordinate ranking with the data acquired in the short period to develop the report. The relative difference in some of the previous quantitative values with the numerical rankings may not be significant. A more comprehensive review with rating factors within a criterion may further substantiate or differentiate these schools in the rankings.

Recommendation

This report is submitted to the Board for its review and as the basis for its submission of the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board capital construction needs to the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. The rankings are indicated on Appendix D Proposed CCRSB Capital Construction Projects – 2014.

The following schools, listed in priority, are to be submitted to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development for capital construction consideration.

1. Pictou East P - 8 - Addition and Alteration
Consolidation of East Pictou Middle School and F.H. MacDonald at the latter site.
 2. Springhill Elementary - New School
Replacing Junction Road and West End Memorial Elementary Schools.
 3. Cobequid Consolidated Elementary - Addition and Alteration
Upgrade of facility and systems to account for deferred maintenance.
 4. Trenton P – 8 - New School
Replacing Trenton Elementary and Trenton Middle Schools.
 5. Hants North P-12 - New School
Replacing Hants North Rural High and Kennetcook District Elementary Schools and with the consolidation of Cobequid District Elementary and Rawdon Elementary Schools.
 6. Cobequid Educational Centre - Addition and Alteration
Upgrade of facility and systems to account for deferred maintenance on a 1970s era facility to extend the largest school in the province operating life span.
 7. Shubenacadie District Elementary - Addition and Alteration
Upgrade of facility and systems to account for deferred maintenance.
 8. Uniacke District - Addition and Alteration
Upgrade of facility and systems to account for deferred maintenance.
 9. Hants East Rural High - Addition and Alteration
Upgrade of facility and systems to account for deferred maintenance.
- Current Project – Amended - Tatamagouche P-12 Addition and Alteration
Replacement of existing 2 bay garage

Skilled Trades Program

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has previously requested potential sites to provide a Skilled Trades program. CCRSB had submitted during the summer of 2013 a response that a program could be delivered at North Nova Education Centre (NNEC). This location would require some infrastructure upgrades, which most likely would exceed the accounting tangible capital asset level of \$150,000. With the 2014 capital submission NNEC was again presented.

For the 2016 Capital Construction Submission the Educational Services Committee reviewed potential sites that a Skill Trades Program could be provided. The following schools, listed in priority, are to be submitted to the DEECD for consideration:

1. North Nova Education Centre
2. Cobequid Education Centre
3. Amherst Regional High School

It should be noted that Amherst Regional High School is operated by a private owner under a Public Private Partnership agreement.

Discussion

The Operational Services Committee through to the Board recognizes challenges with the 2016 Capital Planning process. These may lead to future engagement with other parties, including DEECD, which could lead to overall improvements to the planning process.

The relatively short time for the school board to respond to the province's request does not enable an effective period for public consultation. With the 2013 submission there was an opportunity to raise and discuss possible options with associated stakeholders, such as School Advisory Councils and at school and regional levels. This could be particularly beneficial with consolidation of schools into new facilities or with an addition and alteration project at a specific facility.

Since the last capital construction submission, there may also be changes in expectations at a community level regarding potential capital projects. There could be a better understanding of the potential benefits of an addition and alteration project, particularly regarding project cost, which through a CCRSB submission may be advantageous in attaining projects. For example, a community may originally have a preferred option of a new school, though would find acceptable upgrades to an existing facility. On-going discussions with community representatives could lead to a revised capital request a listing of preferred and acceptable options. A capital plan should have the mechanism to reflect this.

The request for a three year planning process could pre-empt or have an adverse effect on future school review processes. A school review historically can be very emotional for communities and other participants. A three year capital plan that suggests possible outcomes in advance or prior to completion of a review of a group of schools with their potential of a possible school closure may not be well received. It could be perceived that an outcome is pre-determined and the review process is not as transparent as it could be.

There likely will be increasing use by school boards of their Long Range Outlooks (LRO) in the short term, five year and ten year periods to assist the capital planning as well as initiating school reviews. Changes in the LRO data may indicate potential revisions of a school boards previous capital plan.

The School Review Policy also states that a motion for a school closure must not be contingent on other factors, for example the building of a new school or renovations to a receiving school affect a capital plan.

There could actually be strategic benefits by the potential to align capital planning with a school review process. Similar to what occurred with Pictou East P-8, a School Options Committee could present a recommendation which requires capital alterations at receiving schools. The ability to modify a previously submitted capital plan could have advantages in responding to community engagement in the review process.

