



Montague Intermediate School Study 2026

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Map of School Zone for Montague Intermediate School 3

Introduction 4

The School (Building History, Needs and Concerns, Historical Enrollment) 5

Residential and Commercial Development 7

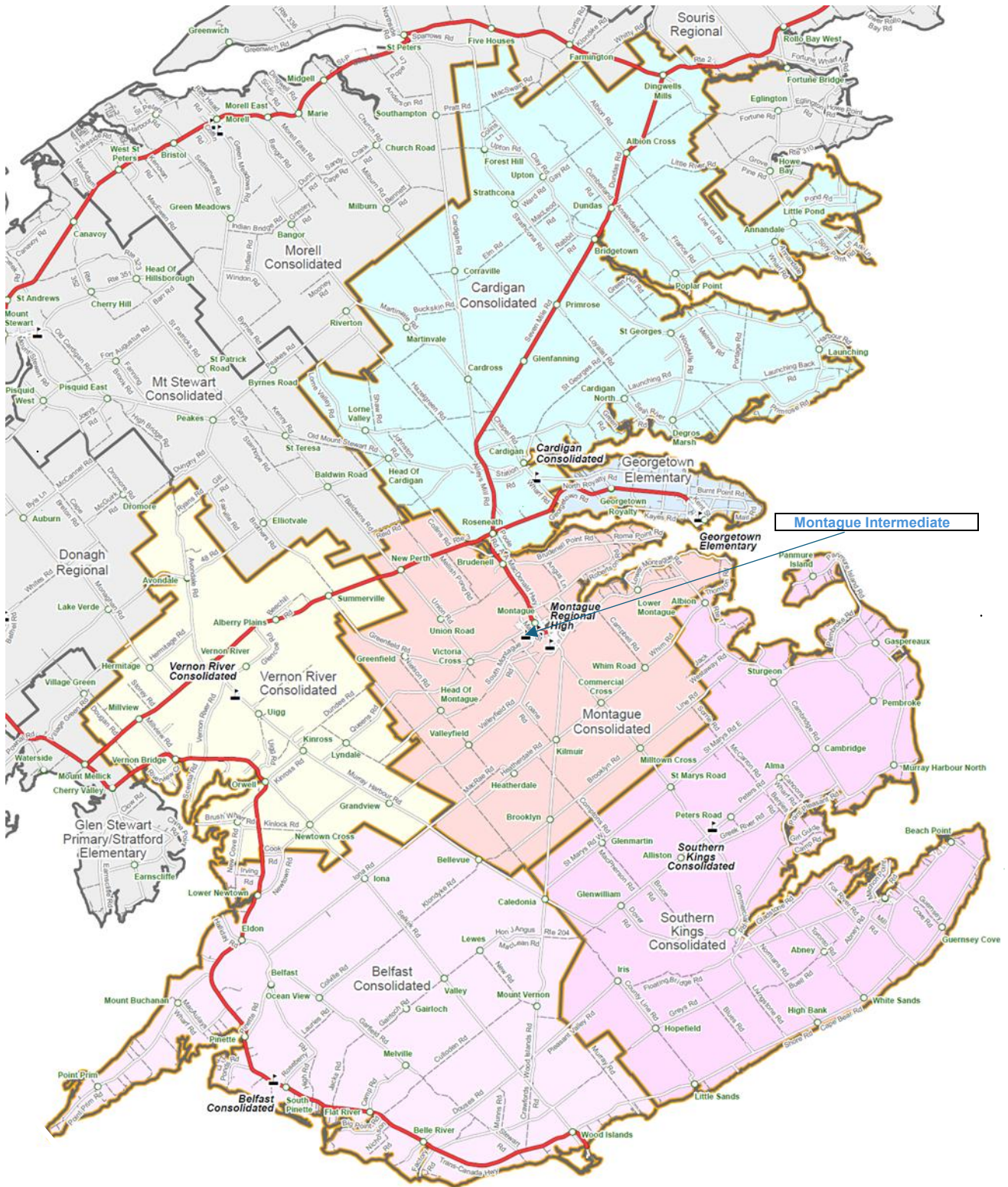
Options 9

Recommendations 12

Appendix A 13

References 22

MONTAGUE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL ZONES(English and French Immersion)



INTRODUCTION

In accordance with Public Schools Branch Policy GP 14, School Review, an initial review of all schools in the Montague Family of Schools was undertaken for the purpose of reviewing current and projected enrolments as well as utilization of existing spaces within each school. Preliminary findings indicated all schools within the Montague Family are experiencing growth and should maintain status quo with continued monitoring with the exception of Montague Intermediate, with a recommendation that “a more in-depth study of the Montague Intermediate School be done and options for change be explored.”

Efforts were also made to identify population growth that will occur due to residential and commercial developments within the municipality of Three Rivers. Three Rivers is experiencing significant growth as a result of local civic encouragement as well as provincial and federal housing initiatives. The growth in numbers of single-family dwellings, duplexes, town houses and apartment units either recently completed, under construction or in the planning process will cause substantial enrolment increases across the Montague Family of Schools.

