



SWIFT CURRENT ACADEMY SCHOOL SYSTEM REVIEW



BACKGROUND

The Board of Trustees has directed the staff of the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District (NLESD) to investigate the potential for the closure of Swift Current Academy, with K-12 students accommodated at Tricentia Academy starting in 2018-19 school year.

CURRENT CONFIGURATION

The Tricentia Academy (K-12) school system is a single-school system in Arnold's Cove. The Swift Current Academy (K-12) school system is a single-school system in Swift Current.

SWIFT CURRENT ACADEMY

- Swift Current Academy is a K-12 school with 5 classrooms for an enrolment of 24 students.
- School services the communities of Swift Current, Garden Cove, Black River, North Harbour, and Garden Cove.

TRICENTIA ACADEMY

- Tricentia Academy is a K-12 school with 13 classrooms for an enrolment of 222 students.
- School services students from Arnold's Cove, Southern Harbour, Sunnyside, Come-By-Chance, Little Harbour, and Arnold's Cove Station.



ENROLMENT PROJECTIONS AND ROOM REQUIREMENTS

Enrolment projections were conducted by NLESD using Baragar Systems, a custom planning software suite for use by school districts across Canada.

Room requirements are calculated on the basis of maximum class caps. For example, the class cap in primary grades is 25 students, so if there were 50 students projected in Grade 2, this means the room requirement would be listed as 2 rooms of 25 students per class. However, if there were 51 students projected for the next year in Grade 3, the room requirement would be listed as 3 rooms of 17 students per class. Combined classes of up to 18 students for grade 1 to 6 are assumed and included in room requirement calculations. Senior high classes have no official cap; these room requirement calculations assume a cap of 30. Schools with less than 25 students may use multi-grading, in which the cap on number of students depends on the grade configuration.

SWIFT CURRENT ACADEMY

Assuming its current K-12 configuration, the enrolment projections for Swift Current Academy are shown in Figure 1 below.

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	LI	LII	LIII	Total	Rooms
2017	0	2	5	0	8	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	5	24	3
2018	1	0	2	5	0	8	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	19	3
2019	2	1	0	2	5	0	8	0	0	1	0	1	1	21	3
2020	2	2	1	0	2	5	0	8	0	0	0	0	1	21	3
2021	1	2	2	1	0	2	5	0	8	0	0	0	0	21	2
2022	2	1	2	2	1	0	2	5	0	8	0	0	0	23	3
2023	1	2	1	2	2	1	0	2	5	0	7	0	0	23	3
2024	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	0	2	5	0	7	0	25	3
2025	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	0	2	4	0	7	25	3
2026	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	0	1	4	0	19	3

Figure 1: Swift Current Academy enrolment projections

The projection model shows enrolment varying between a high of 25 in 2025 and a low of 19 in 2026. The school currently uses multi-grading for 3 classrooms, and will require a maximum of 3 rooms in most years.

TRICENTIA ACADEMY

Assuming its current K-12 configuration, the enrolment projections for Tricentia Academy are shown in Figure 2 below.

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	LI	LII	LIII	Total	Rooms
2017	14	10	14	21	17	13	14	13	13	20	17	24	23	213	13
2018	15	15	12	14	21	17	13	14	13	13	20	18	24	209	13
2019	5	16	16	12	14	21	17	13	14	13	13	21	18	193	12
2020	11	6	18	16	12	14	21	17	13	14	13	14	21	190	12
2021	10	12	7	18	16	12	14	21	17	13	14	14	14	182	12
2022	10	11	14	7	18	16	12	14	21	17	13	15	14	182	12
2023	10	11	12	14	7	18	16	12	14	21	17	14	15	181	12
2024	10	11	13	12	14	7	18	16	12	14	21	18	14	180	12
2025	10	11	12	13	12	14	7	18	16	12	14	22	18	179	12
2026	10	11	13	12	13	12	14	7	18	16	12	15	22	175	12

Figure 2: Tricentia Academy enrolment projections

The projection model shows enrolment decreasing to a low of 175 by 2026. This enrolment trend indicates a need for a maximum of 13 classrooms in 2017 and 2018.

ACCOMMODATING SWIFT CURRENT ACADEMY AT TRICENTIA ACADEMY

Enrolment projections for the combined K-12 enrolments of Swift Current Academy and Tricentia Academy are shown in Figure 3 below.

