



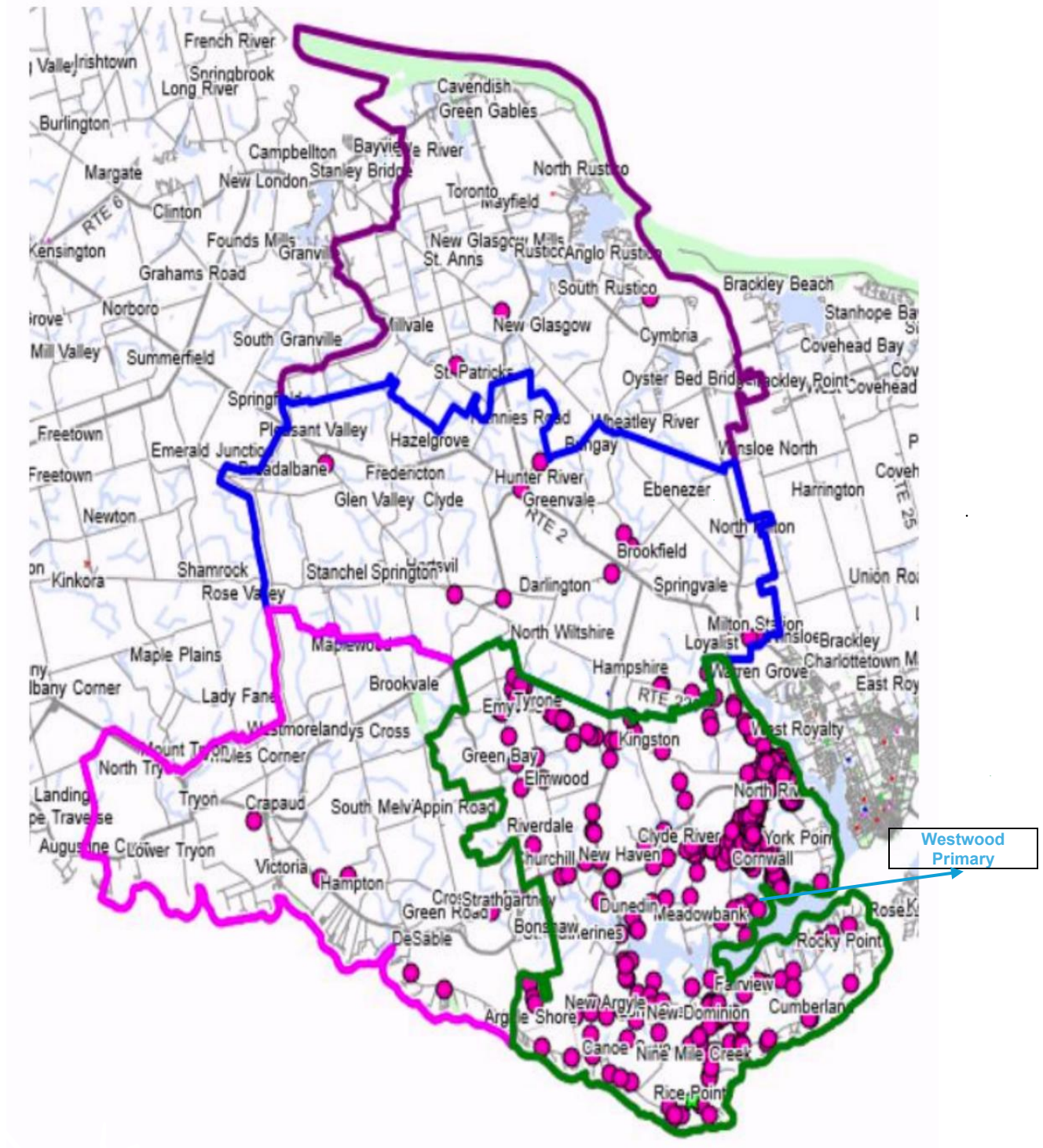
Westwood Primary School Study 2026

Rob MacAdam

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WESTWOOD PRIMARY 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 Bluefield 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 Bluefield Family are experiencing growth and should maintain status quo with continued monitoring with the exception of Westwood Primary, with a recommendation that “a more in-depth study of Westwood Primary School be done and options for change be explored.”

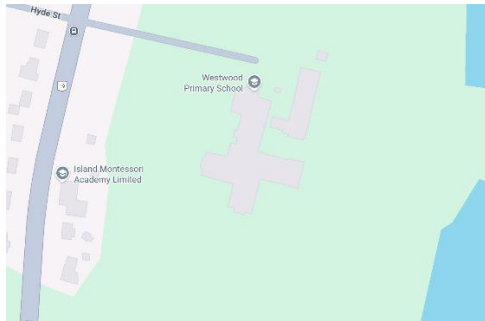
Efforts were also made to identify population growth that will occur due to residential developments within the municipality of Cornwall. Cornwall is experiencing significant growth as a result of local civic encouragement as well as provincial and federal housing initiatives. The growth in numbers of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

Given that Westwood Primary 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 Westwood Primary School whereby “a more in-depth study of the Westwood Primary School be done and options for change be explored.”