Given that Montague Intermediate is close to capacity and has significant space and programming needs, an expected increase in student enrolment will result in the need for additional classroom space. To further investigate this developing challenge and provide one or more options to address this need, the PSB by formal motion on December 17, 2024 authorized a School Study for Montague Intermediate School whereby “a more in-depth study of the Montague Intermediate School be done and options for change be explored.”

THE SCHOOL

Building History

Montague Intermediate is located at 221 Kennedy Street in Montague. It is flanked by Rink Street and Fraser Street. The original building was constructed in 1961. In 1999 an addition/renovation occurred to both upper and lower levels and included a multipurpose room, technology and arts space, a new gym and associated change rooms, gym storage space and various utility spaces. In September of 2013, a 6,100 square-foot addition was opened and included a new band room, new space for woodworking and metals as well as an instructor's office, a small computer lab and an expansion of the multi-purpose room. The new band room included four practice rooms, a music instructor's office and a sound studio. The area of the school is 54,132 square feet. The functional capacity of the school is 378, that is the number of students that can fit within the school.



Current School Needs/Concerns

Based on conversations with School Administration and written input from school staff, several needs/concerns have been identified:

1. Grade 9 students from the feeder schools of Georgetown and Southern Kings attend Montague Intermediate for only 1 year. This transition for only one year makes it difficult to integrate and build connections and is very challenging for students with exceptional needs.
2. Grades 7-9 students from Vernon River and Belfast and Grades 7-8 students from Georgetown and Southern Kings attend Montague Intermediate for equity programming giving them access to courses in Foods, Woods and Tech. This adds 180 students to Montague Intermediate spread over several days within the schedule.
3. As more and more students are formerly diagnosed with Learning Disabilities, the legal requirements to provide appropriate supports requiring space for assistive technology, quiet space to work, write test etc., increase. Additionally, students with physical, medical and behavioural needs also require individual space. Currently, there is very limited to no physical space for this to happen at Montague Intermediate.
4. No meeting space. Administrators often need to leave offices to accommodate outside agency meetings. Classrooms are used if available however, students are displaced when meetings go beyond expected time.
5. No seating in the gymnasium. This doesn't work for spectators at sporting events or for grade level/full school assemblies. Often chairs must be taken from classrooms to the gym.
6. No lunchroom. While grades 8-9 students are free to leave the school at lunch time, grade 7 students must stay on school grounds. Students who eat lunch at the school either eat in the library or in a computer lab which has been partially converted to accommodate 20-30 students.
7. Lockers are within classrooms. This is very challenging when students arrive on a late bus and must disrupt subject teachers' lessons to access their locker. The width of the hallways does not allow the lockers to be removed from the classrooms.

Historical Enrollment and Projections

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
MI	341	311	294	284	310	276	283	275	286	263	269	268	270	278	281	300	300	309	324	345	341

Since the last addition in 2013, Montague Intermediate has shown a very consistent enrollment. However, with the current development in the Three Rivers municipality and Barragar projections, student enrollment is expected to reach 340+ within the next five years. While Montague Intermediate is determined to have a functional capacity of 378 students (the number of students the building can hold), this capacity number does not consider operational capacity with is the capacity needed to operate the school building, provide for all curricular needs and specialized programming needs for students. Although the school has had similar enrollment in 2010, the needs of students requiring individual spaces and curricular needs have increased. Therefore, an increase in school enrollment of 50-60 students will create capacity challenges for Montague Intermediate.

RESIDENTIAL and COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Three Rivers Municipality Current and Future Population

Three Rivers was incorporated in September of 2018 amalgamating the 7 municipalities of Georgetown, Montague, Brudenell, Cardigan, Lorne Valley, Lower Montague and Valleyfield. According to Statistics Canada, Three Rivers had the third highest population growth across Prince Edward Island when comparing census data from 2016 (7169) and census data from 2021 (7883), a 10% increase in population, some of which may be accounted for by the amalgamation of the 7 municipalities (Stats Can, 2021). The PEI Population Report of 2025 cited Three Rivers population to be 9322 in 2025, an increase of 18% (PEI Statistics Bureau, 2025). Three Rivers Housing Needs Assessment Report from June of 2025 projects the Town of Three Rivers to reach a population of 12,413 by 2041, an increase of 33% from 2025 (Stantec Consulting Ltd., 2025). This prediction is based on the trajectory of population growth and the number of dwelling developments in the Three Rivers area. This is consistent with the Three Rivers Planning and Development department projections for current and projected residential developments who also indicate the development of two new daycare facilities. In March 2024, the federal government announced funding for the Town of Three Rivers through the Housing Accelerator Fund to significantly increase housing supply. The initiative aims to spur the construction of 400 homes in the area over the next decade, 116 of which were funded starting in 2024 (CBC, 2024). In July of 2025, the province announced the acquisition of land in the Town of Three Rivers just off the AA MacDonald Highway, Rte. 4 and the corner of the Brudenell Point Road, Rte. 319 for the “development of a new Community Health Centre and the future site of a new Kings County Memorial Hospital,” (Government of PEI, 2025). As well, in July of 2026, a federal, provincial and municipal commitment was announced for funding of \$5.9 million for infrastructure development to support future population growth (Government of PEI, 2026). The Planning and Development department of Three Rivers indicated that applications for 2026 to date are up by 40% over the 2025 calendar year indicative of another strong year for growth. All of these current and future developments will potentially attract people to the Town of Three Rivers for work, housing, health care and child care.

