

GILL MEMORIAL ACADEMY/PHOENIX ACADEMY SCHOOL SYSTEMS REVIEW





BACKGROUND

On December 7, 2019, the Board of Trustees read the following Notice of Motion to be voted on at the March 28, 2020 public meeting of the Board:

MOTION: Gill Memorial Academy/Phoenix Academy School System, Gill Memorial Academy (K-12), Phoenix Academy (K-12), Sandstone Academy (K-6)

WHEREAS the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and

WHEREAS a reorganization of schooling in the Gill Memorial Academy/Phoenix Academy School Systems is required to achieve that objective;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that: Sandstone Academy K-6 will close effective June, 2020 and all students will attend Phoenix Academy K-12 effective September, 2020.

BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED that: The student attendance zone for Phoenix Academy will be rezoned to include the current student attendance zone for Sandstone Academy.

The initial stages of this review involved both the Gill Memorial Academy and Phoenix Academy school systems. However, during the December 7, 2019, regular public meeting of the Board of Trustees, it was decided that Gill Memorial Academy would not be part of the next phase of this school review process. Consequently, the Notice of Motion previously outlined pertains only to the Phoenix Academy school system. If this motion is passed, Sandstone Academy would close effective June 2020, and the K-6 students from that school would be rezoned to attend Phoenix Academy, beginning in September 2020. Since the initial Thought Exchange survey included both the Gill Memorial Academy and Phoenix Academy school systems, the report for both of these systems is contained in this document. However, there are no references to Gill Memorial Academy in the information related to the next phase of this school system process, since that school system is no longer part of the ongoing review.

CURRENT CONFIGURATION

The Gill Memorial Academy school system consists of Gill Memorial Academy (K-12) in Musgrave Harbour. The Phoenix Academy school system consists of Sandstone Academy (K-6) in Ladle Cove and Phoenix Academy (K-12) in Carmanville.

GILL MEMORIAL ACADEMY

- Gill Memorial Academy is a Grades K-12 school with 12 classrooms.
- The school has an estimated capacity of 250 students.
- The school has a current enrolment of 119.
- Building was constructed in 1962.

SANDSTONE ACADEMY

- Sandstone Academy is a Grades K-6 school with three classrooms.
- The school has an estimated capacity of 75 students.
- The school has a current enrolment of 14.
- Building was constructed in 1988.

PHOENIX ACADEMY

- Phoenix Academy is a Grades K-12 school with 13 classrooms.
- The school has an estimated capacity of 360 students.
- The school has a current enrolment of 196.
- Building was constructed in 2005.



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. These projections are a best estimate of future enrolments based on current data and historical trends. Actual enrolments may differ from projections. Enrolments listed for a given school year are reflective of the data on September 30 of that year.

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 two 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 three rooms of 17 students per class. Combined classes of up to 18 students for Grades 1 to 6 are assumed and included in room requirement calculations. Schools with less than 25 students may use multi-grading, in which the cap on number of students depends on the Grade configuration. Senior high classes have no official cap; these room requirement calculations assume a cap of 30.

The listed estimated capacities assume that all classrooms are full to the grade level caps. However, based on the distribution of students in each grade level, schools generally do not have all classrooms completely filled. For this reason, the calculated room requirement is a more accurate representation of a school's ability to accommodate the number of students enrolled.

GILL MEMORIAL ACADEMY

Assuming the current K-12 configuration, the enrolment projections for Gill Memorial Academy are shown in Figure 1 below. The school has a total of 12 classrooms

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	Rooms
2019	2	10	5	6	11	9	13	11	13	6	16	11	6	119	12
2020	3	2	10	5	6	11	9	14	10	15	6	15	11	117	12
2021	4	3	2	10	5	6	11	10	13	12	15	5	15	111	12
2022	5	4	3	2	10	5	6	12	9	15	12	14	5	102	12
2023	4	5	4	3	2	10	5	7	11	11	15	11	14	102	12
2024	4	4	5	4	3	2	10	6	6	13	11	14	11	93	12
2025	4	4	4	5	4	3	2	11	5	8	13	10	14	87	12
2026	4	4	4	4	5	4	3	3	10	7	8	12	10	78	11
2027	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	2	12	7	7	12	73	11
2028	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	3	4	12	6	7	66	11
2029	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	6	4	5	4	11	6	64	11