THE SCHOOL

Building History

Westwood Primary is located at 80 Meadowbank Road in Cornwall, and was built in 1991. Four mobile classrooms from Eliot River were attached to Westwood Primary during the original construction. It is a dual track school serving children from K-3. In 2009/10 a Kindergarten section was added housing 11 classrooms with small washrooms attached, 2 multi-purpose offices, a Reading Recovery space, teacher planning rooms, meeting rooms and a LAN room. The total area of the school is 63,460 square feet. The functional capacity, the number of students that can be housed in the school, is listed as 623.

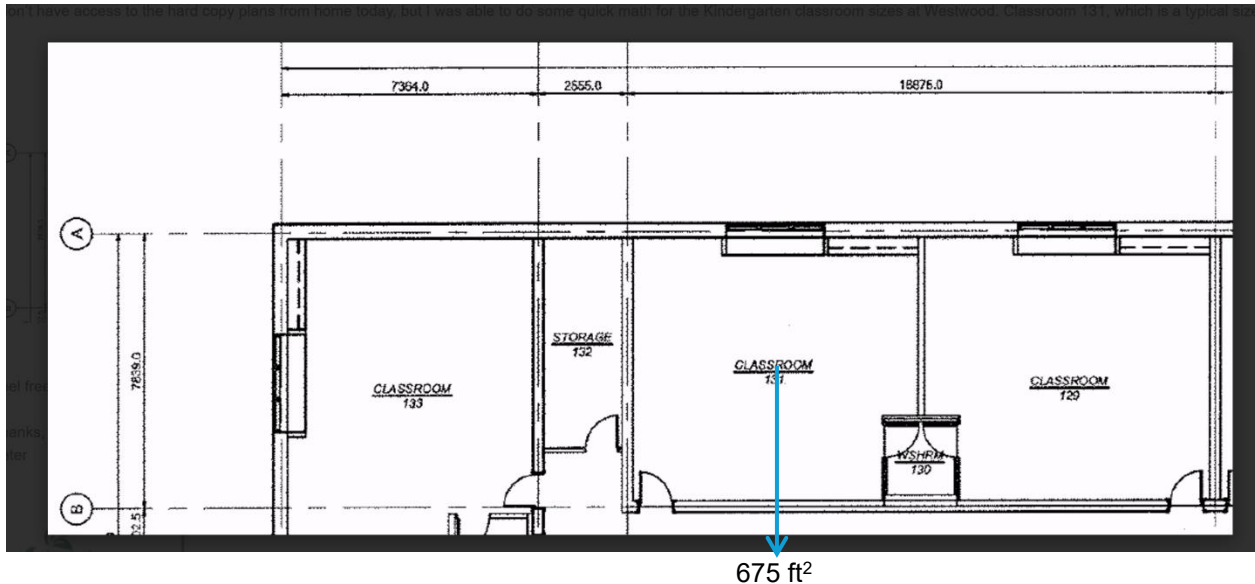


Current School Needs/Concerns

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

1. Additional classroom space required. In 2024-25, a Kindergarten classroom enrollment had to be reduced in order to accommodate the physical needs of a student. This required finding another space for a Kindergarten class. The same issue will happen for 2 students in K for 2025-26 and the student moving to grade one will necessitate a reduction in enrollment in a grade one classroom. This continues in the 2026-27 school year, which will involve 2 Kindergarten classes, 2 grade 1 classes and a grade 2 class. As students enter the school with more diverse learning needs classroom space sometimes needs to be reconfigured and additional classroom space may be required.
2. Support requirements because of diverse learning needs often require additional space. Currently students have to be moved around the school in order to accommodate their needs and given that many needs are medical, a central space dedicated to accommodating these needs is required. Additionally, space is required to meet behavioural and physical support requirements. This includes the ability to use cough assist machines, catheterization, changing feeding tubes, diabetes, prepping food for blending needs etc. Diverse learning needs have increased over the past 10 years at Westwood Primary and presents a growing challenge to capacity.
3. Kindergarten classrooms are very small, averaging approximately 675 ft² while Kindergarten classrooms in most other schools are 800 ft² or greater (See below diagram). With a Kindergarten enrollment cap of 18, there is no room in the K classrooms for the play-based materials provided for the curriculum. These materials have either been sent back to the Department of Education or placed in storage. It is also extremely challenging from a physical perspective to have 18 children in these smaller classrooms. In the past year, a board decision was made in consultation with the Board's Student Services Team to limit the enrollment in Kindergarten classrooms at Westwood Primary to 15. This decision is certainly helping the Kindergarten

classrooms but requires the school to find additional space. For example, for this school year, 2025-26, there were 120 children enrolled in Kindergarten, 84 in the English stream and 36 in French Immersion. Using the cap of 18, 5 classrooms would have been needed for English and 2 for French Immersion. However, when you use the cap of 15, 6 classrooms were needed for English and 3 for French Immersion, an overall increase in 2 additional classrooms. The school has created additional classroom spaces but this will not be sustainable if enrollment increases.



