

2008 AND BEYOND LONG TERM FACILITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

FIVE YEAR PLAN FROM 2008/09 TO 2012/13
FOR GREATER ST. ALBERT CATHOLIC REGIONAL DIVISION No. 29
6 St. Vital Avenue, St. Albert, Alberta | T8N.1K2 | Telephone 780.459.7711

ST. ALBERT

Albert Lacombe School
Bertha Kennedy Catholic Community School
Ecole Father Jan Community School
Ecole Marie Poburan
Ecole Secondaire Sainte Marguerite d'Youville
J.J. Nearing Catholic Elementary School
Neil M. Ross Catholic School
Richard S. Fowler Catholic Junior High School
St. Albert Catholic High School
Vincent J. Maloney Catholic Junior High School
Vital Grandin Catholic School

MORINVILLE/LEGAL

Ecole Georges H. Primeau School
Ecole Georges P. Vanier School
Morinville Community High School
Notre Dame Elementary School
Legal School

CONSULTANTS



10803.105 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5H 0K9
T 780.447.2877
F 780. 643.3959

1. INTRODUCTION

This report will document a detail assessment of each school in the Division along with recommendations to maintain current schools and prepare facilities for the long term expected education programs in the Division.

The Long Term Facility Development Plan determines the suitability of each facility for future maintenance and expansion requirements. This document can be used as supplemental information for facility funding applications.

For the purposes of this plan, Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional Division No. 29 will be referred to as "GSACRD".

The following is a description of the methodology used in preparing this plan:

Fact Finding

A site visit and meeting was held at each school in the Division and consisted of:

1. Reviewing of Alberta Infrastructure reports.
2. Reviewing of enrollment history and establishment of a 5-year enrollment projection.
3. Evaluating of how the facilities serve the educational program requirements.
4. Identifying of the facility deficiencies and suggestions for improvement.

Participants of the site meetings included:

- GSACRD, Trevor Gough
- School Principal
- Other school staff qualified to contribute to the facility evaluation
- Members of the School Council
- Norbert Lemermeyer, Architect (AAA), MRAIC
- Dianne Sazon, assistant

Draft Report

Information included in the report was provided by GSACRD administration. A draft report was presented to the administration for review and feedback was included in the Facility Development Plan.

Long Term Facility Development Plan Outline

This document is a Division wide summary of all 16 schools. Facility Development Plans including:

- Division history, focus and vision for the future
- Population count and recent census figures
- School groupings
- Division concerns
- A ten year capital requirements for 2009-2018
- Long Term Plan
- Division wide enrollment summary
- Enrollment projections and utilization
- Division wide projected capital spending summaries
- IMR funding summaries
- Community maps

Reasons for the Long Term Facility Development Plan

- To better plan and maintain each school within the Division.
- To prioritize funding and spending between Division schools in a fair and equitable manner.
- To provide a complete Division Facilities Plan for inclusion in funding applications and provide rationale for decision-making.
- To determine the need for future school sites in each of the communities:
 - St. Albert
 - Morinville
 - Legal

Benefits of the Long Term Facility Development Plan

COST SAVINGS - Avoiding costly misunderstandings by providing complete information.

PEACE OF MIND - Everyone involved can see, understand and follow the facility plan.

MORE MONEY – More complete information for funding applications.

LESS FRUSTRATION - Everyone has the same picture and understanding of the facility plan.

CONSISTENCY - Information of each facility is in comparable format.

FUTURE NEED - Provides insight into population projections for better planning decisions.

POPULATION COUNT FROM CENSUS & PROJECTION TO 2013

| COMMUNITY | 2001 | 2005 | 2008 | % ANNUAL | | NOTES |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|----------|--------|-------|
| | | | | GROWTH | 2013 | |
| ST.ALBERT | 46,888 | 56,310 | 58,501 | 1.3% | 62,403 | |
| ST.ALBERT 5-19 = 22% | | | 12,870 | 1.3% | 13,729 | |
| ST.A GSACS ENROLLMENT | | | 4379 | | 4555 | |
| RATIO | | | 34% | | 33% | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| MORINVILLE | 6545 | 6540 | 7228 | 3.5% | | |
| LEGAL | 1055 | 1058 | 1192 | 4.0% | | |
| COMBINED TOTAL | 7600 | 7598 | 8420 | 3.6% | 10,049 | |
| COMBINED 5-19 =22% | | | 1,852 | | 2211 | |
| COMBINED ENROLLMENT | | | 2017 | | 2144 | |
| RATIO | | | 109% | | 92% | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

2. GREATER ST. ALBERT CATHOLIC REGIONAL DIVISION No. 29

History

GSACRD has a long standing reputation of teaching excellence in the Greater St. Albert region. Comprised of three former school districts, GSACRD was incorporated on January 1, 1995.

The oldest of the former school districts was **St. Albert Roman Catholic Public District No. 3**, formed in 1885, and later known as St. Albert Catholic School District No. 3. A legacy of teaching began in the district when the Sisters of Charity (founded by Ste. Marguerite d'Youville in 1737 and more commonly known as the Grey Nuns) arrived in St. Albert from Lac Ste. Anne in 1863. Construction of a small convent that served as schoolhouse and hospital when needed was completed in 1864. Students were taught primarily by the Sisters of Charity. Instruction in French, English, grammar, mathematics, and Catechism was carried out; however, it was their philosophy of practical, moral, and religious learning that was emphasized. Boys learned agriculture, woodworking, and carpentry while girls concentrated on sewing, cooking, and gardening. The District's heritage of excellence dates back to 1893 when students won several awards at the Chicago World's Fair.