Figure 1: Gill Memorial Academy enrolment projections

The projection model shows enrolment decreasing to a low of 64 in 2029. The school is projected to require a maximum of 12 classrooms from 2020 to 2025. However, the school currently uses two multi-grade classes (a Kindergarten/Grade 1 class and a Grade 2/Grade 3 class) for a total of 10 classrooms. The school could continue to use multi-grading throughout the 10-year projection.

SANDSTONE ACADEMY

Assuming the current K-6 configuration, the enrolment projections for Sandstone Academy are shown in Figure 2 below. The school has a total of three classrooms.

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total	Rooms
2019	2	2	0	2	4	3	3	16	2
2020	0	2	2	0	2	4	3	13	2
2021	4	0	2	2	0	2	4	14	2
2022	1	4	0	2	2	0	2	11	2
2023	2	1	4	0	2	2	0	11	2
2024	2	2	1	4	0	2	2	13	2
2025	2	2	2	1	4	0	2	13	2
2026	2	2	2	2	1	4	0	13	2
2027	2	2	2	2	2	1	4	15	2
2028	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	13	2
2029	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	14	2

Figure 2: Sandstone Academy enrolment projections

The projection model shows enrolment decreasing to a low of 11 in 2022 and 2023. The school uses two multi-grade classes (a Kindergarten to Grade 3 class and a Grade 4 to Grade 6 class). The school could continue to use multi-grading throughout the 10-year projection to accommodate its enrolment in two classrooms.

PHOENIX ACADEMY

Assuming the current K-12 configuration, the enrolment projections for Phoenix Academy are shown in Figure 3 below. The school has a total of 13 classrooms.

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	Rooms
2019	7	10	14	9	16	13	14	21	22	12	23	22	13	196	12
2020	10	8	10	14	10	16	13	17	25	23	13	24	22	205	12
2021	3	11	8	10	15	10	16	16	18	21	23	12	20	183	12
2022	7	4	11	8	11	15	10	20	17	14	21	22	8	168	12
2023	6	8	4	11	9	11	15	12	21	13	14	20	18	162	12
2024	7	7	8	4	12	9	11	12	13	17	13	13	16	142	12
2025	6	8	7	8	5	12	9	12	13	9	17	12	9	127	12
2026	7	7	8	7	9	5	12	10	13	9	9	16	8	120	12
2027	6	8	7	8	8	9	5	10	11	9	9	8	12	110	11
2028	7	7	8	7	9	8	9	11	11	7	9	8	4	105	11
2029	6	8	7	8	8	9	8	9	12	7	7	8	4	101	11

Figure 3: Phoenix Academy enrolment projections

The projection model shows enrolment decreasing to a low of 101 in 2029. The school is projected to require a maximum of 12 classrooms from 2020 to 2026.

FIRST CONSULTATION

The District consulted with the school communities using the online platform ThoughtExchange. ThoughtExchange provides an inclusive opportunity for all members of the school communities to participate in the decision-making process, and have their ideas and thoughts considered by their peers. The overall goal is to enhance the District's communication with stakeholders; enhance the transparency of the consultation process, and to ensure all members of the school community have an equal opportunity to have a voice. This process, and information collected, will assist the Board of Trustees in determining what, if any, adjustments should be made to the school system for the 2020-21 school year.

The first consultation for the Gill Memorial Academy and Phoenix Academy school systems posed the following question:

“What are the most important things for the District to consider in reviewing the Phoenix Academy and Gill Memorial Academy school systems?”

The results of this consultation follow on pages 11 to 14.