4. No meeting space. Currently meetings are held in the Multi Purpose room but this is not a confidential space and is needed by resource staff, behavioral resource staff and staff working with children with an Autism diagnosis. Also disrupts Music, breakfast program and art program.
5. Music space is limited. Currently music in the K wing is provided in the classrooms which is not optimal. Instruments are all over the place and as a result the music program is not optimal. When the school was built in 1991, the music curriculum did not reflect current expectations and therefore the current space is not adequate.
6. Breakout space is very limited as all available spaces are being used for students with specialized support requirements
7. Storage space is desperately needed. There are two mini barns located on the property for storage but this is challenging particularly for music teachers who need access to materials and instruments on a regular basis, and for admin support staff who need access to paper and office supplies daily.
8. Detached mobiles present a safety issue for classes that have significant class composition needs. Children moving to and from the main school pose supervision challenges.
9. Early Immersion from Rustico and Central Queens area currently adds 20-25 students to Westwood across K-3.
10. Additional staff washrooms are needed. There are currently only 5 adult washrooms for over 90 staff who are all off at the same time for breaks.

Historical Enrollment and Projections

Since the last addition in 2009/10, Westwood Primary has maintained enrollment with some lower enrollments particularly in the past three years. However, it's important to note that when school enrollments were 570-600, the school had to convert their multi-purpose room into classrooms and had to eliminate the Breakfast Program. Additionally, based on Student Profile data, Westwood Primary has had a significant increase in students with diverse learning needs requiring specialized supports, including medical, physical and behavioral which has necessitated the need for more individual spaces and additional classroom space. Although the data suggests that enrollment will remain consistent, given the current and expected development in the municipality of Cornwall, student enrollment is expected to steadily increase within the next 5 years. Given that current enrollment poses capacity challenges, should there be an increase in enrollment, Westwood Primary will have accentuated capacity challenges.

Westwood Primary	
Year	Enrollment
2010-11	570
2011-12	583
2012-13	576
2013-14	582
2014-15	604
2015-16	576
2016-17	591
2017-18	571
2018-19	545
2019-20	558
2020-21	524
2021-22	548
2022-23	556
2023-24	520
2024-25	529
2025-26	510
2026-27	522
2027-28	548
2028-29	512
2029-30	506
2030-31	495

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

Cornwall Municipality Current and Future Population

According to Statistics Canada, Cornwall had the highest population growth across Prince Edward Island when comparing census data from 2016 (5,348) and census data from 2021 (6,574), a 22.9% increase in population (Stats Can, 2021). In addition, the PEI Population Report of 2025 cited Cornwall's population to be 7920 an increase of 20% from 2021 (PEI Statistics Bureau, 2025). In February of 2025, the federal government announced an investment of \$16 million to build 46 rental homes (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, 2025). In April of 2026, the federal and provincial governments announced a further investment of \$19 million to build 70 rental homes (CTV News, 2026). Additionally, in April of 2026, the federal government announced an investment of \$2.5 million to upgrade water infrastructure (Government of Canada, 2026). Cornwall's Planning and Development department have indicated residential and commercial growth supporting sustained population growth.

Cornwall Residential Development for 2025

Single-family Dwelling (SFD):20

Semi-detached Dwelling (Semi):16

Mini Home: 1

Multi-family Dwellings (townhouses, etc.):12

Apartments: 37 units (5 bachelor, 4 one-bedroom, 24 two-bedroom and 4 three-bedroom units)

Secondary Suites: 5

Intensification from SFD to Semi:2

Total: 93 dwelling units

Cornwall Residential Developments for 2026

Location	Development	Status
Ferry Road Subdivision	7 Single Family Dwelling	Preliminary approval granted
Primrose Subdivision extension	67 Single Family Dwelling	Preliminary approval granted
Kingston Road Apartment Development	105 affordable apartment units	Permits for two-35 unit apartment buildings have been issues. Expect another application for a 3 rd - 35 unit building for this construction season
Scotsview Meadows Subdivision Phase 1	4 single family dwelling units	Anticipate permit applications for these lots within the 2026 construction season
Scottsview Meadows Subdivision Phase 2	152 apartment units 8 Townhouse units	Currently in initial review phase
Scotsview Meadows Subdivision Phase 3	33 single family dwelling units 76 Townhouse units	Waiting for final approval of this phase so permits can be issued
Shipwright Court Apartment Development	24 apartment units	Waiting for Province to take possession of the newly constructed public ROW so permit can be issued for 2 nd

		building (application already received and reviewed) Possibility for 3 or more higher density developments served by Shipwright Court.
Lakeview Drive Apartment Development	22 apartment units	Special permit approval granted by Council. Permit to be issued. Dept. of Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy will be completing construction of the undeveloped portion of Lakeview Drive this year which will allow residential development of the property to the north of it.
Ferry Road Subdivision	8 semi-detached units	Undergoing initial review
Emeral Heights Subdivision	14 semi-detached units	Waiting for final approval of this Phase so permits can be issued. Cornwall Road Water and Sewer Servicing and Active Transportation Trail will be completed in the 2026 construction season. This will open opportunity for larger scale commercial development as well as residential development.
Capital Drive	Commercial development	Initial discussions
Total: 520 dwelling units		