Ideally, these strategic advantages could be further enhanced with a five year, or longer, capital planning process. The ability to connect with communities, the utilization of LRO data and the alignment with school reviews and the ability to modify or supplement a school board's capital plan and in assistance with the province's capital planning could all contribute in the effective and efficient use of schools facilities.

The CCRSB will endeavor to provide whatever assistance is required by DEECD in further capital planning discussions.

Report prepared by Operational Services
March 2016

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Proposed CCRSB Capital Construction Projects 2016

Schools Alphabetical Order	CCRSB Priority	Type of Project	Schools Consolidated/Replaced
Cobequid Consolidated Elementary	3	Addition and Alteration	n/a
Cobequid Educational Centre	6	Addition and Alteration	n/a
Hants East Rural High School	9	Addition and Alteration	n/a
Hants North P-12	5	New School	Hants North Rural High School Kennetcook District Elementary School Cobequid District Elementary School Rawdon District Elementary School
Pictou East P-8	1	Addition and Alteration* <i>*Required with scheduled school closure</i>	East Pictou Middle School Frank H. MacDonald Elementary School
Shubenacadie District Elementary	7	Addition and Alteration	n/a
Springhill Elementary	2	New School	Junction Road Elementary West End Memorial School
Tatamagouche P-12: Bus Garage	Amendment <i>Current School Project</i>	New Support Building	Bus Garage <i>(Circa 1950)</i>
Trenton P-8	4	New School	Trenton Elementary Trenton Middle School
Uniacke District School	8	Addition and Alteration	n/a

APPENDIX B

PROPOSED SKILLED TRADE SCHOOLS

Listed Alphabetically

1. Amherst Regional High School
2. Cobequid Educational Centre
3. North Nova Education Centre

Listed By Priority

1. North Nova Education Centre
2. Cobequid Educational Centre
3. Amherst Regional High School

APPENDIX C

Cobequid Consolidated Elementary School

Addition and Alteration

Priority #3

Project Description

Cobequid Consolidated Elementary School requires upgrading and refurbishment of its building systems and instructional spaces. The building is a Primary to Grade Five School located in Old Barns, Nova Scotia. The student enrolment is currently 146 students of which 99% are transported by bus. The 2015 Long Range Outlook (LRO) indicates a school utilization of 73%.

The school was constructed in 1963 and has never had a major renovation nor replacement program to upgrade the facility and support systems. The school encompasses 18,364 square feet originally designed with 12 classrooms, a gymnasium and small cafeteria. The provision of the present Public School Program could be enhanced with upgrades to the current physical constraints.

The 2015 Long Range Outlook (LRO) indicates a school utilization of 73%. The 2014/15 enrolment was 146 students expected to increase slightly to 155 in five years.

The LRO states a current overall building condition of functional. This is often typical of older buildings and approaching their end of useful life. The building systems are working and finishes are maintained though an increased level of maintenance and repairs are required to continue operation. There are outstanding deferred maintenance items such as roof replacement, siding and exterior door replacements and washroom upgrades and additional IT access points would be beneficial. These would be addressed through this project.

The CCRSB is requesting an upgrade and refurbishment to this facility to rectify existing building issues and extend the building operating life.

With the 2014 CCRSB Capital Construction Submission it is the third highest ranked submission of a combined CCRSB New School and Additions and Alteration list and continues this priority in 2016.

Cobequid Educational Centre

Addition and Alteration

Priority #6

Project Description

Cobequid Educational Centre (CEC) requires upgrading and refurbishment of its building systems and instructional spaces. At 228,000 square feet CEC is physically the largest school in the province of Nova Scotia.

Within the 2015 Long Range Outlook (LRO) the school provides educational programming to 1354 students in Grades 10–12 from Truro and the surrounding area. According to the LRO there are 86 total classrooms with a 62% utilization. By 2019 the enrolment is projected to vary slightly to 1345 students.

The school began operation in 1970 and the subsequent 46 years has had an effect on the physical structures and supporting systems. There has not been a “mid-life” upgrade or refit at the school, most repairs or upgrades have been reactive in nature responding to urgent situations such as boiler or roofing failures. Many of the facility components are original. Not unexpectedly, there is a large amount of deferred maintenance and systems upgrades needed.