Three Rivers Residential and Commercial Development

Location	Development	Status
Queen's Road	24 unit Apartment building	Completed 18-2BDR and 6-1BDR
Robertson Road, Brudenell	2 storey – 40 unit (2 and 3 BRM units)	Starting 2026 but expected completion date unknown
Queen's Road, Rte 21	2 Residential Lot Subdivision	
Alleys Mill Road, Rte. 4	12 unit Residential (2 BRM)	8 finished, starting last 4
Commercial Cross Rd.	20 Residential Lot Subdivision	No development yet
Grace Lane	17 Residential Lot Subdivision	Limited development
School St., Montague	22 unit Apartment building	Completed 16-2BDR and 6-1BDR

Queen's Road	3 storey – 24 unit (seniors)	
Albion, Rte. 17	13 Residential Lot Subdivision	Some starts
Robertson Road, Brudenell	23 Residential Lot Subdivision	Slow starts, new road being built
Central St., Montague	3 storey – 18 unit low income family units	Already started
Cardigan	11 Residential Lot Subdivision	Ready to start in Spring
Primrose Road	4 unit single family dwelling	Expected start in Spring
Seal River Road	4 unit single family dwelling	Expected start in Spring
Queen's Road, Rte. 21	Daycare – 100+ spaces	Almost complete
Main St., Montague	Day Care 20-25 spaces (bilingual)	Almost complete
Georgetown	Cleantech Learning and Innovation Center	Not completed yet. Only one tenant to date.
AA MacDonald Road (84.7 acres)	Community Health Centre and new Kings County Memorial Hospital	No known start date

OPTIONS

Based upon the initial review of Montague Intermediate, discussions with school administration, input from school staff, system administrators and input received from a recent call for public comments and suggestions (Appendix A), the possible solutions outlined below have been identified for consideration. Given the lack of adequate and appropriate space available in Montague Intermediate, there is a need to provide additional classrooms and/or space for student support if students are to receive quality instruction and participate in programs that can be delivered effectively and efficiently to both individuals and groups. In determining the preferred recommendations for the Review, priority emphasis was given to a solution which would address the space deficiencies at Montague Intermediate. Acknowledging the lack of existing space within the school, the options are based on what is physically possible within the school and school property as well as possibilities within feeder schools to deliver programming. Options are suggested based on what could possibly work in the short term but with a lens on what is needed in the long term.

Therefore, possible solutions to the capacity issue at Montague Intermediate as suggested through public input and discussions with school and system personnel are:

Option 1:

Grade 9 students from Georgetown and Southern Kings remain in their schools for curricular programming

Montague Intermediate typically receives between 25-38 grade 9 students from Georgetown and Southern Kings yearly. This will remain consistent over the next 5 years.

Grade 9	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
Georgetown	11	8	9	6	11
Southern Kings	27	26	16	22	21

Southern Kings has a functional capacity of 400 and a current enrollment of 210 and Georgetown has a functional capacity of 174 and a current enrollment of 78. While both schools utilize their space to support the needs of students, they are both operating well below capacity and could manage having grade 9 students remain at their schools. This would decrease Montague Intermediate by one English homeroom at the grade 9 level yearly but would require additional staffing for both Georgetown and Southern Kings.

Option 2:

Southern Kings and Georgetown to have their students begin attending Montague Intermediate in grade 7 not grade 9 to allow for transition to an intermediate setting with their peers

Having students attend Montague Intermediate for only their grade 9 year makes it extremely difficult for students to integrate with their peers who have been together since grade 7. This would add an additional 51-64 students to Montague Intermediate and although would not be ideal, administration feels this would be doable in the short term to allow for a more seamless grade 7-9 experience for all feeder schools. This would have a significant impact on space and would require that Montague Intermediate increase by two homerooms and would require that they give up their Science Lab, their Tech Lab and

potentially their Lunch room. This would also have a significant impact on both Georgetown Elementary and Southern Kings Consolidated which would be reduced in student enrollment and therefore staffing. Georgetown would be reduced to approximately 60 students and Southern Kings reduced to approximately 170.

Grades 7-8	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
Georgetown	17	15	17	17	15
Southern Kings	47	36	40	43	42

Option 3:

Equity programming for Vernon River and Belfast, grades 7-9, be provided at Montague Regional High School

This would reduce the impact of between 101-116 students to Montague Intermediate weekly and could be accommodated by Montague Regional if availability of instructors for shop courses and space are not factors.