GSACRD also incorporates **Thibault Roman Catholic Public School District No. 35**. The district was named after Father Thibault who established a mission and school near Morinville. In 1892, the first Board of Trustees administered a humble school that, unfortunately, closed after just a few months. Seven years later, Father Jolicoeur revived the district, and it operated in a modest form until 1904. The Thibault District began to thrive when the Filles de Jesus congregation established its order in Morinville. The close relationship between the School District and religious order continued for many decades. Just a couple of years before the regionalization, Thibault School District opened Morinville Community High School. It is currently one of the most technologically advanced secondary schools in the province.

Legal School District No. 1738 was the third school district to regionalize with GSACRD and was established in 1907. The first school was built just south of the town. Sister Marguerite Marie Côté, of the Grey Nuns, served many years as principal and sole high school teacher. Tragedy struck in the mid 1940s when the school house burned to the ground. In 1952, the school building still in use (after numerous additions and renovations) was erected. Although French Immersion was offered for the first time in 1980, Legal has been offering special advanced French classes for decades. In 1993, the district dissolved its high school and bussed students to Morinville.

On January 1, 1995 all three formerly independent school jurisdictions began to operate under the corporate name **Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional Division No. 29**.

Mission Statement

Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools is a welcoming Christ-centered learning community that awakens the hearts and minds of students to God while educating and nurturing each to work, live fully, and serve others.

Beliefs

The Division believes every child is loved by God, and within that context he or she develops into a healthy, happy human being as a result of positive, nurturing care by our dedicated, professional teaching staff, parents and the community. With that solid support and direction, every student can succeed. Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools' slogan says it best: "Loved by God... Nurtured by community... Every student a success!"

Enrollment Growth Potential

Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional Division No. 29 encompasses St. Albert, Morinville and Legal communities with different growth statistics, as outlined in the population count chart, and characteristics that affect enrollments. Projected enrollments in this plan take into account the unique growth rates and potential of each community.

Facility Guidelines

The provision of school facilities is subject to the following variables:

- Community growth
- Education programs
- Technology in education
- Vision and goals of the Division
- Age and maintenance of the facilities
- Alberta Education policies and directions
- Alberta Education school funding guidelines
- Local building codes and by-laws
- Alberta Infrastructure School Building Guidelines

Each of these variables changes regularly and affect how school facilities are provided. These factors need to be annually reviewed in order to provide clear, concise information to the Division.

| POPULATION COUNT FROM CENSUS & PROJECTION TO 2013 | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| | | | | % ANNUAL | | |
| COMMUNITY | 2001 | 2005 | 2008 | GROWTH | 2013 | NOTES |
| ST.ALBERT | 46,888 | 56,310 | 58,501 | 1.3% | 62,403 | |
| ST.ALBERT 5-19 = 22% | | | 12,870 | 1.3% | 13,729 | |
| ST.A GSACS ENROLLMENT RATIO | | | 4379 | | 4555 | |
| | | | 34% | | 33% | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| MORINVILLE | 6545 | 6540 | 7228 | 3.5% | | |
| LEGAL | 1055 | 1058 | 1192 | 4.0% | | |
| COMBINED TOTAL | 7600 | 7598 | 8420 | 3.6% | 10,049 | |
| COMBINED 5-19 =22% | | | 1,852 | | 2211 | |
| COMBINED ENROLLMENT RATIO | | | 2017 | | 2144 | |
| | | | 109% | | 92% | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

The Population Count and Projection Diagram above illustrate some points of interest relevant to facilities.

1. The census figures from 2001 until 2008 indicate a robust population growth in the communities in the GSACRD's area of jurisdiction – 1.3% in St. Albert and 3.6% in Morinville and Legal. This trend is maintained due to the continued growth of communities near the City of Edmonton. The adjacent military base and expanding petrochemical industries are also contributing factors, especially in Morinville, where housing costs are somewhat less than in St. Albert and Edmonton.
2. The Division captures 34% of the age 5 – 19 which is assumed to be of school age and attending school. GSACRD could be more optimistic with enrollment projections by comparison to the straight-line population projections. With a higher enrollment projection, GSACRD may need to reassess their school facility planning and development accordingly. In addition to upgrading existing facilities, planning for new schools on new sites should begin now. This long term view will assure the Division will be ready as the enrollments grow and will capture an equitable share of the student population.
3. In St. Albert, fewer students are Catholic than in the past. Therefore this may explain the lower attendance projections over the next 5 years from 34% to 33%. In the past, many of the enrollments in GSACRD school have been non-Catholic so this will not detract students who are looking to choose the school that provides the 'best' programs in the 'best' facilities.
4. Morinville and Legal have only one school system for the student population and it's clear that rural students are not counted in the study because the statistics show a higher ratio of attendance than the actual population (age 5-19).
5. Should the high growth continue in Morinville and Legal communities GSACRD enrollment projection should be more optimistic and plan for this growth. This is illustrated on the preceding table (Population Count on page 6) in the comparative ratio of attendance from 2008 to 2013 dropping from 109% to 91%. If enrollment projections were more optimistic, this ratio should remain near 109%.

3. COMMUNITIES SUMMARY

Each school is unique with its own issues and was reviewed separately to ensure it is serving the enrolled students in the most effective manner. Within a community, schools have interactive needs and dealings with one another; a study of these needs was also reviewed.