DEMOGRAPHICS

A total of 186 people participated in the consultation, with 570 thoughts shared. There were a total of 16,279 ratings.

- 150 of the participants shared thoughts.
- 132 participants rated thoughts.
- 156 participants explored thoughts.

Parents and guardians of students made up 56% of the participants.

- Recognizing you may belong to more than one of the following groups, please choose the one that most appropriately describes your role in this exchange.



%	Person Icon	Role
56%	(102)	Parent/Guardian
10%	(19)	Extended family member (grandparent, aunt, etc)
11%	(20)	Student
12%	(22)	School staff member
11%	(21)	Community member

Participants identified most commonly with the Gill Memorial Academy school community, followed by the Phoenix Academy school community.

- To what school community do you most closely associate? If you have multiple students in the system, please choose the school of your youngest student.



%	Person Icon	School Community
32%	(58)	Phoenix Academy
3%	(6)	Sandstone Academy
64%	(118)	Gill Memorial Academy
1%	(2)	None of the above

TOP THOUGHTS

Closing schools Neither GMA OR PA should close, by forcing those students to switch to a school they do not want to attend will cause major stress and mental illness



Think about student mental health



Comment

The District recognizes the importance of mental wellness for all students and staff. This is a very important issue in today's society and there are many District led/supported initiatives. District staff continue to work with our administrators, teachers, other staff, various organizations and community partners to develop and support many initiatives/programs in this area.

I think that both schools should stay open. This would affect people's jobs, community and where people live. Driving from Musgrave to carmanville is Not ideal if the students don't even wanna go there.



Amazing staff teachers and staff at Gill Memorial Academy go above and beyond for their students



I am a grandmother of 2 children who attend GMA, my two sons also attended GMA who have moved on to be successful in their careers. I feel that the closure of GMA could have negative affects not only on our students but the community as a whole.



Comment

NLESD appreciates the level of support provided to our schools by their respective communities. However, the school review process is based on the principle of providing the best educational/programming options for students from all areas of the District.

Loss of our GMA Vikings! This may seem like a small matter but the kids that participate in sports would disagree. Our kids and community live for these events and it keeps our kids active. They would never wear another name on their jersey! For our kids to lose this would be beyond awful!



The extra time that a teacher takes during after hours that they are not paid to help students speaks volumes. They are appreciated beyond words. For all the determination they have instilled into our children to achieve a better and higher education.



Comment

NLESD supports the holistic development of our students. The District appreciates the extra volunteer time given by our teachers, other staff and community members to support our students by offering various extra-curricular activities. Each school is unique with respect to the number and types of activities they are able to offer to students.

Gill Memorial Academy has been successful in creating a safe and caring environment for students, staff and guests. Safe and caring initiatives are at the forefront in modern educational environments. When a school is successful in this area why move the students?

4.2 ★★★★★ (34) Ranked #8 of 562



Comment

Positive and productive relationships between teachers, other staff and students are the foundation to learning in all NLESD schools. The District and all schools are expected to follow the guidelines/protocols in the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's Safe and Caring school policy. This is the link for further reference <https://www.gov.nl.ca/eecd/k12/safeandcaring/parents/>

Is this all about saving money? I feel that it is. Students deserve better from our government. Our teachers and staff deserve better. Bigger classrooms DO NOT help students or teachers. It adds extra stress which is totally not needed in this day and age.

