

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

LONG TERM FACILITY PLAN

FAQ

1. Why did the school district produce the Long Term Facility Plan?

The Ministry of Education's capital plan instructions require the Board of Education to develop and maintain a comprehensive school district facilities plan: "Under the planning and procurement process, Boards of education must develop long-range facility plans that support capital projects being submitted to the Ministry for capital investment considerations. These facility plans must identify capital requirements for school expansion and consolidation; school replacement or upgrades based on building condition, seismic vulnerability and ongoing maintenance/life cycle costs; as well as new government initiatives."

This work is usually completed for school districts by an independent management consulting firm. Cascade Facilities Management Consultants Ltd. prepared the School District No. 57 report.

2. What are the school district's objectives in producing the Long Term Facility Plan?

The school district objectives are listed in the introduction to the report. Specifically:

- to fulfill requirements of the Ministry of Education; to be utilized as a guide in facilities decisions over the long term;
- to ensure cost-effective operations of existing facilities and capital investments for renovation/upgrades, replacement and addition;
- to provide accurate information on the nominal and operating capacity of schools;
- to provide a projected enrolment for each school over a 10 years, independent of the Ministry's projections;
- to develop options to meet the prescribed capacity utilization threshold for the district; and
- to develop a strategy for the retention and disposal of surplus properties.

3. Is this report the strategic plan for the district?

Strategic planning is not related to the Long Term Facility Plan.

4. Is the Long Term Facility Plan the Board of Education's plan for sustaining the district?

The Long Term Facility Plan (LTFP) was prepared by an independent consultant in response to the Ministry of Education's capital plan instructions. The LTFP will be one of a series of reference documents utilized by the Board of Education in their decision-making on many issues.

5. Is releasing this document a way for the Board of Education to avoid meeting with community on issues of school amalgamation or school closure?

No, this report is not connected directly to a process of school amalgamation or school closure. The Board of Education always strives to be transparent in their oversight of our district. The public presentation of the consultant's report is reflective of their transparent approach to governance.

6. I have heard the Board of Education is talking about closing schools and this report is proof of this rumour.

The Board of Education has not had any discussions about school closures since 2010.