ST. ALBERT COMMUNITY

Albert Lacombe (K-6)

Bertha Kennedy Catholic Community School (K-6)

Ecole Father Jan Community School (K-6)

Ecole Marie Poburan (K-6)

Ecole Secondaire Sainte Marguerite d'Youville (7-12)

J.J. Nearing Catholic Elementary School (K-6)

Neil M. Ross Catholic School (K-6)

Richard S. Fowler Catholic Junior High School (7-9)

St. Albert Catholic High School (10-12)

Vincent J. Maloney Catholic Junior High School (7-9)

Vital Grandin Catholic School (K-6)

MORINVILLE/LEGAL COMMUNITY

Ecole Georges H. Primeau School (6-8)

Ecole Georges P. Vanier School (K-5)

Morinville Community High School (9-12)

Notre Dame Elementary School (K-5)

Legal School (K-9)

4. DIVISION CONCERNS

4.1 Declining Enrollments/Utilization

With the exception of Vincent J. Maloney Junior High School and Ecole Fr. Jan Community School in St. Albert, all schools report a decline in student enrollments over the past 5 years. Dropping enrollments equals lower utilization and decrease in funding which is calculated on a per enrolled student basis.

There are some common denominators for dropping enrollments in the Division and there are explanations for enrollment decline unique to a particular school.

A reason for the decline is that students choose where they will attend particularly in junior and senior high school. In the past parents made this choice for the students and their criteria for choosing a school was different. Parents made their choice usually based on academic or religious programs of the school. When students make the choice, it is based on their preferred school. Many still choose the academic programs, however they want some of the learning program to involve non-academic programs which create 'fun and excitement' in their lives at school. Also, they feel non-academic programs will help them onto their career paths once they have completed high school. Students want to be proud of their school and choose well maintained, aesthetic, contemporary facilities. All this, along with peer group pressure, factors into their decision on where they receive their education.

Vincent J. Maloney Junior High School, a school known for academic excellence, which offers an intense sports program and an International Bachelareate program, has continued enrollment growth and a utilization approaching 100%. This proves how special programs can affect enrollment.

Other schools in the Division, because of decreasing enrollments, are introducing non-academic programs and are converting their facilities to offer programs which are more attractive to students. Such programs include: weight-lifting, modified sports programs, environmental studies, cheerleader program, enhanced CTS programs, etc.

In schools offering K – 6, before and after school care programs are incentives and will maintain and increase enrollments. Schools, which offer preschool programs are likely to see the students, enrolled in the school where they attended preschool.

Student surveys indicate a continued strong interest in industrial arts, foods/fashion and cosmetology programs. Visual arts, performing arts and media arts are also popular and attractive to students. Space, facilities and equipment to offer these programs are more costly than academic based programs, thus funding is a necessary aspect to delivering these opportunities to prospective students.

Some older schools have space and facilities, but the layout and equipment is from another time and program philosophy. Students looking for these programs value the latest technology and equipment. Staying current is a major ongoing expense for the school and the Division.

Utilization

Throughout the Division utilization is at 75%; 76% in St. Albert and 73% in Morinville and Legal. In St. Albert there are 3 schools along with 2 schools in Morinville and Legal with low utilization. They are:

- St. Albert High School
- Bertha Kennedy School
- Vital Grandin Catholic School
- Ecole Georges Vanier School
- Legal School.

Each of these schools has unique reasons for low enrollment/utilization. Each school must address the low enrollment/utilization as it affects the Division's overall position with respect to acquiring funding. The solution to low utilization is the subject of a detailed study not within the scope of this report. However, the following are suggestions to how this situation may be addressed:

- Removal of portables thereby lowering capacity;
- Lowering the school capacity by allocating part of the school to community uses;
- Active marketing to capture a greater share of students; and
- Offering programs attractive to students and parents.

4.2 Career and Technology Studies (CTS) Facilities and Programs

At most schools in the Division offering CTS programs (7-9) the teachers and administrators have complained that the facilities are not meeting the program needs. Each situation offering CTS programs is unique as are the inadequacies. This deficiency has become an even greater concern in that often students choose a school by the variety or quality of the CTS program. St. Albert Catholic High School, in the past, has placed a higher emphasis on academic programming and has not kept pace with the students' interests and needs. Even the academic students want CTS programs or other non-academic programs to make their school life more 'fun and interesting'.

In some schools this has been determined, through a survey, as the cause of dropping enrollments to the point of becoming a critical concern for the Division. Facilities and equipment for CTS programming are more costly than for academic programs. Converting and adding to the CTS programs will require substantial funding.

4.3 Aging Schools

With the exception of four schools, Morinville Community High, Ecole Marie Poburan, Ecole Secondaire Sainte Marguerite d'Youville, and J.J. Nearing Catholic Elementary, all the schools in the Division are between 25 and 50 years old. Even though the maintenance of the Division schools is excellent, they grow older each year and more 'out-of-date'. Issues due to aging, as outlined below, are not being met by existing levels of maintenance and IMR funding.

- Flooring and finishes are patched and show signs of wear and tear.
- Colors and materials are dated and redecoration is needed.
- Bathroom, finishes and fixtures, are aging and becoming repetitive maintenance problems.
- Classroom furniture, furnishings and finishes need to be reviewed for effectiveness and updated. Ad hoc additions to old classrooms and other teaching spaces give a haphazard appearance.
- Much of the mechanical equipment has served its projected lifetime requiring major upgrades or replacement. As mechanical equipment ages, energy costs rise as do maintenance costs.
- Lighting in many schools has been upgraded, but some schools need a review of the lighting system for efficiency and effectiveness.

- Almost all the school users complain about lack of power outlets in classrooms and other teaching spaces. Existing power circuits are overloaded throughout the schools causing outages in power. Some schools appear to have an inadequate power service.

4.4 Student Drop Off/Pick-up

Drop-off/pick-up areas at most of the schools in the Division are inadequate. In some schools, this function is done in the bus loading zone causing interference with the buses and danger for the students dropped off by the parents. In other schools, parents use parking lots for student drop-off/pick-up which causes congestion and danger. Generally the student drop-off/pick-up areas have never been planned, creating a need for supervision and extra resources from the schools' administration. In the short term, the solution to the parent drop-off and pick-up situation requires management solutions. At JJ Nearing School, a traffic management system initiated by parents has proven to be very effective and has improved traffic safety around the school.