The overall building is classified as functional within the LRO. This indicates the building is older and approaching its end of useful life “as is”. Its systems are working, though an increased level of maintenance is required for facility operation. Examples or repairs needed include roofing, elevator, gym floor, window replacements, washrooms, accessibility/security improvements and exterior panel caulking.

Concurrently, the CCRSB has submitted this location for a Skilled Trades Centre. Skilled trades would require a capital upgrade with the facility.

This project continues as the sixth highest ranked submission of the 2016 CCRSB New School and Additions and Alteration.

Hants East Rural High School

Addition and Alteration

Priority #9

Project Description

The CCRSB is requesting an upgrade and refurbishment of Hants East Rural High School. The facility is 141,428 square feet in size and located in Milford, Nova Scotia.

Based on the 2015 Long Range Outlook (LRO) it provides educational programming for students in Grades 9-12. According to the LRO there are 56 total classrooms with a 53% utilization. This is based on 757 students in 2014, projected to decline to 743 by 2019.

The school began operation in 1957 which has had an effect on the physical structures and supporting systems over the subsequent period of time. There has not been a “mid-life” upgrade or refit at the school, most repairs or upgrades have been reactive in nature responding to urgent situations such as boiler or roofing failures. Many of the facility components are original and not unexpectedly, there is a large amount of deferred maintenance.

The overall building is classified as satisfactory within the LRO. This indicates the building requires some repairs and maintenance to the building systems and finishes. Examples are boiler needs replacement, roof sections need repairs, washroom improvements, and improved entrance for security and control. Elevator upgrades, window replacements, wired IT infrastructure upgrades, classroom external call function and exterior cladding and brickwork repairs would also be beneficial.

The CCRSB continues in 2016 to see this as its ninth highest priority.

Hants North P-12 School

New School

Priority #5

Project Description

Previously, the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board has proposed closing three facilities in the Municipality of East Hants and consolidate into a new Primary to Grade Twelve School in the Hants North area. These facilities are:

- Cobequid District Elementary (CDE) located in Noel, N.S. originally constructed in 1961 with 12,285 square feet.
- Kennetcook Elementary (KES) and Hants North Rural High (HNRH) located in Kennetcook, N.S. are connected buildings and originally constructed in 1961 at 69,581 square feet.
- Rawdon District Elementary (RDE) located in Rawdon, Nova Scotia originally constructed in 1951 with 21,916 square feet.

CDE and RDE from the 2015 Long Range Outlook (LRO) indicates the overall building conditions as functional which is often typical of older buildings and approaching their end of useful life. HNRH/KES has an overall building condition of satisfactorily though with some repairs and maintenance to the building and its systems are required.

All of the facilities have experienced deferred maintenance which will increase. There has not been a 25 year or “mid-life” systems upgrade to any of the schools with varying degrees of ramifications. RDE building systems are working and finishes are maintained though an increased level of maintenance and repairs are required to continue operation. Heating boilers, window, cladding/siding, fire alarm, public address and roof replacement, are a number major items needing replacement or upgrading. Similarly CDE is reaching its end of operating life. Roof, boiler, electrical service, gym floor, accessibility and repointing are a number major items needing replacement. All three sites would benefit by increasing the number of IT access points.

The LRO indicates school utilization has 85% at CDE, 47% at HNRH/KES and RDE of 69%. RDE shows an enrolment of 104 in 2014 declining to 93 by 2019. Similarly CDE will decline from 85 to 79 students in the same period. HNRH/KES had 336 students in 2014 with a projected five year increase to 345 students.

Combining the three schools would see an increase in operating efficiency. The total square footage could decline 30% with a potential reduction of almost 24,000 square feet.

Consolidating the three schools provides benefits in the provision of the Public School Program with instructional spaces designed to meet the functional intent. There would be appropriate (without columns) HNRH gymnasium and cafeteria space not found in the smaller schools. There would also be

potential with an increased school enrolment for ancillary educational and support services of a higher level than currently provided. This would include less travel time where circuit services are needed.

While a new school could not necessarily be in close proximity to the existing schools, it could continue to be within the northern area of East Hants.

The CCRSB continues to see this as its fifth highest priority in 2016.