4.2 ★★★★★ (34) Ranked #9 of 562



Comment

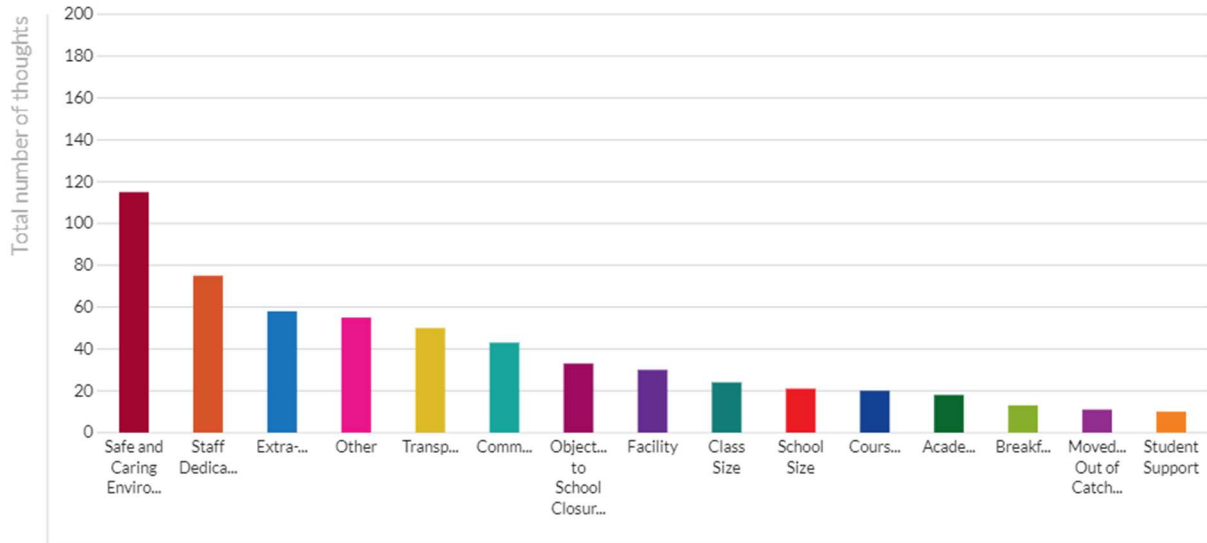
The guiding principle of the school review process is to ensure the best possible programming and service delivery for students in all areas of the District.

Keep the 3 schools open. Why should either of them close? Parents/students should fight to keep all the schools open.

4.2 ★★★★★ (33) Ranked #10 of 562



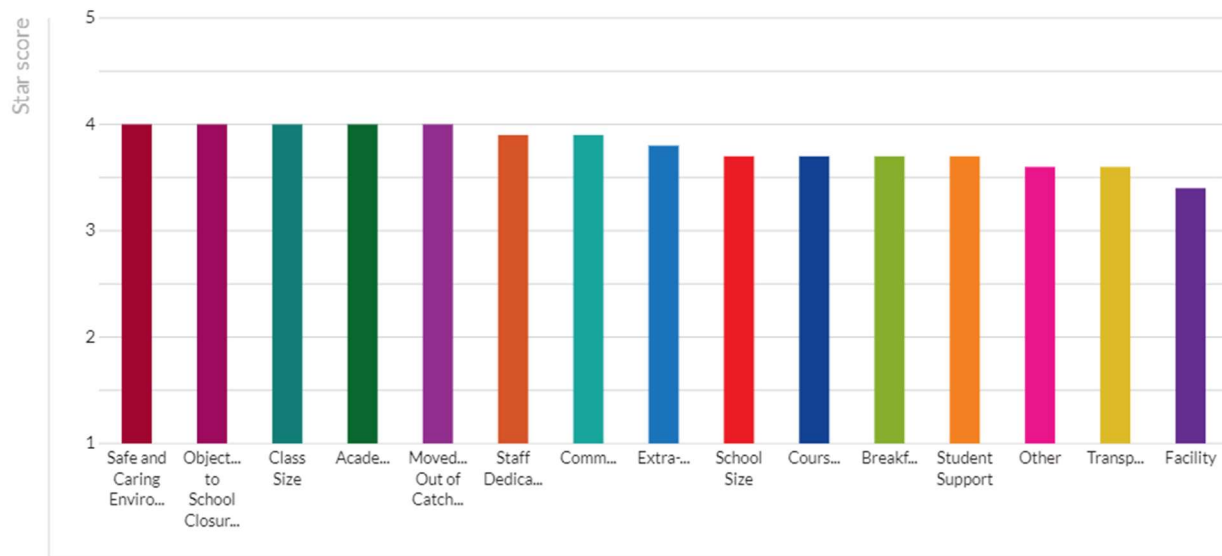
COMMON THEMES



*All Themes: Safe and Caring Environment, Staff Dedication, Extra-Curricular, Other, Transportation, Community, Objection to School Closure, Facility, Class Size, School Size, Courses/Programs, Academics, Breakfast, Moved/Transferred Out of Catchment, Student Support