4.5 Bus Loading

In some schools, bus loading areas do not serve the function in a safe, efficient way. The problems are outlined specifically in the reports of the respective schools. The solution to this problem may involve the city/town engineer as, in part, the solution involves off site public works. Bus loading and parent drop-off issues are related and need to be addressed together to create safe efficient areas for the students and all involved in this transition point.

4.6 Parking Shortage

Most of the schools have a parking shortage requiring visitors to the school to park off site creating traffic congestion in the areas around the school. The reasons for additional parking are due to:

- Greater school capacity due to addition of portable;
- More parents visiting and participating in school programs;
- More teacher assistants than in the past; and
- Integration of special needs students.

4.7 Preschool Program

Vital Grandin Catholic School in St. Albert and Ecole Georges P. Vaneier School in Morinville both offer preschool programs. These programs were introduced to address a community need and as a means to channel students into the Greater St. Albert Catholic Division education system.

Both of these schools had a low utilization rate presenting an opportunity to offer this program. Both of these schools offer the preschool program which is focused on special needs children. In each of these schools, 4 classrooms are dedicated to the preschool program with 10 to 15 children per class. Students attend for half days.

In 2008, 51 children are registered in the Vital Grandin Catholic School preschool program; half of the students have special needs.

In 2008, 58 children are registered in the Ecole Georges P. Vanier pre-school program; 34 of these students have special needs.

Note: Due to the fact that the focus of the preschool is for special needs students, it follows that there is a high ratio of special needs children entering Kindergarten and regular classes in these schools.

4.8 Special Needs Students

About 20 years ago, special needs students were legislated to be integrated into the regular school system. Most of the schools in the Division were designed before this time. Thus the school facilities are not set up to deal with these special needs. All schools in the division, with high numbers of special needs students, are experiencing frustration due to the lack of suitable facilities.

The philosophy and policy of Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools is to invite and accommodate all special needs students. Due to this open-door policy all schools in the Division have a higher than normal ratio of special needs students. These students require specialized facilities and programs to effectively meet their learning needs.

Generally, moderate special needs students are incorporated into regular classroom settings. However, for special training like speech therapy, behavior and other therapy, smaller groups, or one-on-ones, are best. For these situations smaller classrooms would be adequate and even preferable; however, this is not an option in a standard school design. Often storage rooms or other nooks and crannies are seconded to serve these needs.

High-needs students require even more attention and smaller groupings to effectively meet their needs. Specialized space is required and in addition, more private space (offices) are needed by the therapists assisting in teaching these students with their unique needs. Bathrooms, too, require special planning and equipment.

In all schools with a high ratio of special needs students, room sizes and relationships of spaces are not meeting the needs of the special needs education program.

The following is a list of considerations to better facilitate special needs students:

- Smaller classrooms for smaller classes of 10-15 students;
- Break-out rooms for small groups and one-on-ones with teachers and therapists;
- Specially designed time-out rooms;
- Handicap washrooms with lifts;
- Beds and changing areas; and
- Handicap access to all areas.

4.9 Infrastructure Maintenance Renewal (IMR) Funding – Benefits and Drawbacks

The IMR Funding program provides the Division with annual funding for Infrastructure Maintenance Renewal. The IMR funding has allowed the Division, under stewardship of the Facilities Manager, to maintain the school facilities in excellent condition. It is difficult, with the changing program needs, to keep pace with the limited IMR funding amounts. Sometimes, due to the changing program needs, quick decisions are made by school administrators.

Sometimes the funds are applied to projects without due consideration to the overall impact on the long term vision. The solutions are sometimes stop-gap and remedies become a problem down the road because the money is spent on projects, that later need to be changed to make way for a more encompassing project.

Sometimes changes are made with the IMR funding solving one problem and creating another, for example, changing a storage room to a break-out room creating a storage room deficiency. Or, adding a storage room to a front office area makes the front office unworkable.

4.10 School Yard Size and Configuration

The schoolyard shared by St. Albert High School and Vincent J. Maloney Junior High School is too small for the numbers of students using the site. This site limits the exterior athletic program for the students, causes constraints on parking, creates potential friction between students of different levels and limits student drop-off/pick-up and bus loading options. The solution requires a thoughtful detailed replanning of the site and must consider programs for some of the athletic activities.

The shared site for Ecole Marie Poburan and Ecole Secondaire Sainte Marguerite d'Youville has limited site space adjacent to the schools. Trees adding an aesthetic element to the site surround the schools; however security has reportedly been an issue. The playground serving these schools is difficult to monitor because it is out of direct sight from the schools.

4.11 Storage Deficiency

Most of the schools visited in this study reported a lack of storage. Some schools lack general storage, while others lack storage in the office areas. Some schools reported lack of storage for bulk buying so they would save money on school supplies. Some schools require more gym equipment storage. Some schools need larger rooms for janitor's equipment, which has increased in size in recent years. Some of the schools have converted storage rooms into offices or breakout rooms then reported a storage shortage. Some schools store unused desks and bulky unused TV's, video players, and TV carts.

With the high cost of school facility construction and maintenance, a balance of useful storage space to support teaching programs by storing aids and equipment must be maintained. As there are a limited number of square feet allotted to storage in funding allocations, there is a balance that needs to be achieved between program delivery space and storage space.

While in some schools there are legitimate storage space concerns, in most, the storage space needs to be carefully reconsidered in terms of effective management of existing storage space. For example, at Legal School the storage room shortage problem was eliminated by a general clean up and disposal of items and equipment no longer used and never to be used again.