Grades 7-9	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
Vernon River	55	57	59	66	63
Belfast	46	48	53	50	49

Option 4:

All grade 9 students from Georgetown, Montague Intermediate, Southern Kings, Belfast and Vernon River attend Montague Regional High School

Based on historical and projected enrollment, this would be 144-167 grade 9 students attending Montague Regional. This would eliminate the need for students from Georgetown and Southern Kings to transition to grade 9 at Montague Intermediate and then transition one year later to grade 10 at Montague Regional High. While students from Vernon River and Belfast offer programming for grade 9 students, the option of moving grade 9 to Montague Regional High School would eliminate the need for grade 9 equity programming at Montague Intermediate for all feeder schools.

Grade 9	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
Feeder Schools	167	149	159	147	144

	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
Montague Regional as is	464	469	475	455	450
Montague Regional with gr. 9s	631 (464+167)	618 (469+149)	634 (475+159)	602 (455+147)	594 (450+144)

This would put Montague Regional at or above their functional capacity of 600 and given the curricular and diverse learning needs of students, Montague Intermediate would not have the operational capacity to take all grade 9 students.

However, given the capacity for adding on to Montague Regional, a capital project request could be put forward for the addition of classrooms, an additional gymnasium, shop and foods spaces etc. A capital request of this size would not be realized quickly, possibly taking 10 years or more unless it was deemed an urgent request.

Option 5:**Grade 9 students from Georgetown, Southern Kings, Belfast and Vernon River attend Montague Regional**

If Montague Intermediate remained as is with Cardigan included, and grade 9s from Georgetown, Vernon River, Southern Kings and Belfast attended Montague Regional, it would be 60-74 additional students yearly for Montague Regional. This would only reduce Montague Intermediate by 16-28 students yearly but would help with delivery of equity programming.

	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
Montague Regional as is	464	469	475	455	450
Montague Regional with gr. 9s	536(464+72)	537(469+68)	538 (475+63)	515(455+60)	524(450+74)

This would not put Montague Regional at functional capacity but would present challenges with operational capacity including spaces for individual student needs, space to deliver shop and foods courses and classroom space.

Again, given the capacity for adding on to Montague Regional, a capital request could be put forward for the addition of classrooms, shop and foods spaces etc.

Option 6:**Build a shop and foods area at either Vernon River or Southern Kings that would provide equity programming for Belfast, Vernon River and Southern Kings**

This could be a capital project request and would alleviate 168- 178 grades 7-9 students attending Montague Intermediate for equity programming each week. However, a capital request for an addition of this magnitude would likely not be realized for 10 or more years unless deemed urgent.

Grades 7-9	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
Vernon River	55	57	59	66	63
Belfast	46	48	53	50	49
Southern Kings	75	63	60	59	66

Option 7:**Construction of additional classrooms and student support spaces at Montague Intermediate**

The addition of **temporary classrooms** would be a viable option, at least in the short term, to provide much needed space. This could be accommodated by using space where the basketball court is currently located but would require closure of the through traffic road in front of the school. As PSB owns the land where the through traffic road is located, application could be made to the Department of Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy to have the usage of this road changed. Based on projections and conversation with administration, such an addition would not be necessary for at least a couple of years. One or possibly two temporary classrooms could be available in the summer of 2027.

The addition of **permanent classrooms** could also be realized in the same space if the through traffic road was closed. A capital project to increase classroom and individual/small group spaces would be feasible but would not be realized in the near future.

Option 8:

Construct a combined elementary and intermediate school for the Town of Three Rivers which would support population growth and student needs at the elementary and intermediate level

Given that the province has purchased a considerable parcel of land off the AA MacDonald Highway, for the building of a new hospital and Community Health Center and that there has already been an announcement for a new school in Georgetown, it would make sense to take advantage of the infrastructure that will be needed for the hospital and Community Health Center. Combining two schools into one would serve the needs of the Georgetown Community as well as the Town of Three Rivers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended that the Public Schools Branch monitor enrollment at Montague Intermediate and that the addition of temporary classrooms be utilized if/when needed.
2. It is recommended that the Public Schools Branch approve a capital project for the building of a shop and foods area for either Southern Kings or Vernon River to be used for equity programming for Vernon River, Belfast and Southern Kings.
3. It is recommended that the Public Schools Branch request the Government of PEI approve a new Elementary/Intermediate School, grades K-9, for the Town of Three Rivers which will accommodate population growth and student need.

Appendix A: Montague Intermediate School Study Survey Responses, June 2025

Questions 1

Should the school zone be examined to reduce the number of students entering Montague Intermediate?