OPTIONS

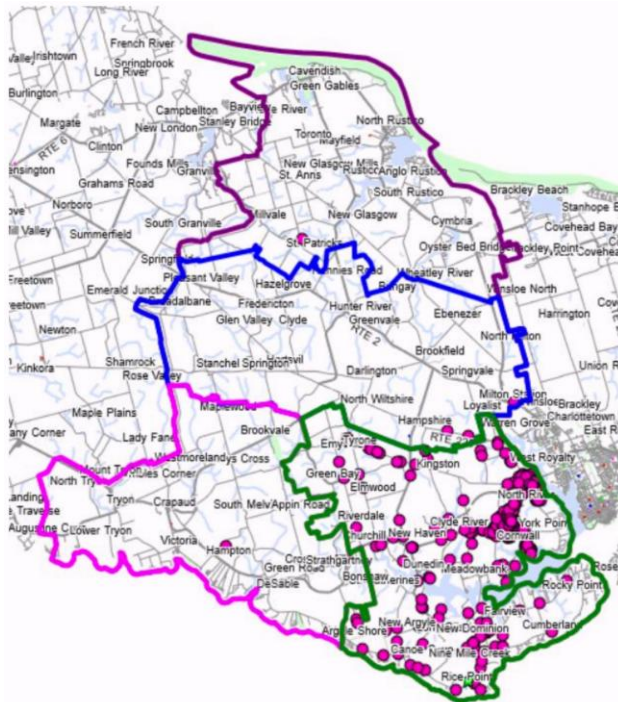
Based upon the initial review of Westwood Primary, discussions with school administration, input from school staff, system administrators and input received from a recent call for public comments and suggestions (Appendix A), the possible solutions outlined below have been identified for consideration. Given the lack of adequate and appropriate space available in Westwood Primary today, there is a need to provide additional classrooms and/or space for student support if students are to receive quality instruction, access programming supports needed, 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 solutions which would address the space deficiencies at Westwood Primary in both the short term and long term. 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.

Therefore, possible solutions to this need as suggested through public input and discussions with school and system personnel would, individually or collectively, be:

Option 1:

Rezone English stream students from the outer boundary of the Westwood Primary zone

This rezoning would focus on changing school boundaries so as to redirect a number of students to Central Queens and Englewood. Westwood Primary has approximately 20 students in any given year enrolled from the areas around St. Catherine's Road, Bonshaw and Kinkora Road. The following map shows the current number of students in these outlying areas confirming that a rezoning of this nature would not affect a large number of students. Given that the major residential development will happen in the greater Cornwall area, rezoning a small number of students would not reduce the strain on enrollment in a significant manner.



The addition of temporary classrooms would be a viable option, at least in the short term. There is a mobile classroom expected in the Spring of 2026 with the expectation that it will be operational for September of 2026. There is space for additional mobile classrooms onsite and an additional portable classroom will be available in Summer 2027. These mobile classrooms are equipped with everything students and teachers need and are heated and air conditioned. However, without attaching to the school and eliminating the outdoor exposure as students and staff move back and forth to the classroom, the stand-alone structures are not seen as a viable long-term solution. Additionally, given that Westwood Primary is a K-3 school, the focus of what class or what program would be best suited to being housed in

the mobile classroom would need to be carefully weighed. For example, you would not want to house students with diverse learning needs with specialized support requirements in the mobile classroom.

Option 4:

Deny all requests for out of zone transfers to Westwood Primary

Over the past 5 years, 5-15 students have attended Westwood Primary from out of zone including students zoned for Cardigan, St. Jeans, Spring Park, West Royalty, Gulf Shore, Central Queens, Englewood, Queen Elizabeth and Parkside. While this is not a large number of students, administration reports that more than 50% of the out of zone transfers are children with diverse learning needs. An increase in children to Westwood Primary with diverse learning needs contributes to an already significant challenge as the number of children with diverse learning needs has grown substantially over the past ten years. In fact, there were less students with diverse learning needs when enrollment was 571 in 2017-18 (7.4% of the school population) than expected in 2026-27 with an enrollment of 515 (17.7% of the school population). Over the span of 10 years, the percentage of students at Westwood Primary with significant diverse learning needs ranging from medical, physical, intellectual and behavioural has increased by 117%.