4.12 Portables

Throughout the Division there are 96 portables attached to the 16 schools. This amounts to 27% of the total classroom space. Most of the portables are 25 years and older. Portables were intended and have been designed to have a lifespan of 20 years. Because their life span was to be limited, the portable classrooms were not equipped with shelving, lighting and electrical standards as you would find in permanent classrooms. Due to their age, the portables are becoming increasingly high maintenance. An unproportional amount of the maintenance and IMR budgets are spent on the portables to keep them serviceable. The ongoing problems include:

- Furnace replacement;
- Heating control issues;
- Air quality problems;
- Unstable foundations;
- Roof leaks;
- Poor insulation; and
- Sound separation issues.

These problems lead to health and safety issues, program delivery limitations and general discomfort of the students and teachers. Many of the portables are underequipped in terms of shelving and cabinets creating further program delivery limitations.

In addition, the large number of portables at some of the school's core are creating:

- Shortage of washrooms;

- Distance to washrooms from portables;
- Storage areas are inadequate; and
- Staff room and workrooms are undersized due to extra teachers and staff in portables.

The school site layout in many cases, where portables have been added over the years, are experiencing deficiencies including:

- Insufficient parking stalls for staff and visitors;
- Inadequate bus loading areas; and
- Parent drop-off and loading areas are congested and dangerous.

Discussion

How to overcome the deficiencies caused by portables at Division schools? As both St. Albert and Morinville and Legal communities have growing populations, it would be worthwhile to develop long term, quality school facilities for future generations of students.

That is, schools without temporary, hard to maintain portables, and replace them with well designed permanent classrooms. Also, the core facilities and site layout must match and accommodate the number of classrooms.

In some cases, upgrading the schools and adding permanent classrooms along with adequate core facilities is a solution. In other cases, the portables need to be decommissioned and a new school be built to replace the removed classrooms.

4.13 Class Size Initiative and Utilization

Alberta Education Class Size Initiative compared to Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional Division No. 29

| | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | ACOL 5 YEAR GUIDELINES |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| | GSACRD Average | GSACRD Average | GSACRD Average | |
| K - Grade 3 | 0 (19.4) | 0 (18.6) | 19.7 (18.4) | 17 |
| Grades 4 - 6 | 0 (22.0) | 0 (21.4) | 22.8 (21.3) | 23 |
| Grades 7 - 9 | 0 (22.7) | 0 (22.6) | 24.8 (22.5) | 25 |
| Grades 10 -12 | 0 (23.0) | 0 (23.1) | 23.6 (22.7) | 27 |

ACOL – Alberta Commission on Learning

GSACRD – Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional Division No. 29

Provincial Average in brackets ()

Over the past three years, the Class Size Initiative in Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools is moving towards reaching the ACOL target. In all grades, except K-3, the classroom size target has been met. Additional classrooms will be required to meet the ACOL targets for grades K-3.

As of September 2008 there are 1585 students in grades K-3. At 19.7 students per class, it takes 80 classrooms to accommodate K-3 students. In order to meet the initiative, a total of 93 classrooms are required throughout the Division – a shortfall of 13 classrooms or about one classroom per school.

Decreasing the number of students in K – 3 grades has the impact of raising the utilization factor of the schools by effectively lowering school capacity. More classrooms are required to accommodate fewer students due to reduced class sizes.

Before the Class Size Initiative, class sizes for K-3 were 25. Using the GSACRD 2008 enrollment figures, it would take 64 classrooms to accommodate 1585 students prior to the ACOL target. Under the new Class Size Initiative, 93 classrooms are required. This amounts to 30 more classrooms (nearly 2 classrooms per school) while reducing the school capacity by about 10% and raising utilization by over 5%. This only applies to schools with K-3 students.

5. LONG TERM FACILITIES PLAN

As outlined in Section 4. DIVISION CONCERNS, there are a number of issues related to facilities in GSACRD which led to declining enrollments especially in the junior and senior high schools. The Division's administration recognizes the importance of understanding the reasons behind the declining enrollments and the need to plan and build facilities that appeal to students. Students play a key role in choosing where they attend school and take into account the age of the school, availability of new teaching approaches, and technology in the classrooms. All Division schools need to be critically assessed and modernized to remain viable.

In Morinville and Legal, where to date there is only one choice for the students, the dropping enrollments are not the problem. However, upon visiting the schools, facility shortcomings were identified and listed in reports about each school. These facilities must be replanned and modernized to standards so students can achieve the very best education.

In order for the Division to regain lost enrollments and capture the rightful share in St. Albert, the concerns outlined in this report need to be thoughtfully addressed. Each of the schools a detail list of issues are outlined along with some suggestions for remedial action. For each of these items, a budget cost was attached. These budgets assume that the schools be modernized and expanded in place including the portable classrooms. This alternative would give a needed lift to the existing facilities; however, this approach would be a short term view to achieving high quality school facilities in the long term.

The total budget amount for both communities is \$38.5 million.

Over the past years, Division figures show over 500 more students in Grades 1- 6 than in Grades 7 - 12. A reasonable number of students lost, not withstanding school dropouts, is estimated at 300. When the schools are upgraded and the lost enrollments regained, development of a new school would be justified.

Due to the core and site deficiencies at many of the schools, downsizing (right-sizing) some of the schools by removal of portables is recommended. The reduced capacities from downsizing would be replaced in a second new school. This new school would be further justified by 13 additional classrooms being required in the Division due to Class Size Initiative as recommended by the Alberta Commission on Learning.