The most commonly-cited thoughts were related to Safe and Caring School Environments (112), Staff Dedication (74), Extra-Curricular Activities (58), and Transportation (50).

THEME RATINGS



*All Themes: Safe and Caring Environment, Objection to School Closure, Class Size, Academics, Moved/Transferred Out of Catchment, Staff Dedication, Community, Extra-Curricular, School Size, Courses/Programs, Breakfast, Student Support, Other, Transportation, Facility

The highest-rated thoughts were related to Safe and Caring School Environments (4.0), Objections to School Closures (4.0), Class Size (4.0), Academics (4.0), and Moved or Transferred from Out of Catchment (4.0).

Other feedback has been received by the District from community members, the School Council of Sandstone Academy, and other organizations. All information provided prior to the December 7, 2019 meeting of the Board has been shared with trustees. Feedback received after December 7 will be provided to trustees in advance of the March 28, 2020 meeting.

PROPOSED CONFIGURATION

Sandstone Academy is proposed to close at the end of the 2019-20 school year. Beginning in September 2020, the student attendance zone of Sandstone Academy will be added to the student attendance zone of Phoenix Academy. Students who would have attended Sandstone Academy for Grades K-6 will attend Phoenix Academy instead.



PHOENIX ACADEMY

Assuming the proposed K-12 configuration, the enrolment projections for Phoenix Academy are shown in Figure 4 below. The school has a total of 13 classrooms.

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	Rooms
2019	7	10	14	9	16	13	14	21	22	12	23	22	13	196	12
2020	10	10	12	14	12	20	16	17	25	23	13	24	22	218	12
2021	7	11	10	12	15	12	20	16	18	21	23	12	20	197	12
2022	8	8	11	10	13	15	12	20	17	14	21	22	8	179	12
2023	8	9	8	11	11	13	15	12	21	13	14	20	18	173	12
2024	9	9	9	8	12	11	13	12	13	17	13	13	16	155	12
2025	8	10	9	9	9	12	11	12	13	9	17	12	9	140	12
2026	9	9	10	9	10	9	12	10	13	9	9	16	8	133	12
2027	8	10	9	10	10	10	9	10	11	9	9	8	12	125	11
2028	9	9	10	9	11	10	10	11	11	7	9	8	4	118	11
2029	8	10	9	10	10	11	10	9	12	7	7	8	4	115	11

Figure 4: Phoenix Academy enrolment projections

The projection model shows enrolment decreasing to a low of 115 in 2029. The school is projected to require a maximum of 12 classes from 2020 to 2026.

PROGRAMMING AND SERVICES

GENERAL PROGRAM COMMENTS

Some of the District's considerations related to the proposed changes for the Phoenix Academy school system are as follows:

- Play-Based Learning currently permeates the K-3 classroom and associated instructional strategies centre around students being able to interact with their peer group in various play scenarios (pairs, small group, large group). Class size in the proposed K-12 school allows teachers and students to capitalize on these valuable opportunities.
- The extra resources that will be provided to Phoenix Academy through the Provincial Government's Education Action Plan will support the further development of numeracy, literacy and social-emotional learning in Grades K-6.
- Students would have access to enhanced learning spaces such as a fully equipped Music Room, Technology Lab, Library and Theatre.
- Students would be taught by specialized teachers in areas such as Physical Education, Music, French (optional in K-3), and student services (i.e. Special Education).
- Grade 6 students would avail of Intensive Core French.
- There would be increased opportunities for students to avail of various technologies at Phoenix Academy.
- Possibility for students to develop leadership skills with increased leadership opportunities in a larger school.
- There will be opportunity for increased student socialization and interaction with their peers in a larger school.
- There would be increased opportunities for teacher collaboration within the primary and elementary divisions. Teacher collaboration and planning provide enhanced opportunities for student learning.
- A K-12 school system will provide an opportunity for teachers and other staff members to build relationships with students over a 13-year period. This increased contact time will provide advantages, especially for addressing the needs of at-risk learners and for social-emotional learning.