Pictou East P-8 School

Addition and Alteration

Priority #1

Project Description

The Chignecto-Central Regional School Board completed a school review process in March 2014 following the NS Education Act. The preferred option from the community was closing East Pictou Middle School (EPMS) and combining with Frank H. MacDonald Elementary School (FHM) at that location. There are five years from that time for the school to close, with September 2018 being the appropriate time, for the combined school to begin operation. *The scope of work and timing presents some urgency with this project.*

To make this option viable and to provide needed components of a middle school Public School Program, building additions and renovations to the “open classroom” concept are required at the FHM site. This school due to its age also requires infrastructure and utility services to extend its life span by 15 to 20 years.

East Pictou Middle School is a Grade 7-8 facility located in Sutherland’s River, Nova Scotia. The student enrolment from the 2015 Long Range Outlook (LRO) is 102 students of which 100% are transported by bus. There was an enrolment decrease in September 2014 when Grade 9 was moved to North Nova Education Centre. It was originally constructed in 1952 with additions in 1962 and 1966.

EPMS has experienced and will continue to experience enrolment decline. The facility has a size of 100,029 square feet. The building has numerous outstanding deferred maintenance items.

Frank H. MacDonald (FHM) is a Primary to Grade 6 elementary school located in Sutherland’s River next to East Pictou Middle School. The student enrolment from the LRO is 309 students of which 100% are transported by bus. It is also considered a rural school and was originally constructed in 1975.

FHM has experienced and will likely continue to experience enrolment decline. The facility with 58,940 square feet has a current capacity utilization from the LRO of 59%. The building has outstanding deferred maintenance items and is listed as functional from the 2015 LRO.

Dr. W.A. MacLeod Consolidated School (WAM) located in nearby Riverton, Nova Scotia is an identical school to FHM. WAM is currently completing an Addition and Alterations Project for adding Grades 7 and 8 to the school. As part of that work, an in-depth assessment of the building and grounds was conducted. In doing so, there are numerous aspects to the WAM building’s systems and infrastructure that had significantly surpassed their normal end of life and needed replacement or upgrading to satisfactorily extend the building facility’s operation a further 20 years.

The degrees of these were significantly greater than during the initial CCRSB review of the building conditions for the 2014 capital submission. Some of these areas include mechanical systems, information technology support, heating systems, potable water and grounds areas. Recognizing this, it would be appropriate to include the WAM experience when developing a Pictou P-8 project cost.

There would be operational efficiencies and cost avoidance with the consolidation of EPMS and FHM. There would be a net reduction of 89,000 square feet of school capacity. A technical lab, family studies, active healthy living, learning center and ground floor office areas would need to be added.

This is the highest ranked 2016 capital submission of a combined New School and Additions/Alteration list.

Shubenacadie District Elementary School

Addition and Alteration

Priority #7

Project Description

Shubenacadie District Elementary School (SDE) requires upgrading and refurbishment of its building systems and spaces. The school is 40,352 square feet in size.

SDE provides educational programming to close to 151 students in Grades Primary–5 according to the 2015 Long Range Outlook (LRO). The school utilization is listed as 34%. By 2019 the enrolment is projected to be 156 students.

The school began operation in 1963 and has continued providing services to its students and their communities in a commendable manner. This also has an effect on the physical structures and supporting systems over the same period of time. There has not been a “mid-life” upgrade nor refit at the school, most repairs or upgrades have been reactive in nature responding to urgent situations such as boiler or roofing failures. Many of the facility components are original. Not unexpectedly, there is a large amount of deferred maintenance or replacement needed, for example with the PA system.

The overall building is classified as functional within the LRO. This indicates the building is older and approaching its end of useful life “as is”. Its systems are working, though an increased level of maintenance is required for facility operation. Examples or repairs needed include roofing and windows replacements, boiler replacement and exterior cladding/trim replacement.

This is the seventh highest ranked submission of a combined 2016 CCRSB New School and Additions and Alteration List.

Springhill Elementary School

New School

Priority #2

Project Description

Previously, the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board indicated its plans to close West End Memorial (WEM) and Junction Road (JRE) Elementary Schools. They would be consolidated into a new Primary to Grade Six elementary school in the Springhill area. Primary reasons for closing the schools is the inability to provide a complete Public School Program at the WEM and there is no grounds space for expansion at JRE.

This is due to the absence of a gymnasium at WEM, poor school configuration and classroom layouts. WEM was built in 1959 and JRE was built in 1975. These facilities have not had systems nor infrastructure upgrades during their operating period, with WEM in particular need of significant major maintenance. The JRE site is small without a sports field and does not readily lend itself to an expansion.