Because of the high maintenance and unsuitable teaching space of many of the portables (96 in total) it is recommended that the oldest two thirds of these be replaced with new permanent construction, some at the same schools and some included as part of a new school. The newer one-third of the portables would remain in service and be upgraded as required. The newer 32 portables remaining at schools in the Division are then available for their intended purpose, that is, to provide temporary accommodation to address shifting enrollments.

The budget cost of this Long Term Facilities Plan would be \$80.9 million. See summary of Cost Estimates page 20. This combined budget costs of \$80.9 million would be over a 10

year span of which \$54 million would be for modernization and portable classroom replacement and \$27 million for construction of two new schools.

A summary of the proposed decommissioning of portables, modernizations, new permanent classrooms and new schools is outlined in Section 6. Ten Year Capital Requirements 2009 – 2018 on page 18. The School Board, based on the details of this plan, can set priorities annually in the Three Year Capital Plan to be submitted to Alberta Education. This plan and the individual school reports (FACILITY DEVELOPMENT PLANS) can be used as guidelines for school planning, funding applications and communication tools whenever Division school facilities are concerned.

PORTABLE SUMMARY

Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional Division No. 29

| | Schools | Number of Portables | After Decommission |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| ST. ALBERT | Albert Lacombe School | 0 | 0 |
| | Bertha Kennedy Catholic Community School | 6 | 0 |
| | Ecole Father Jan Community School | 9 | 1 |
| | Ecole Marie Poburan | 12 | 10 |
| | Ecole Secondaire Sainte Marguerite d'Youville | 10 | 10 |
| | J.J. Nearing Catholic Elementary School | 7 | 7 |
| | Neil M. Ross Catholic School | 12 | 0 |
| | Richard S. Fowler Catholic Junior High School | 8 | 0 |
| | St. Albert Catholic High School | 0 | 0 |
| | Vincent J. Maloney Catholic Jr High School | 3 | 3 |
| | Vital Grandin Catholic School | 0 | 0 |
| | COMMUNITY TOTAL | 67 | 31 |
| MORINVILLE/LEGAL | Ecole Georges H. Primeau School | 9 | 0 |
| | Ecole Georges P. Vanier School | 9 | 0 |
| | Morinville Community High School | 1 | 1 |
| | Notre Dame Elementary School | 10 | 0 |
| | Legal School | 0 | 0 |
| | COMMUNITY TOTAL | 29 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 96 | 32 | |

SUMMARY OF COST ESTIMATES

Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional Division No. 29

| | Schools | ¹ Total | New Classrooms and New School | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| ST. ALBERT | Albert Lacombe School | \$881,000 | \$0 | |
| | Bertha Kennedy Catholic Community School | \$750,000 | \$1,500,000 | |
| | Ecole Father Jan Community School | \$1,874,500 | \$1,249,500 | |
| | Ecole Marie Poburan | \$727,000 | \$273,000 | |
| | Ecole Secondaire Sainte Marguerite d'Youville | \$1,675,500 | \$0 | |
| | J.J. Nearing Catholic Elementary School | \$545,000 | \$0 | |
| | Neil M. Ross Catholic School | \$1,304,000 | \$1,996,000 | |
| | Richard S. Fowler Catholic Junior High School | \$1,355,000 | \$1,945,000 | |
| | St. Albert Catholic High School | \$16,500,000 | \$0 | |
| | Vincent J. Maloney Catholic Jr High School | \$2,940,000 | \$0 | |
| | Vital Grandin Catholic School | \$707,000 | \$0 | |
| | New K -6 School in Timberlea | \$0 | \$12,000,000 | |
| | New K-9 School in Hunter Ridge | \$0 | \$15,000,000 | |
| | COMMUNITY TOTAL | \$29,259,000 | \$33,963,500 | |
| MORINVILLE/LEGAL | Ecole Georges H. Primeau School | \$1,682,000 | \$2,018,000 | |
| | Ecole Georges P. Vanier School | \$370,000 | \$1,750,000 | |
| | Morinville Community High School | \$3,690,000 | \$0 | |
| | Notre Dame Elementary School | \$2,199,000 | \$2,500,000 | |
| | Legal School | \$1,304,000 | \$2,196,000 | |
| | COMMUNITY TOTAL | \$9,245,000 | \$8,464,000 | |
| | DIVISION TOTAL | \$38,504,000 | \$42,427,500 | \$80,931,500 |

NOTE:

1. Total projected cost - obtained from Individual Facility Development Plan 2008.

6. TEN YEAR CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS 2009 - 2018

ST. ALBERT COMMUNITY

- Albert Lacombe School** _____ \$881,000/
- modernization c/w replanning site
- Bertha Kennedy Catholic School** _____ \$750,000/\$2,250,000
- decommission 6 portables
- lower capacity to 300 from 406
- major replanning & modernization of school & site
- add 2 new permanent classrooms
- Ecole Fr. Jan Community School** _____ \$1,874,000/\$3,124,000
- decommission 6 portables, the newest 2 portables to remain
- lower capacity to 300 - enrollments to new school 100 students
- major modernization of school, add 6 permanent classrooms & replan site
- Ecole Marie Poburan** _____ \$727,000/\$1,000,000
- decommission 2 portables
- lower capacity to 385
- minor modernization, 1 permanent classroom & upgrade core facilities
- replan site – parking, bus loading & parent drop
- Secondaire Sainte Marguerite d'Youville** _____ \$1,675,000/
- add weight & boot room
- minor modernizations
- replan site – parking, bus loading & parent drop-off
- JJ Nearing Catholic Elementary School** _____ \$545,000/
- minor modernizations – break-out rooms
- site work
- Neil M. Ross Catholic School** _____ \$1,304,000/\$3,300,000
- decommission 12 portables
- lower capacity to 350 - enrollments to new school 100 students
- major modernization, 8 new classrooms & upgrade core facilities
- replan site
- Richard S. Fowler Catholic Junior High School** _____ \$1,355,000/\$3,300,000
- decommission 8 portables
- build 8 permanent classrooms
- modernization with CTS classroom upgrade
- replan site bus & parent drop-off
- St. Albert Catholic High School** _____ /\$16,500,000
- complete modernization as outlined
- replan site parking & bus drop-off
- Vincent J. Maloney Catholic Junior High School** _____ /\$2,940,000
- modernization including CTS & HVAC system
- 2 new classrooms increase capacity to 648
- replan site parking, bus loading & parent drop-off