- Absolutely not!!! I think this would be extremely unfair to the children being rezoned to a new high school and have to leave their friends that they attended elementary school with behind. When people purchase their homes they are looking at what school zone they are in, for the school board to just change that to fit their own needs is extremely upsetting for those families affected.
- I don't think that is possible. If anything the school should not be in the current location it is in. The students literally play in the streets.
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes, I believe examining the school zone is a reasonable step to explore. Balancing enrollment across surrounding schools could help reduce pressure on Montague Intermediate and ensure a more sustainable student-to-space ratio.
- Yes, however I understand if a parent wants a child to be in Montague schools they put the child in French so it doesn't matter where they are zoned. Have French only taught at all or more schools.
- I feel like Montague is the central location for all the feeder schools attending right now so no.
- I personally know a bunch of Southern Kings students that made up excuses to transfer to Montague. They are not in the zone, and should have stayed in their own school. No wonder the numbers are too high.
- The school rezoning last time caused a lot of uproar, I would probably make that a last resort.
- No, zones are in place and already established.
- Yes
- I don't think it should be reduced providing it is not an elementary school. If anything, the zone should be expanded. At these grade levels, there are many benefits for the children to have a larger school.
- I believe it would be more appropriate to look at the capacity of existing feeder schools and give consideration to those schools (Cardigan, Georgetown, Belfast etc.) returning to k-gr.9 schools. I believe they previously may have been k-gr 9. These schools in most areas would also have better capacity and land to expand to accommodate the additional grades if required.
- I do not think the school zoning should be changed.
- I would like to suggest retaining more grades at Cardigan Consolidated. I would also suggest moving grade 9 from Montague Intermediate to Montague High School.
- Rezoning as a possible solution.
- I don't believe a study into the school district boundaries would make a significant difference, it seems schools everywhere are having a bit of a crisis in population growth.
- I don't see zoning as a real fix, as then students would likely be traveling further on bus.
- Not necessary

Question 2

Should grade 9 students at Georgetown Elementary and Southern Kings Consolidated attend Montague Intermediate or should other arrangements be considered?

- Do these schools have capacity to keep the children in their elementary school for an additional year? Send the kids to high school in grade 10, keep them in their elementary school from K-9. Also, expanding Cardigan back to at least grade 8 would help keep our kids in their local schools longer while helping with the capacity issues Montague is facing. Cardigan school was grade 1-8 in the past. During the school review in 2016 it was stated Cardigan Consolidated has capacity for 250 and they are far below that target. Even adding grade 7 and 8 back into the school they would still be far below the capacity of 250.
- 100%. You promised a new school for Georgetown, maybe you need to include these things in the tender process for the school. Or scrap that idea all together and amalgamate the Georgetown kids to Cardigan (who can accommodate another 100 kids in the school at least) and put the 10 million towards a new school for the intermediate school. Something needs to be done!
- It is crazy that students go to school for 1 year. The friendships have been made since grade 7 at MIS. The other kids are outsiders when they go to MIS. They could go to the consolidated schools until grade 9 or start them at MIS in grade 7.
- My suggestion would be to try to make room for Georgetown elementary and Southern Kings Consolidated schools to go to grade 9. This way students only transition once when they reach grade 10 at MRHS instead of transitioning schools for grade 9 and grade 10.
- I am a parent of a Kindergarten aged student in Cardigan Consolidated School. My son is the oldest of my 3 children, so I have a vested interest in the future of our school and the future of the Montague Family of Schools. As an active community member in Cardigan, I see the population of young families rebounding in the area. It is an attractive area to raise children, and many of my friends/family members have moved or are trying to move back to Cardigan. I know the CCS enrollment is trending upwards after many years on the decline or stagnate. I attended Cardigan School from Grades 1-8, and was surprised to find out CCS was now K-6 when my child was enrolling. Grades 7,8,9 are very vulnerable ages for children as far as influence, substance and behavior is concerned. I am very grateful that I spent the majority of these years in a smaller feeder school. I would like to see the PSB investigate the possibility of returning grades 7 and 8, possibly grade 9 back to Cardigan School. While I realize the building capacity may be limited, the location and layout of the school and property would allow for additions or mobile classrooms.
- My stepson attends SKC, and my thoughts are that the students at SKC be kept there for their grade 9 year, then attend Montague High School in grade 10.
- Other arrangements should be considered.
- I believe there is plenty of room to accommodate more students at Southern Kings. It is a beautiful property and would benefit the community having an extra grade there.
- The idea of re-evaluating whether Grade 9 students from Georgetown Elementary and Southern Kings Consolidated should attend Montague Intermediate is worth exploring. If other arrangements (e.g. retaining Grade 9 feeder schools or creating a regional Grade 9 hub) could alleviate pressure without compromising programming, they should be considered.
- I think it would be best to send grade 9 student to MRHS to reduce student size at MIS as well for safety issues to reduce traffic around school at drop off and pick up times. It would also save students transitioning for one year to MIS then continuing on to MRHS.
- Yes, it would be easier for those schools to accommodate the existing students 1 more year.