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	LI	LII	LIII	Total	Rooms
2017	14	10	14	21	17	13	14	13	13	20	17	24	23	213	13
2018	16	15	14	19	21	25	13	14	14	13	21	19	24	228	13
2019	7	17	16	14	19	21	25	13	14	14	13	22	19	214	12
2020	13	8	19	16	14	19	21	25	13	14	13	14	22	211	12
2021	11	14	9	19	16	14	19	21	25	13	14	14	14	203	12
2022	12	12	16	9	19	16	14	19	21	25	13	15	14	205	12
2023	11	13	13	16	9	19	16	14	19	21	24	14	15	204	12
2024	12	12	15	13	16	9	19	16	14	19	21	25	14	205	12
2025	11	13	13	15	13	16	9	19	16	14	18	22	25	204	13
2026	12	12	15	13	15	13	16	9	19	16	13	19	22	194	12

Figure 3: Combined Swift Current Academy and Tricentia Academy enrolment projections

The addition of Swift Current Academy students does not affect the maximum room requirement at Tricentia Academy.

PROGRAMMING AND SERVICES

CLASS COMPOSITION

Swift Current Academy currently has multi-graded classes from K-12. Tricentia Academy is a single stream school with most classes averaging 15 to 20 students. With consolidation, students from Swift Current Academy will enter a classroom with age level peers. Additionally there will be more opportunities for age level collaboration and socialization for students.

CORE CURRICULUM

Consolidating Swift Current Academy and Tricentia Academy will allow for students to be taught by more specialist teachers in areas such as math, science, physical education, French, and music. Consolidation will provide opportunities for teacher collaboration to support enhanced learning opportunities for students.

SPECIALIST SPACES

Consolidating with Tricentia Academy would give students from Swift Current Academy access to more specialist spaces and resources. Tricentia Academy has a full size gymnasium, fitness room, cafeteria/lunchroom, library/resource room, guidance office, skilled trades/technology suite, music room, art room and instructional resource rooms. At Tricentia Academy all classes are equipped with interactive whiteboards/SmartBoards and wifi to support interactive teaching and learning.

GUIDANCE AND STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Swift Current Academy shares guidance services with Tricentia Academy and Southwest Arm Academy with time being allocated to each school based on student population. A guidance counselor is scheduled to visit Swift Current Academy one day a week.

Consolidation of Swift Current Academy at Tricentia Academy would increase student access to guidance services and dedicated student support services.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Schools provide a variety of extra-curricular, co-curricular, and intramural activities and programs which may be available to students if consolidation of schools occurs.

TRANSPORTATION

1. Transportation Description

- a. Regular Transportation current service for Tricentia Academy:
 - i. 2 70 passenger buses (contracted)
 - ii. 2 mini buses (contracted)
- b. Regular transportation current service for Swift Current Academy:
 - i. 1 private vehicle (contracted)
 - ii. 1 48 passenger bus (contracted)
- c. Change in Requirements if Swift Current Academy closed:
 - i. Addition of one (1) extra private vehicle

2. Distances

- a. Distance from school to school - 44 kms
- b. From Google imagery, farthest house is 49 kms from Tricentia Academy
- c. Bus run time 37 minutes
- d. Private vehicle for Black River run time 37 minutes
- e. Private vehicle for North Harbour run time 45 minutes

3. Estimated Cost Increase

- a. \$20,000-\$30,000/yr - estimated cost to extend existing Swift Current Academy routes to travel to Tricentia Academy
- b. \$40,000/yr for a second private vehicle

The bus route would begin at the far end of Swift Current and proceed through town on to Tricentia Academy, as shown in figure 4 below.



Figure 4: Mini-bus route from Swift Current to Tricentia Academy

The first private vehicle route would begin in Black River and proceed to highway 210 and on to Tricentia Academy, as shown in figure 5 below.



Figure 5: Private vehicle route from Black River to Tricentia Academy

The second private vehicle route would begin in North Harbour and proceed to highway 210 and on to Tricentia Academy, as shown in figure 6 below.



Figure 6: Private vehicle route from North Harbour to Tricentia Academy

FINANCES

Closing Swift Current Academy would result in a potential savings of \$160,000 in operating costs (shown in figure 7), up to 3 teaching units, and 0.5 administration units. There would be an estimated increase of \$20,000 to \$30,000 to extend the existing bus routes to travel to Tricentia Academy and \$40,000 for a second private vehicle. This results in a total estimated savings of \$440,000 per year.

Newfoundland & Labrador English School District	
Breakdown of operating expenses	
	Swift Current Academy
Salaries and benefits:	
Support Staff	88,000
Utilities:	
Phone	9,700
Electricity	7,200
Fuel	12,700
Janitorial products	1,700
Snow removal	27,400
Municipal fees	900
Garbage collection	7,200
Repairs and maintenance	5,200
Total	160,000

Figure 7: Swift Current Academy operating costs