New Elementary School Capacity 350 in St. Albert \$12,000,000

- in Timberlea subdivision in west St. Albert
- 16 classrooms permanent
- set up for special needs students

New K – 9 School Capacity 400 in St. Albert \$15,000,000

- in Hunter Ridge subdivision in north-east St. Albert
- 16 classrooms permanent
- specialized CTS program

Vital Grandin Catholic School \$707,000

- modernization
- reduce capacity by reclassification to 410
- replan site parking

MORINVILLE/LEGAL COMMUNITY

Ecole Georges H. Primeau School \$1,682,000/\$3,700,000

- modernization
- decommission 9 portables
- 8 permanent new classrooms, 2 which would be designed for the drama program
- site work

Ecole Georges P. Vanier School \$ \$370,000/\$2,120,000

- minor modernization
- parking & bus loading extension
- decommission 9 portables replace with 7 permanent
- reduce school capacity to 475

Morinville Community High School \$3,690,000

- redecorate – paint & carpet
- space for special needs students
- replanning of CTS space
- 2 new classrooms & staff workroom
- drama theatre

Notre Dame Elementary School \$2,199,000/\$4,699,000

- decommission 10 portables
- 10 new permanent classrooms & core facilities
- 3 specialized classrooms
- modernization
- replan site – parking, bus loading & parent drop off

Legal School \$1,304,000/\$3,500,000

- modernization & CTS classrooms
- demolish 2 storey & replace with one storey w/handicap access
- reduce capacity to 355

Note: The first dollar figure beside each school represents an upgrade to schools as per school Facility Development Plans with no decommissioned and replaced portables. The second figure includes the decommissioning and replacement with permanent classrooms along with 2 new schools made necessary as outlined in this report.

TOTAL SCHOOL FUNDING in 2008 DOLLARS \$38,504,000/\$80,931,500

STUDENT ENROLLMENT FOR SEPTEMBER 30 2008 - GSACS

Provided by Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional Division No. 29

| | Schools | K | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | FTE | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| ST. ALBERT | Albert Lacombe | 19 | 38 | 33 | 43 | 56 | 59 | 48 | | | | | | | 296 | |
| | Bertha Kennedy | 13 | 22 | 33 | 32 | 38 | 49 | 57 | | | | | | | 244 | |
| | Ecole Father Jan | 24 | 73 | 45 | 51 | 55 | 44 | 42 | | | | | | | 334 | |
| | Ecole Marie Poburan | 28 | 55 | 44 | 48 | 51 | 35 | 47 | | | | | | | 308 | |
| | Ecole Secondaire Sainte Marguerite | | | | | | | | 97 | 87 | 109 | 56 | 43 | 36 | 428 | |
| | J.J. Nearing | 25 | 50 | 62 | 54 | 60 | 67 | 66 | | | | | | | 384 | |
| | Neil M. Ross | 30 | 63 | 53 | 62 | 75 | 70 | 90 | | | | | | | 443 | |
| | Richard S. Fowler | | | | | | | | 95 | 132 | 138 | | | | 365 | |
| | St. Albert | | | | | | | | | | | 167 | 179 | 183 | 529 | |
| | Vincent J. Maloney | | | | | | | | 193 | 172 | 194 | | | | 559 | |
| | Vital Grandin | 17 | 40 | 35 | 29 | 54 | 43 | 43 | | | | | | | 261 | |
| MORINVILLE/LEGAL | Ecole Georges H. Primeau | | | | | | | 111 | 124 | 149 | | | | | 384 | |
| | Ecole Georges P. Vanier | 28 | 58 | 61 | 54 | 50 | 60 | | | | | | | | 311 | |
| | Morinville Community | | | | | | | | | | 135 | 157 | 156 | 177 | 625 | |
| | Notre Dame | 31 | 59 | 47 | 44 | 66 | 60 | | | | | | | | 307 | |
| | Legal | 10 | 27 | 24 | 23 | 24 | 27 | 20 | 37 | 30 | 21 | | | | 243 | |
| | TOTAL FTE | 223 | 485 | 437 | 440 | 529 | 514 | 524 | 546 | 570 | 597 | 380 | 378 | 396 | 6019 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ADJUSTED ENROLLMENT | 6396 |

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| Kindergarten | 223 |
| Elementary | 2929 |
| Jr. High | 1713 |
| Sr. High | 1154 |
| TOTAL | 6019 |
| Total K - 3 | 1585 |

NOTE:

K(kindergarten) also referred to as **ECS**(early childhood services)
 Each kindergarten student is considered 0.5 full time equivalent **FTE**

ADJUSTED ENROLLMENT

Severe rated special ed students - each is counted as 3 thus the greater enrollment figure