- Maybe these schools could go to grade 9, as could Cardigan Consolidated. Or move Cardigan back to having grade 8 as well and have all grade 9 students from feeder schools enter the high school at grade 9 and bypass intermediate.
- Southern Kings and Georgetown should stay in their own zone until high school.
- As a parent of 3 at SKC I feel the school could accommodate one more grade and hopefully ease the amount of students especially as our population grows.
- Since Montague Intermediate takes in other schools in grade 9 (Cardigan and Georgetown), could these schools accommodate to keep their students until coming to Montague in grade 10, like Belfast and Vernon River does?
- Yes, full agreement to allow those students to finish their schooling at Georgetown Elementary and Southern Kings Consolidated School. As a parent of SKC, I have never understood the move to MIS for grade 9. It seems to add additional stress to students who will then move to the high school in one year. Myself, who attended VRCS thoroughly enjoyed completing school there in grade 9 and moving directly to MRHS.
- I think they should either come at grade 7 or not come at all. Given the capacity issues, it seems as though they shouldn't come to MIS at all. It's too hard for them to get used to a school community in only one year.
- Definitely should attend Montague Intermediate and would recommend even at a younger grade (grade 7) so all children have the opportunity to form strong bonds with each other before they go to the high school.
- This is not applicable to me as I don't have students there, nor am I familiar with those schools. However, I do strongly feel existing schools in the area should be utilized to their full potential.
- If this is a possibility for the students at Georgetown and Southern Kings to remain at their current schools I think the option should be explored. I think that Cardigan school could currently accommodate K-8. WE have one currently used classroom that will be empty next year, a classroom modified to a sensory room which could be modified in size if necessary, an oversized multipurpose classroom which is only occasionally used, and a classroom dedicated to the Chances after school program which could share a space with perhaps the sensory room. This would allow for a dedicated space still for the sensory room and Chances after school program and three full sized empty classrooms.
- I would like to suggest retaining more grades at Cardigan Consolidated. I would also suggest moving grade 9 from Montague Intermediate to Montague High School.
- I suggest bringing some grades back to Cardigan school in order to alleviate the over crowding at MIS.
- I firmly believe students of Cardigan should stay in Cardigan Consolidated school until grade 8, possibly grade 9. This was the practice until 2009-but with the decline in population was reduced to K-6. The school capacity is listed as 220 children but only has 112 enrolled. This would easily reduce MIS student load by 20-30 students. The building is in good shape, with recent net zero upgrades with well kept, vast grounds. The footprint of the property easily allows for mobile classrooms if they are required. (references provided)
- I think most would be receptive to the idea of leaving students in Georgetown and SKC for one more year, where the students would then only have to make one transition between schools, would increase their school sizes, which may make it easier for staffing as well.
- Being that there are too many students for the school, I would suggest that Georgetown, Southern Kings and possibly Cardigan keep their students and bypass the intermediate all together. Each one of these schools would have to make room to keep their students a little longer, but I believe there would be room at each one of these schools to house these grade levels. The only issue would be that they would have to go to Montague Intermediate for equity.

I'm not sure if the number of students in each of these schools would be big enough to make a huge difference in the population of the school. However, it could be something to consider.

- It does not make sense for them to attend MIS for one year. If a new school were built, they could attend for all three years. If not, Georgetown and SKC students should stay at their respective schools for grade 9. This would alleviate the grade 9 student population at MIS.
- Keep grade 9 students in Georgetown and Southern Kings, like Vernon River and Belfast.
- Students from Georgetown and SKC should either attend MIS for grades 7-9 or not at all. It would help build the school community if those students have more time to develop a sense of self here at MIS over three years rather than just one.
- I currently have a daughter in grade 9 at MIS from SKC. I believe that SKC should go to grade 9. I know my daughter would have loved to stay one more year at SKC and just go to the high school in grade 10 and skip MIS altogether. So, I think Southern Kings should go to grade 9.

Question 3

Should other options be explored for the students coming from the feeder schools to Montague Intermediate for foods, shop and tech programs?