Details regarding class configurations, staffing, specialist information and programming are outlined in the various sections which follow.

CLASS COMPOSITION

All projected staffing information in this document is based on the current teacher allocation guidelines used for the 2019-2020 school year. The tables which follow show the projected number of classroom teaching units. Other allocations for administration, guidance, music, physical education, and student services are provided to schools based on the overall student enrolment. Class sizes are formula driven for specific grade levels and are not related to the grade configuration or overall student enrolment of a school.

<p>Table 1:</p> <p>Sandstone Academy 2020-2021 (Status Quo)</p> <p>K-3 4 students 4-6 9 students</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Classroom Configurations</u></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Grade</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Enrolment</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Classroom Teaching Units</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Grade K</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td rowspan="9" style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;">2 teaching units</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Grade 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Grade 2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Grade 3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Grade 4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Grade 5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Grade 6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: This school does not qualify for any additional specialists allocations due to its small student enrolment.</p>	Grade	Enrolment	Classroom Teaching Units	Grade K	0	2 teaching units	Grade 1	2	Grade 2	2	Grade 3	0	Grade 4	2	Grade 5	4	Grade 6	3	Total	13
Grade	Enrolment	Classroom Teaching Units																			
Grade K	0	2 teaching units																			
Grade 1	2																				
Grade 2	2																				
Grade 3	0																				
Grade 4	2																				
Grade 5	4																				
Grade 6	3																				
Total	13																				

Table 2: Phoenix Academy with Sandstone Academy 2020-2021	<u>Classroom Configurations</u>		
	Grade	Enrolment	Classroom Teaching Units
	Grade K	10	1
	Grade 1	10	1
	Grade 2	12	1
	Grade 3	14	1
	Grade 4	12	1
	Grade 5	20	1
	Grade 6	16	1
	Grade 7	17	1
	Grade 8	25	1
	Grade 9	23	1
	Grade 10	13	3 high school teaching units
Grade 11	24		
Grade 12	22		
Total	218		

Note: If the proposed changes are made, Sandstone Academy students would be integrated into a single stream system. Phoenix Academy will be a single stream school with or without the addition of the Sandstone Academy students and the staffing level at Phoenix Academy would be the same with or without the proposed changes.

SPECIALIST ALLOCATIONS (MUSIC AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION)

Table 3: Specialist Allocations Sandstone Academy K-6	Specialist Allocations Phoenix Academy with Sandstone Academy K-12
Sandstone Academy currently has no specialist allocation as a small school and thus for a projected population of 13 for 2020-2021, the school will not receive any additional units to support these curriculum areas.	It is projected that Phoenix Academy will have specialist allocations (1.31) as per the notes below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music Teacher • Physical Education Teacher

In addition to the above specialists, Phoenix Academy has a Core French teacher from Grades 4-10. The school also offers Intensive Core French (ICF) to all students in Grade 6.

There would be more specialized programming available to students at Phoenix Academy.

STUDENT SERVICES - INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE TEACHER (IRT) SUPPORT

Table 4:	
<p><u>Sandstone Academy</u></p> <p>Currently there is no Instructional Resource Teacher allocation for Sandstone Academy and it is anticipated to remain the same based on the projected enrollment for 2020-2021.</p>	<p><u>Phoenix Academy with Sandstone Academy</u></p> <p>Phoenix Academy - projected allocation for IRT is 1.5 units.</p>

- Please note that there is also an additional IRT allocation given to every school based on the provision of programming for students who have been diagnosed with an exceptionality. This is determined yearly based on the needs which exist in a specific school.
- As noted above there will be specialized Instructional Resource Teacher (IRT) support available to all students attending Phoenix Academy.