DIVISION ENROLLMENT AND UTILIZATION FOR 2008/09

Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional Division No. 29

| | Schools | Current Alberta Infrastructure Numbers | | | 5 Year Projection | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| | | Net Capacity 2008/09 | Adjusted Enrollment 2008/09 | Utilization 2008/09 | Net Capacity 2013/14 | Adjusted Enrollment 2013/14 | Utilization 2013/14 |
| ST. ALBERT | Albert Lacombe School | 452 | 318 | 70% | 452 | 342 | 76% |
| | Bertha Kennedy Catholic School | 406 | 266 | 66% | 406 | 208 | 51% |
| | Ecole Father Jan Community School | 380 | 334 | 88% | 380 | 360 | 95% |
| | Ecole Marie Poburan | 414 | 308 | 74% | 414 | 335 | 81% |
| | Secondaire Sainte Marguerite d'Youville | 542 | 448 | 83% | 542 | 450 | 83% |
| | J.J. Nearing Catholic Elementary School | 527 | 402 | 76% | 552 | 407 | 74% |
| | Neil M. Ross Catholic School | 554 | 473 | 85% | 554 | 548 | 99% |
| | Richard S. Fowler Catholic Jr. High School | 456 | 387 | 85% | 456 | 366 | 80% |
| | St. Albert Catholic High School | 940 | 577 | 61% | 1111 | 595 | 54% |
| | Vincent J. Maloney Catholic Jr High School | 588 | 577 | 98% | 588 | 662 | 113% |
| | Vital Grandin Catholic School | 562 | 289 | 51% | 562 | 282 | 50% |
| COMMUNITY TOTAL | 5,821 | 4,379 | 76% | 6017 | 4,555 | 78% | |
| MORINVILLE/LEGAL | Ecole Georges H. Primeau School | 608 | 412 | 68% | 608 | 430 | 71% |
| | Ecole Georges P. Vanier School | 528 | 327 | 62% | 528 | 327 | 62% |
| | Morinville Community High School | 770 | 678 | 88% | 770 | 714 | 93% |
| | Notre Dame Elementary School | 368 | 343 | 93% | 368 | 387 | 105% |
| | Legal School | 455 | 257 | 56% | 455 | 286 | 63% |
| | COMMUNITY TOTAL | 2,729 | 2017 | 73% | 2729 | 2144 | 79% |
| DIVISION-WIDE TOTAL | 8,550 | 6,396 | 75% | 8746 | 6,699 | 78% | |

ADJUSTED ENROLLMENT

Severe rated special ed students - each is counted as 3 thus the greater enrollment figure

IMR FUNDED PROJECTS HISTORY

Division Wide 2004-2008

| | Schools | IMR FUNDED PROJECTS TOTAL FROM 2004-2008 |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| ST. ALBERT COMMUNITY | Albert Lacombe School | \$869,911 |
| | Bertha Kennedy Catholic Community School | \$147,126 |
| | Ecole Father Jan Community School | \$191,546 |
| | Ecole Marie Poburan | \$50,395 |
| | Ecole Secondaire Sainte Marguerite d'Youville | \$46,516 |
| | J.J. Nearing Catholic Elementary School | \$83,742 |
| | Neil M. Ross Catholic School | \$287,880 |
| | Richard S. Fowler Catholic Junior High School | \$37,233 |
| | St. Albert Catholic High School | \$526,270 |
| | Vincent J. Maloney Catholic Junior High School | \$511,599 |
| | Vital Grandin Catholic School | \$57,754 |
| MORINVILLE/LEGAL COMMUNITY | Ecole Georges H. Primeau School | \$270,300 |
| | Ecole Georges P. Vanier School | \$201,499 |
| | Morinville Community High School | \$191,831 |
| | Notre Dame Elementary School | \$305,693 |
| | Legal School | \$66,556 |
| | Various Schools | \$660,671 |
| | TOTAL | \$4,506,522 |

NOTES:

See details of projects on the following pages - School by school.

| School | 2004/05 | 2005/06 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2008/09 | School Total |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Albert Lacombe | \$18,696 | \$15,274 | \$112,230 | \$196,222 | \$527,489 | \$869,911 |
| Bertha Kennedy | \$1,130 | \$16,582 | \$33,816 | \$95,598 | | \$147,126 |
| Father Jan | | \$5,753 | \$47,053 | \$138,740 | | \$191,546 |
| Marie Poburan | | \$31,919 | \$11,476 | \$7,000 | | \$50,395 |
| ESSMY | | \$20,338 | \$15,644 | \$10,534 | | \$46,516 |
| J.J. Nearing | | \$1,140 | \$12,586 | \$25,016 | \$45,000 | \$83,742 |
| Neil M. Ross | | \$34,905 | \$37,836 | \$119,441 | \$95,698 | \$287,880 |
| Richard S. Fowler | | \$4,908 | \$13,024 | \$19,301 | | \$37,233 |
| St. Albert | \$330,898 | \$156,574 | \$27,996 | \$10,802 | | \$526,270 |
| Vincent J. Maloney | | \$4,466 | \$14,400 | \$320,900 | \$171,833 | \$511,599 |
| Vital Grandin | \$9,326 | \$25,261 | \$6,259 | \$6,908 | \$10,000 | \$57,754 |
| Georges Primeau | | \$70,706 | \$9,594 | | \$190,000 | \$270,300 |
| Georges Vanier | | \$153,228 | \$10,850 | \$37,421 | | \$201,499 |
| Morinville Comm. | \$126,864 | \$7,219 | \$32,526 | \$25,222 | | \$191,831 |
| Notre Dame | \$24,038 | \$18,915 | \$28,081 | \$234,659 | | \$305,693 |
| Legal | | \$3,769 | \$2,366 | \$20,421 | \$40,000 | \$66,556 |
| Various | | | | \$278,852 | \$381,819 | |
| Year Total | \$510,952 | \$570,957 | \$415,737 | \$1,547,037 | \$1,461,839 | \$4,506,522 |