

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

February 11, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Education

FROM: District Staff

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF CLOSURE OF GISCOME ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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BACKGROUND:

School District No. 57 (Prince George) recently received the 2024/25 – 2033/34 Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) and it was reviewed at the January 28, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting. The LRFP outlines preliminary recommendations for Board consideration over the next ten years including several recommendations for school closures. While the majority of the LRFP recommendations require further review and planning, in order to consider a school closure for the 2025/26 school year, the closure process needs to occur as soon as possible.

One of the recommendations outlined in the LRFP is the closure of Giscome Elementary School with the students to be accommodated at Blackburn Elementary School. In the 2024/25 school year, there are 10 students enrolled at Giscome Elementary School. Based on local projections, the district anticipates enrolment between 4-7 students for the 2025/26 school year.

If the Board does approve the motion to consider the closure of Giscome Elementary School, the following documents outline requirements for the process should the Board wish to consider the closure of Giscome Elementary School:

- [Board Policy 7550 - Opening and Closing of Schools](#)
- [Ministerial Order 194/08 - School Opening and Closure Order](#)

Of note, Board Policy 7550 states:

*The Board shall allow a period of not less than 60 days for public consultation to take place between the time that a potential permanent closure of a school is announced and the final decision is made.*

As there is no Regular Board Meeting scheduled for March 2025, and in order to provide an appropriate timeline for consultation and any resulting school planning, it is recommended that this item be considered at tonight's meeting. If the recommended motion is approved, a school closure process and timeline will be communicated to the public.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That the Board of Education consider closing Giscome Elementary School effective June 30, 2025.