School Year	2026-27	2025-26	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18
Diverse Needs	91	70	62	60	61	63	55	61	44	42
EA Support Hours	unknown	183	150	132	123	114	94	86	60	56
SA Support Hours	unknown	18	6	0	0	0	0	9	6	6
YSW Hours	unknown	0	0	6	12	6	0	0.86	6	0
ENROLLMENT	515	515	529	520	556	548	524	558	545	571

Option 5:

Increase the capacity of Westwood Primary by expanding the school

Westwood Primary has a functional capacity of 623 however, its operational capacity, that is the capacity of the school to physically manage curriculum expectations, and meet the diverse learning needs of children, is well below that as noted by the current capacity challenges.

Westwood Primary sits on a lot that provides more than enough space to expand the school. An expansion could serve to create more classroom space, more space for meeting diverse student needs, a Music area that satisfies the curriculum requirements and space to accommodate all grade levels, and meeting spaces.



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended that the Public Schools Branch monitor enrollment at Westwood Primary and that the addition of temporary classrooms be utilized if/when needed for the short term.
2. It is recommended that the Public Schools Branch deny all out of zone transfer requests to Westwood Primary
3. It is recommended that the Public Schools Branch request the Government of PEI approve an expansion to Westwood Primary which will accommodate population growth and student need.

Appendix A: Westwood Primary School Study Survey Responses June 2025

Questions 1

Should the school zone be examined to reduce the number of students entering Westwood Primary?

- Yes, this should be considered. With projected enrollment expected to exceed current levels and potential capacity issues, examining the school catchment zone could help balance enrollment across nearby schools. This may involve: 1) Redirecting new subdivisions to nearby schools with available space. 2) Establishing enrollment caps at Westwood Primary and offering alternative placements. 3) Ensuring changes do not significantly impact family logistics or student transportation. This option could provide short to medium term relief and should be part of a broader strategy.
- I don't think the school zone needs to be examined. Although it is a large area I can't imagine putting more pressure on the smaller rural schools in Hunter River and Crapaud without doing expansions to those schools. I don't think that the issue is the zone so much as the size of Westwood itself.
- Without the building of a new school, I am unsure the other schools would be big enough to handle a rezoning.
- Yes. As a parent of a student attending Westwood Primary, I strongly believe the current zoning and enrollment numbers need to be reviewed. The school is visibly over capacity, and this has a direct impact on the overall learning environment. Many families from rural areas outside the school zone are choosing Westwood solely because it offers French Immersion. While I understand the desire for language programming, I do not believe it should come at the cost of overburdening our school and compromising the experience for children who live in the Westwood catchment. It's time to reevaluate eligibility and ensure zoned students are prioritized.
- There seems to be population growth at other schools across the island, so moving zones seems to just be a bandaid solution. Building additional spaces for programs, for classrooms and ultimately the well-being of our kids will be what is needed. Having classrooms that are 20 plus at the primary age is not helping our children or teachers deliver the programming that is to be delivered.
- Yes, primarily those coming from Central Queens and the Rustico area.
- I do not think re-zoning is the answer. I would think temporary and then renovation/expansion plans is the solution.
- This sounds like a reasonable, low-cost, permanent way to address over-crowding at Westwood Primary. The new boundaries could only apply to future enrollments and not impact current students.
- Yes – Westwood is an excellent school and the growth is not so substantial to hit the building's designed limit of 620 students anytime in the foreseeable future. 18 students over 5 years is a tiny amount of growth relative to anywhere else in Canada. So the issue as presented as a "structural" one is not really a fair assessment – it's a speed-of-growth issue.

If short term growth is an issue, then exploring rezoning vs. a long and expensive capital building project makes way more sense.

- The school zone should be reviewed to reduce the number of students coming into Cornwall.
- Yes, except for Cornwall residents. I would suggest that the Cornwall residents can register their kids to enroll with first priority at the Westwood Primary under the Bluefield family school zone.
- Absolutely -obviously
- I don't believe that is necessary at this time. The Bluefield system I believe, is organized well with K-3 in Westwood and 4-6 in Eliot River etc.
- Yes, accommodating the growing Cornwall proper population should be the primary goal of reducing students if there are appropriate and self -sustaining options for the students who are disrupted to attend quality schools with appropriate capacity.
- Potentially
- The issue of overcrowding exists beyond Westwood, and extends into East Wiltshire and Bluefield. Our child could not access Science labs their entire East Wiltshire experience because the lab was used as a classroom. Given the proximity of North River areas to Charlottetown and the large number of new multi family homes, rezoning might be the fastest and easiest way to address overcrowding across all schools in the area. However, this will add to traffic on the causeway and consideration of social impacts for students already in the Cornwall schools might necessitate a hybrid/cross over of boundaries for the next 2-3 years.
- I do not feel the school zone should be rezoned, I believe the boundaries make sense.

Question 2

Should other options be explored to accommodate K-3 French Immersion students coming from the Central Queens and Rustico area to Westwood Primary?