WEM is reaching its end of operating life with its overall building condition listed as functional in the 2015 Long Range Outlook (LRO). The building systems are working and finishes are maintained though an increased level of maintenance and repairs are required to continue operation. Roof, windows, cladding, brick repointing, public address and heating system are a number of major items needing replacement. JRE overall building condition from the LRO is satisfactory. Both sites would benefit from additional IT access points including wiring.

WEM from the LRO has an enrolment of 133 expected to decline to 111 in five years. JRE enrolment is expected to decline from 165 to 161 students over the same period. There are potential efficiency gains and cost benefits by combining the two schools.

Consolidating the two schools into a new facility provides benefits on the provision of the Public School Program with instructional spaces designed to meet the functional intent. There would be appropriate gymnasium and cafeteria space not available in current facilities. There would also be potential with an increased enrolment for ancillary educational and support services of a higher level than currently provided.

While a new school could not necessarily be in close proximity to the existing schools, it should continue to be within the community of Springhill. This is the second highest ranked submission of a combined 2016 CCRSB New School and Additions and Alteration list.

Tatamagouche P-12 Site

New Support Building

Amendment, Current School Project

Project Description

There is a new Primary to Grade Twelve school being built replacing Tatamagouche Elementary and North Colchester High Schools. The site of the new facility is planned to be on the current high school grounds.

On the site presently is a CCRSB bus garage which services vehicles predominately serving bussing for these schools. It provides overnight parking and saves on “deadhead” miles and often travel time to Truro for major servicing. The building itself is understood to be the same age as the school, built in 1950. It has exceeded its normal life and does not provide the proper facility in which to service the newer busses.

With a new garage, service capacity in the North Shore area could be expanded. A plan would include permanently basing a mechanic at the garage. Busses transporting students in other areas along North Shore could be based and be serviced through an improved facility.

When the new school is being built it would be an appropriate time to replace the bus garage. There would likely be synergies in construction costs, design time, construction period, tendering and buildings’ demolitions. The size of the garage is relatively small, two service bays and small ancillary rooms such as parts stores.

A proposed garage site has been outlined in the new school site plan. This would allow the potential for improved grounds space for school use, for example an additional playground area. As well for the community, aesthetically there would not be the old garage building in the same view plane as the new school.

The CCRSB has previously provided a written request in 2015 to the DEECD of amending the project plan for the new P-12 school to include a replacement of the bus garage.

Trenton P-8 School

New School

Priority #4

Project Description

With the 2014 CCRSB Capital Construction Submission, the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board proposed to close Trenton Elementary School (TES) and Trenton Middle School (TMS). Both of the facilities have experienced deferred maintenance and they have approached or will soon have exceeded their end of useful life. The plan is to consolidate the two schools into a new Primary to Grade Eight facility in the Trenton area.

Trenton Elementary School was constructed in 1966 at 25,632 square feet from the 2015 Long Range Outlook (LRO) has an enrolment of 141 students. Trenton Middle School was originally constructed in 1925 with additions in 1953, 1967 and 1985. It has an enrolment of 148 students projected to decline in five years by a further 4.7%.

TES from the LRO as an overall building condition listed as functional which is often typical of older buildings and approaching their end of useful life. TMS is rated as satisfactory. There has not been a 25 year or “mid-life” systems upgrade to either facility. As examples both sites have an older, manual public address system and could benefit from additional wired IT access points.

TMS building systems are working and finishes are maintained though an increased level of maintenance and repairs are required to continue operation. Heating pipes, boilers, gym floor, roof sections need replacement. With TES the building systems require some repairs and maintenance to its systems. Windows and sections of the roof need replacement. Both sites have deficient sports field areas. The smaller TES has a capacity utilization of 56% while the larger TMS has a capacity utilization of only 28%. This indicates potential efficiency gains and cost benefits by combining the two schools.

Consolidating the two schools also provides benefits on the provision of the Public School Program with instructional spaces designed to meet the functional intent according to current guidelines. There would be appropriate increased gymnasium and cafeteria space. There would also be potential with an increased school enrolment for ancillary educational and support services of a higher level than currently provided. While a new school could not necessarily be in close proximity to the existing schools, it would continue to be within the community of Trenton.