- The high school has excellent state of the art carpentry and culinary classes. The high school was built for a much higher enrolment than it currently has. The feeder schools could be bussed to the high school for a class instead of being bussed to the intermediate.
- Yes, it should be considered. Or it should be something to consider in making those programs not part of the curriculum at all. Vernon River is k-9. Where do they go for ITC? Belfast is K-9, where do they go? Georgetown K-8? The plan is not working anymore.
- It is a great idea that they also go to school dances.
- Yes
- Rather than requiring students from feeder schools to transition to Montague Intermediate just to access shop, tech and foods programs, mobile programs or rotating staff between schools might be worth piloting. Virtual or satellite options may also be worth evaluating if feasible.
- As for coming to MIS for home ec, tech, and shop etc. those programs should be offered at the feeder schools. Georgetown is supposed to be getting a new multi-million dollar school so maybe these classes could be housed there to lighten the load at MIS of accommodating visiting students.
- I would be happy to keep my student at Cardigan Consolidated until grade 8 or 9 and bus to these programs when needed weekly.
- Yes, schools should have programming of their own.
- My children aren't yet old enough to be attending for IHT. I believe it's an important program. If it's overloading MIS, perhaps MRHS could accommodate or upgrades to the feeder schools to ensure they are offered the same or similar opportunities.
- Perhaps, what is wrong with how this is handled now?
- I don't think they should come up. There isn't enough class time to fit in a term's worth of work.
- No, I feel like having a larger school allows for further opportunities not only for Montague but also for the feeder schools.
- Part of the allure of MIS is the programs that the school offers that are lacking in other schools. Programs such as Foods and IA. Students from feeder schools are being given the opportunity to attend MIS to participate in courses that are not available at their school. If the plan is to rezone, then the smaller schools should offer (at least some of) the programs that MIS offers. Is the PSB/Province prepared to put additional funding and staffing towards the other schools that would be affected?
- I think consideration should be given to returning some of the feeder schools to K-9 where capacity allows. Those schools could have designated days where they attend MIS for those specialized programs. Or perhaps, as an example, the new Georgetown school could be built to have those capacities and Cardigan students (if return to a K-9 program) could use those facilities in Georgetown a few times a week.
- Could a central location be used for shop/cooking classes for feeder schools? The vacant "school bus depot" would be a great location for Shop and Tech classes. Easily accessible by bus for students in Cardigan, Georgetown and Vernon River.
- Could somewhere like the old bus depot location in Cardigan be retrofitted to create a "workshop" location where students from feeder schools could be bussed to this site for shop and tech programs? Not sure if this would work on the foods side of things, but anything is possible!

- Without a larger school, MIS cannot continue to accommodate students from feeder schools. With the increasing student population and more homeroom classes at MIS, the building is at/beyond capacity and will be busting at the seams with its own students.
- Feeder schools affect the daily schedules of MIS students by tying up our teaching staff on those days. I know our current admin is/was trying to have all feeder schools on one day to help with scheduling for September, but not sure if that's possible. It also strains our chromebook availability when those classes require devices for their tech and shop programs and we are not given extras to accommodate for Vernon River, Georgetown, Belfast or SKC students.

Question 4

Is it appropriate to add temporary classrooms and other teaching/support areas to Montague Intermediate?

- I don't think this would be necessary if you kept the feeder schools in their elementary schools for an additional year or two.
- Not a good idea. Where would you put them? The kids play on the street because there is literally no room anywhere.
- Yes
- No
- Temporary classroom structures can provide short-term relief but should be paired with a long-term facilities plan. These additions should only be used if they do not compromise access to essential shared spaces like the gym, cafeteria and support services.
- I for one don't think temporary classrooms are the answer.
- No
- Yes but not sure where you would put these with the space currently. You'd have to consider safety too if you were in a temp classroom and there was an incident how quickly can help come.
- I feel like temporary classes and supports are effective for short term problems, but wouldn't suffice for the long term.
- If there is no option for expansion, what purpose would temporary classrooms bring to the picture? If feeder schools have space available, why not use that space and keep all students in feeder schools until completion of ninth grade.
- I don't think so. I think it would throw everyone off and be too difficult. It would be hard not having everyone together and I think it would be hard for students to adjust if we had something like mobile classrooms.
- No, there is absolutely no space for this and this school has very poor space for gym, outdoor spaces, etc. This definitely should not be an option.
- I would be comfortable with temporary classrooms as long as the school could also maintain capacity in other areas (gym, cafeteria etc.). I do not feel a temporary classroom should be a "home room" if possible, but could certainly be used for classes.
- No, I do not think we should add temporary classrooms as our way to manage the influx of students when we have other options available with space in other schools.
- The footprint of MIS is nearing its maximum without major infrastructure changes. It has limited grounds and limited bus/parking. I do not know where mobile/temporary classrooms would be added.
- Not a lot of other space for these classrooms in the surrounding area. Would likely add to the congestion and chaos.
- Mobile classrooms could be another option. However, I'm not sure how many you would need and where you would put them. The school has limited land to support more buildings. Its parking lot is small and the lack of parking is causing issues already at drop off and pick up.
- No
- More break-out rooms/spaces are necessary.