- Yes, alternative solutions should be explored. Currently, bussing French Immersion students from outlying areas adds to enrollment pressure. Consider: 1) Creating a satellite French Immersion program at a nearby under-capacity school 2) Designating a new host school for French Immersion in the regions. 3) Evaluating a dual-track French/English model at a different school to reduce travel and overcrowding at Westwood. This would not only ease capacity strain but may also improve accessibility for those students.
- As mentioned above, I don't think that the issue is so much the school zone or the French Immersion students coming in from Central Queens and Rustico area as it is the size of Westwood Primary.
- The French Immersion program for K to 3 is an amazing opportunity for our children to be immersed in the language at a key time in their development. If there is possibility to keep students in their catchment area whilst hiring new French speaking teachers I believe it should be explored.
- Absolutely. There needs to be a serious conversation about alternative solutions. If families from outlying areas like Central Queens and Rustico want French immersion for their children, they should be directed toward Ecole Francois Buote, the province's French first-language school, or consideration should be given to establishing French Immersion programs within their local zoned elementary schools. This would relieve some of the pressure on Westwood and provide better access to language learning across the region. Relying solely on Westwood to house all French Immersion students in this area is not sustainable or fair to the children currently enrolled from the school's immediate community.
- If their schools can accommodate additional classrooms for French Immersion, I think they should have the option of FI in their school zones. If you look at putting these students in other existing FI schools that are already full, you're not really solving the problem. You're just moving it to another zone.
- Yes, other options should be explored for Central Queens and Rustico area for French Immersion.
- Perhaps offering French to Central Queens would reduce numbers at Westwood.
- Yes, it makes sense to have the French Immersion at a school which has capacity for the additional students the program brings in.
- If the issue is primarily the # of French Immersion students then sure – but why we'd only be looking at French vs. English-language students isn't clear from the below information. If there's a growth issue, deal with the growth issue overall vs. playing around at the edges. Ideally students from the same area of household can attend the same schools – from bussing to other considerations, this makes sense.
- Adding French Immersion options to Central Queens and Gulf Shore would be a good idea.

- Yes, this is another good method. I would suggest that the Cornwall residents can register their kids to enroll in K-3 French Immersions with first priority at the Westwood Primary under the Bluefield family school zone.
- Yes
- Yes – Students being sent to Westwood from Central Queens and Rustico would benefit from a more centralized area to avoid long bus rides and transportation concerns.
- I think the closer to home any student is the better. I would recommend focusing on keeping students as close to their school as possible.
- Unsure – just don't have enough information but my children go to CQES and I don't know if enough demand for a French Immersion program but one reason we didn't choose French is that it's too far for most kids in our school zone to be bussed to Westwood, and also concerned about having young children on high school buses.
- Perhaps if numbers warrant allowing children to stay in home community could be viable. The bus travel for small children outside of Cornwall is very long. I don't think student numbers warrant this option.
- I do feel that other options for students coming from Central Queens and Rustico should be explored. Is adding French Immersion an option to Central Queens or starting Immersion at Gulf Shore in Kindergarten instead of grade 4 an option to have Central Queens and Rustico Immersion students go to Gulf Shore?

Question 3

Is it appropriate to add temporary classrooms and other teaching/support areas to Westwood Primary?

- Yes, as a short-term measure. Temporary modular classrooms could help manage immediate needs, especially during peak enrollment years or while long-term plans are developed. However, these spaces often lack full facilities, they are not suitable for permanent use and they may reduce available outdoor space and disrupt school flow. Temporary units are best seen as stopgap, not a solution.
- I don't feel like temporary classrooms are the answer as these are young children require supervision if they need to leave to go inside the school for washroom breaks. I think that if there is an expansion to the school then temporary classrooms are inevitable and needed while work is being done but this should not be considered anything more than temporary.
- At this time what other options are there? The school reached capacity and Cornwall is only going to become more populated, as well as the surrounding area where more homes are being built and more land for sale today. While temporary classrooms are not ideal in the primary school setting, think about trying to accompany children to the bathroom in the middle of winter when they will be required to go outside and will need to be accompanied into the main building to use the washroom. Where possible these structures should be attached to the building and allocated to use by the grade 3 children.
- No. While temporary classrooms may offer short-term relief, the current state of the mobile units at Westwood is deeply concerning. Some of these structures are outdated, in poor condition, and have been found to contain mold, posing significant health concerns related to air quality and ventilation. These are not acceptable learning environments for any child or staff member. Rather than continuing to patch the problem with more temporary fixes, there needs to be a long-term, properly funded plan.
- If you are talking about mobiles for temporary classrooms, I believe that Westwood currently still has some temporary mobiles that were placed there a long time ago. So calling them temporary is not correct. There are mobiles at Glen Stewart Primary that have been there for 21 years and I believe KISH has mobiles that were placed there in 1999/2000. These are not meant to be permanent solutions, but the government tends to rely on them to solve problems instead of building infrastructure that is needed.
- If it is needed, yes. So long as children's safety, heating/cooling/ventilation and access to bathrooms are appropriate.
- I would be OK with this as a parent.
- Temporary classrooms would make sense if the overcrowding was a temporary problem. Given that Cornwall is not expected to stop growing, temporary classrooms don't seem like a good fit. Moving French Immersion to a different school and redrawing school zones are permanent solutions.
- It's not ideal – my child has had a substitute kindergarten teacher for nearly half her year. There's a lot of teacher and support turnover. Adding in substandard classrooms (I attended the old West Royalty School and the temporary classrooms were nowhere near

the same as actual school ones) would be another destabilizing element to add into a relatively challenging and uncertain time for students.