With the CCRSB Capital Construction Submission 2014 a new Trenton P-8 school was the fourth ranked priority and continues this in the 2016 submission.

Uniacke District School

Addition and Alteration

Priority #8

Project Description

Uniacke District School within the 2016 CCRSB Capital Construction Submission requires upgrading and refurbishment of its building systems and spaces. The building is 63,317 square feet size and is physically unique in its various floors vertical orientation.

Based on the 2015 Long Range Outlook (LRO) it provides educational programming to students in Grades Primary–9 with graduating students feeding into Avon View High School. According to the LRO there are 26 total classrooms with a 59% utilization.

In 2014 there were 413 students. The 2019 enrolment projection indicates this will increase to 428 students.

The school began operation in 1958 which has had an effect on the physical structures and supporting systems over the subsequent period of time. There has not been a “mid-life” upgrade or refit at the school, most repairs or upgrades have been reactive in nature responding to urgent situations such as boiler or roofing failures. Many of the facility components are original and not unexpectedly, there is a large amount of deferred maintenance.

The overall building is classified as functional within the LRO. This indicates the building is older and approaching its end of useful life “as is”. Its systems are working, though an increased level of maintenance is required for facility operation. Examples are boiler needs replacement, washrooms needing improvements, elevator upgrades, window replacements, boiler has reached end of life and exterior cladding and brickwork repairs. The building also has an older, manual public address system and could benefit from additional wired IT access points

The 2016 CCRSB Capital Construction Submission lists this as the eighth highest ranked priority.

Skilled Trades Centre

North Nova Education Centre - Grades 9-12

Priority #1

Project Description

North Nova Education (NNEC) is situated in New Glasgow, N.S. The school is a relatively new building being opened in 2003. This school has a grade configuration of Grade 9-12.

The 2014 NNEC enrolment was 1015 with a five year projection of 956. The utilization from the 2015 Long Range Outlook is indicated as 74%. The building would require capital renovations for a skilled trades program.

A Skilled Trades Center would be appropriate in NNEC with the size of the student population and the school's culture. The NNEC staff and administration have continuously expressed commitment to make this program a success at this location. There is presently a staff member with a journeyman's trade certification assigned to the school.

Skilled trades located at this site would assist with the geographic distribution of this program throughout the CCRSB.

Skilled Trades Centre

Cobequid Educational Centre

Priority #2

Project Description

Cobequid Educational Centre (CEC) is located in Truro, Nova Scotia. The school was built in 1969 and has a grade configuration of Grade 10–12. Concurrently the facility has been submitted as an Addition and Alteration capital project by the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board.

The 2014 CEC enrolment from the 2015 Long Range Outlook (LRO) was 1354 with a five year projection of 1345. The utilization from the LRO is indicated as 62%. The building would require capital renovations for a skilled trades program.

A Skilled Trades Center would be appropriate in CEC with the size of the student population and the school's culture. The CEC staff and administration have continuously expressed commitment to make this program a success at this location.

Skilled trades located at this site would assist with the geographic distribution of this program throughout the CCRSB.

Skilled Trades Centre

Amherst Regional High School

Priority #3

Project Description

Amherst Regional High School (ARHS) is situated in Amherst, Nova Scotia. The school is a relatively new building being opened in 2000 and is operated under a P3 arrangement. This school has a grade configuration of Grade 9-12.

The 2014 ARHS enrolment was 926 with a five year projection of 915. The utilization from the 2015 Long Range Outlook is indicated as 56%. The building would require capital renovations for a skilled trades program.

A Skilled Trades Center would be appropriate in ARHS with the size of the student population and the school's culture. The ARHS staff and administration have continuously expressed commitment to make this program a success at this location. There is presently a staff member with a journeyman's trade certification assigned to the school.

Skilled trades located at this site would assist with the geographic distribution of this program throughout the CCRSB.

APPENDIX D

2014 CCRSB Capital Construction List*

1. Pictou East P-8 – A & A
2. Springhill Elementary - New School
3. Cobequid Consolidated Elementary – A & A
4. Trenton P-8 - New School
5. Hants North P-12 - New School
6. Cobequid Educational Centre – A & A
7. Shubenacadie District Elementary - A & A
8. Uniacke District - A & A
9. Hants East Rural High - A & A

*Based on the criteria and ranking used with the 2014 Capital Construction Submission.