Question 5

Provide any other ideas or suggestions to help address the capacity issue

- Expand feeder school's capacity and have them join MRHS in Grade 10.
- Consider a community forum or open house to allow families to explore the impact of various options in more depth. Solicit input directly from students who are most affected by these changes. Partner with the Town of Three Rivers to examine long-term projections and shared infrastructure options.
- I think it would be best to send grade 9 students to MRHS to reduce student size at MIS as well for safety issues to reduce traffic around school at drop off and pick up times. It would also save students transitioning for one year to MIS then continuing on to MRHS.
- Although a good portion of the school is relatively new, the old part which houses most of the classrooms is probably among the oldest schools on PEI. So, if students from feeder schools are going to continue to come to MIS then accommodations need to be made. If there is expected to be growth in population then either a new school or an addition to the current structure or tearing down the old part and adding a larger more modern section with more classrooms. If this gets done then the next step would be for the 7s and 8s from SKC and Georgetown to attend MIS not just come for their year 9. If no changes are going to be made to the school, then 9s from Georgetown and SKC need to stay at those schools.
- Move grade 9 to high school if there is space.
- This is tricky, the only other suggestion other than seeing what the feeder schools can keep on themselves is seeing if MRHS has space for influx, could some grade 9s attend there if there's capacity?
- To reduce the size, move grade 9 to the high school and expand the high school considering its land base. The current school for 7 and 8 could be renovated to accommodate better the future.
- Expand feeder schools
- I don't think a new school should be built. MIS is still in good condition and has a brand-new shop and it would cost too much money. I think dealing with the feeder schools and taking in less students would help.
- Is building a new school with much more space an option? It's a pretty old school with not much room to expand and is lacking a proper outdoor gym space, break space and more. The classrooms are super outdated which also comes with a cost. The extra classrooms and space could accommodate these extra students and future students.
- Given the province's recent efforts to amalgamate the community, I strongly do not feel children should be rezoned out of this newly established community. I would see benefit in considering how best to maximize existing resources within the school zone. I also think consideration to a new intermediate, located elsewhere, i.e., Poole's Corner or the like, should have occurred before a new school in Georgetown was decided; however, I do not actually know what the factors were that necessitated a new school for Georgetown.
- As a parent with a child in Cardigan just starting my thoughts would be either split Cardigan and send half to Souris and half to Montague, possibly send Vernon River to Stratford schools and that may decrease some of the strain. My other thought process is a new school. Bigger. There's a large area of land in Brudenell for sale and that area is up and developing. Which I believe would also help with some of the back log of traffic right in Montague in the mornings. Maybe one of those net 0 schools like Sherwood has.
- Perfect world would be to build a school that is up to date and bigger for all things. More green space. Better equipped gym (benches/bleachers). Up to date classrooms. Cafeteria. But there would need to be a whole new space for said school as there is no way to build on where MIS is

now. So, what about combining Cardigan and Georgetown school and making it a K-9. What about SKC going to grade 9? What about a Three Rivers school being built and Georgetown/Cardigan being put in a building together and making it K-9? Having the smaller schools go K-9 worries me as well, as I know how much the extra curricular (sports, music, arts) has improved my children's world and plus all the new friends they get to meet when going to MIS at grade 7. Either way I believe there are positives and negatives.

- Montague High School was able to accommodate all of Cardigan Consolidated school during the aftermath of hurricane Fiona. I think the possibility of relocating grade 9 from the intermediate to the high school should be explored as an option.
- Could we consider the option of keeping Cardigan students in Cardigan until Grade 8 or 9, which would match up with the other schools to MRHS? This would reduce student population at MIS by 40-50 students. Cardigan is not near the capacity currently, and if it does push the capacity limits, at least there is room for additions or mobile classrooms if needed.
- The best solution to address the capacity issues would be to build a new intermediate school for the Montague area that could accommodate the rising student population. All intermediate students in the Montague family of schools could then attend the one school.
- As a resident of Montague, the town is already experiencing difficulties with traffic flow, especially during peak times. With the expected growth, this will only continue to get worse. If the province is not prepared to build a new Intermediate school then changes will need to be made to accommodate the expected growth. To recap, rezone and expand the smaller schools. Or build a new MIS outside of the town center. Too bad the province didn't have the foresight to keep the land that MRHS was originally built on. That would have been an ideal spot for a new MIS!
- Personally, I think Montague Intermediate would more so benefit from having a new school as there's so many kids and as we get the new apartment complexes building in Montague that means more families which grows the attendance at Montague. MIS doesn't even have a cafeteria for their students. My son either has to come home for lunch or go to Tim's or get the province provided lunches and microwave them. It would be nice for them to have more space as Montague is so cramped. I was blown away by the size for the amount of students compared to schools like Hernewood or Callaghan. I know a new school would be a lot easier said than done but for the size of the school and how it's failing the students in resources it would be more beneficial for the students to have more room.
- As an itinerant teacher in the East and a parent to future Montague family students, I have a few ideas.... Since all the feeder schools currently do something different, and Georgetown is getting a new school anyhow, I think it would make sense to ensure that new school has ample extra space and could accommodate students from Cardigan and perhaps even some re-zoning of Montague areas. I also think MRHS could accommodate (or be expanded to accommodate) grades 9-12, which would free up lots more space at MIS for grades 7-8 from Montague and potentially a late immersion program like those run in town. My children will attend Belfast Consolidated, which I believe to be a fantastic school, but if I wanted them to learn French, the only current option is to attend MCS from Kindergarten. That school is quite packed. If MIS were a 7-8 school and Cardigan, Georgetown and SKC students attended grades 7-9 at their home schools, offering late Immersion for 7-8 in Montague Intermediate would free up space at MCS and allow rural student the opportunity to learn French in they are motivated to do so in grades 7-8. I have worked in all schools in the Montague family for some duration over the past few years and I do see this (or something similar) working out- I am also willing to participate in any think tanks or discussions around this topic.

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