- Temporary classrooms or teaching areas would cause overcrowding, interfere with programs those spaces are currently used for and create below standard teaching space.
- I would highly recommend adding more classrooms, teacher/EA/Administrator support and custodian/cleaner support to the Westwood Primary.
- No
- I don't believe it's a concern at this time.
- Having been in them while I was at school they are "OK" if constructed, heated, and cooled appropriately. In my experience, they were not heated or cooled appropriately and are a poor choice. This is not the first or best option in my opinion.
- No comment as I'm not a parent of kids at this school.
- I don't think this makes sense unless there is a longer-term solution for school expansion. Student numbers continue to rise in the area.
- Temporary classrooms seem like a bandaied solution and are not addressing the real issue of population growth.

Question 4

Is it time to consider building renovations or expansion at Westwood Primary?

- Yes, long-term planning should begin now. Given the population growth in Cornwall and the projected steady increase in enrollment: Renovations to reconfigure and expand existing spaces (especially for Kindergarten, Music and Physical Education) should be prioritized. Adding new permanent classrooms, flexible learning spaces and specialized rooms can ensure quality programming and class-size management. Consider energy efficiency and accessibility upgrades during expansion.
- Yes! It is way past time to not only consider renovations/expansion but to act on it. The school was built in the early 1990s and when you consider the addition of kindergarten to the school system and the growth of Cornwall and its surrounding areas it's surprising that a large expansion has not already happened (besides the addition of the kindergarten wing). Although the school has a building area that should accommodate approximately 620 students there are some things that need to be considered besides just looking at the numbers. There are numerous students attending Westwood Primary with complex needs. Students may become dysregulated and need different spaces to regulate themselves. Children requiring tube feeding should have a space to call their own. Children with mobility aids require more space than children not using any kind of aid or equipment (ex. larger desks to accommodate wheelchairs). From my understanding if not being used by students, every single space is bursting in Westwood Primary for storage, for quiet/private meeting spaces etc. Expansion is needed.
- I believe it is definitely time to consider and expansion. The area is continuing to grow, with more family housing being built and permits passed, by the time an expansion is completed the school will likely be too small again.
- Yes-now more than ever. Westwood is overdue for major investment to expand and modernize its facilities. Beyond simply accommodating a growing student population, the school needs updated infrastructure that supports high-quality programming. This includes more common areas, additional gym or multi-purpose spaces, improved student flow through the hallways, and dedicated support spaces. A second gymnasium, performance/auditorium space, and updated support rooms would greatly benefit both students and staff. These types of learning and gathering spaces are essential to creating a vibrant and functional school community. Westwood has nearly 600 kids for a K-3 establishment, whereas a school like West Royalty has nearly half the number of students. WR was recently awarded a new addition to their school, increasing the overall footprint of their building, which is strongly needed for Westwood.
- This is the time to talk about expansion of Westwood Primary. The old mobiles should be removed and a larger section added to the building to accommodate the expected growth for the town of Cornwall. The students, teachers and support staff deserve to learn and work in a building that they can fit in and even grow into.
- Yes
- Yes

- Perhaps if there is the budget for expansion. Redrawing school zones and moving French Immersion seem like much cheaper options. Also, renovations take many years, if Westwood Primary does decide to expand via renovations something else might need to be done in the interim to address the over crowding.
- Our school is in desperate need for building renovations and an expansion. Even without considering the increase in population in the Cornwall area, our current building structure is lacking in several areas, particularly small meeting spaces, spaces for children with complex needs and proper music rooms. Currently, the two music rooms are Kindergarten rooms from a previous expansion. They are not proper music rooms which would include soundproofing, proper storage, and carpeting. They are also not an adequate size for safe movement. We have a strong music program and are fortunate to have a large inventory of instruments to foster the growth and the development of our student's musical literacy. Music education helps students understand the values and attitudes held by individuals and communities, building an appreciation and understanding of relationships among people and their environment. In music they are also learning respect for self, others and the learning environment and Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
- No – zoning adjustments should be the first consideration before proceeding on a major capital initiative, especially as the expected growth for this period is 18 more students – from 527 to 545. Surely a zoning adjustment can save the province hundreds of thousands or millions of dollars.
- No! Westwood is already far too large. Bullying and lack of attention are already issues at schools that have overly large numbers that make it almost impossible to monitor all of the students. If any schools should be expanded it might be Englewood or Central Queens and Gulf Shore as some of the students could be rezoned there. East Wiltshire is overcrowded as well.
- I would highly recommend building renovations/expansion at the Westwood Primary as soon as possible.
- I would say it's time to expand the school.
- No
- From my understanding, Westwood is well-equipped to handle its current enrollment.
- I would explore the above before making large investments in new buildings. More buildings aren't always the answer, a thoughtful approach to growth is required. Will Cornwall continue to grow? Will adding new structures to a building already halfway through its lifecycle make good financial sense? Building new would be preferred if all of the above options were exhausted and growth simply outpaces demand to a degree that new building is the only option.
- Likely yes – my children go to CQES but it seems to be growing exponentially and seems to be mimicking Stratford elementary schools.
- Yes. There is considerable development in the area. With many new families moving here for more affordable options. Building for expansion and improved learning is the wisest long-term solution which will offer value to the community and improve children's learning.

- If there is no effort to find a solution to lower the school population then I feel that renovations and expansion to Westwood is necessary. When building and or buying a home families base much of that decision based on school zoning. Rezoning as we know would cause a lot of frustration and backlash within our communities.

Question 5

Provide any other ideas or suggestions

- An architectural and educational space planning review should be initiated soon. The capacity challenges at Westwood Primary are a clear signal of broader changes occurring in the Cornwall area. If the trend continues, other schools may also face similar capacity pressures. A proactive, region-wide strategy – including zoning, programming, temporary solutions, and long-term capital planning – is essential to ensure all students in the growing community receive the quality education and services they deserve.
- Proper music rooms. Not simply classrooms converted into “music rooms” but rooms with proper acoustics and storage. Larger spaces for Kindergarten classes. Kindergarten classrooms at Westwood Primary are smaller than average. Kindergarten is supposed to be play based. More play-based learning equipment is required and children should have the space to move around. A multi-functional room that specialists can comfortably meet with children when they come to the school (not a little closed with a shower curtain pulled across). A Kitchen area in the kindergarten area would be beneficial for the breakfast program. A room for medical needs. As we are seeing more students with complex needs enrolling than there should be a proper space created to accommodate them.
- While you consider the expansion of the school it is also key to point out the needs of the children entering our school system. The question of expansion is not only about the number of children but also their needs. As Cornwall is appealing to a variety of families, given its lower home prices than Charlottetown, proximity to the QEH and other health services, outdoor and recreational services and a fantastic school group have brought in families with children with additional needs and to those newly arrived in Canada. These needs place additional strain on the school, needing rooms at school for providing medication, specialty needs including sensory support and behavior resources and quiet areas.
- The Province and Public Schools Branch must take a proactive, future-focused approach to managing population growth and educational programming. I encourage decision-makers to conduct a formal review of the long-term population projections for this area and prioritize capital funding for schools like Westwood that are clearly over capacity. It is equally important to engage in honest dialogue about equitable access to specialized programs like French Immersion and how they impact school populations. Considerations should be made to either introduce French Immersion programming in rural zoned schools or explore a centralized French Immersion campus that doesn’t disproportionately strain one school. Our children deserve safe, modern, and well-resourced learning environments. It’s time for Westwood to be supported in meeting those expectations.
- Closing smaller schools and crowding children into one space was a terrible choice when it started years ago. It is time to reduce the size of schools not increase them. School is supposed to be for education, not the extracurricular activities that is the main reason for choosing bigger schools. Large student bodies cause far more problems than they solve at EVERY age level.

- If the PSB wants to show they are serious about addressing this issue they need to enforce the zoning that already exists. Those wanting to pursue French studies cause the biggest portion of the problem I am sure. However, there are many examples of those who are zoned for smaller schools who easily get “special permission” to attend Westwood, Eliot River and EWS for no real reason. There are others who enroll for French and switch over into English as well. If the PSB would enforce the zoning that already exists it would lessen this problem and help the low enrollment problem of the smaller schools. It creates a system where PEI students can either go to an overcrowded school or a nearly empty one full of split classes and no sports teams. If a student switched zones in the name of “French”, fine. But if they switch into English, they should be back in the school they are zoned for.
- Consider smaller satellite multi-age classrooms. They could be positioned with as single teacher in rural communities of even Cornwall itself, but could rotate into Westwood twice(?) a week. 5 satellite schools in areas of overcrowding using pre-existing infrastructure (community centre, curling club et.) but could access Westwood resources, library, gym, music one a week...this might be particularly beneficial for children with EIP and social anxiety. Being in a smaller group that spanned 3 years with the same teacher and wasn't far from home would offer a gentler nesting experience and introduction to institutional schooling.
- I feel strongly that East Wiltshire Intermediate in the same family of schools is in a similar situation and should also be studied for what are the best options for it to house a growing population

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