Phoenix Academy has the following facilities to support student services programming:

- There is currently a student services programming space with a functioning washroom and lift/change station.
- There are two IRT rooms for small group sessions.
- There is a medical office that doubles as a sensory room when necessary with a washroom off this area.
- Guidance area contains an informal conferencing area, private office and also an itinerant space/office for any itinerants that visit.
- IRTs use these spaces to support the delivery of alternate programs for students with diagnosed exceptionalities and those requiring social-emotional learning programming.

GUIDANCE SUPPORT/SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Guidance services are currently shared between three schools - Sandstone Academy, Phoenix Academy and Gill Memorial Academy.

If the proposed changes move forward, students of Sandstone Academy will have greater access to a Guidance Counsellor. The following are some of the benefits from this arrangement:

- The Guidance Counsellor would serve two schools as opposed to three schools allowing for more direct contact with students.
- The Guidance Counsellor's opportunity to interact with students at Phoenix Academy during non-scheduled time (before class, recess, lunch, and after school) will increase.
- More collaboration between the Guidance Counsellor and other members of Program Planning Teams (PTT), Service Delivery Teams, Individual Student Services Planning Teams, and Responsive, Teaching and Learning Teams will be possible.
- Increased ability to deploy throughout the school in support of children, youth and staff who have experienced a traumatic or critical incident.
- The depth to which the Guidance Counsellor could implement the Comprehensive Guidance Plan developed in consultation with the school community should increase.

The Guidance Counsellor at Phoenix Academy has been working with students in many areas such as: organizational skills sessions, study skill sessions, Gender Sexuality Alliance (GSA) group, RCMP outreach-Top Cop Reading Program and Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.), and mindfulness activities in K-6.

EDUCATION ACTION PLAN

The Education Action Plan is the result of the Premier's Task Force on Improving Educational Outcomes. This K-6 initiative started to be implemented during the 2018-2019 school year, with a three year phase-in period. Schools involved in the 2018-2019 school year are known as Phase One schools. Schools that started with the initiative during the current 2019-2020 school year are known as Phase Two schools. It is expected that all of the remaining schools with some combination of K-6 grades will become involved as Phase Three schools during the 2020-2021 school year.

It is expected that both Sandstone Academy and Phoenix Academy will be Phase Three schools with respect to the Education Action Plan for the 2020-2021 school year. Phoenix Academy is projected to receive the following extra resources: 0.5 School Based Reading Specialist, 1.0 Teaching and Learning Assistant, and a 0.5 Teacher Librarian. This allocation is independent of a reconfigured system. These extra resources will support the development of numeracy, literacy, and social-emotional learning in Grades K-6.

Based on the projected enrollment for Sandstone Academy, it is not expected that extra staffing would be provided as part of this initiative. Greater opportunities for teachers and extra support for students (reading specialist, teaching and learning assistant, teacher librarian) would exist within the larger school setting.

AVAILABILITY OF TEACHER LIBRARIAN TO SUPPORT PROGRAMMING IN THE REGULAR CLASSROOM

Phoenix Academy currently has a Teacher Librarian allocation to support students. It also has a public library that is now utilized by students and teachers.

In September 2020, Phoenix Academy is expected to be a Phase Three school, and it is anticipated that the school will receive a half time Teacher Librarian to support learning from K-12. This resource will be utilized to create a Library Learning Commons in consultation with the existing public library.

- Library Learning Commons are great learning spaces which support Makerspace education.
- The Teacher Librarian and classroom teachers will collaborate and use this public library space/classroom for learning initiatives/events that support learning in three areas - literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional learning.

SPECIALTY AREAS TO SUPPORT PROGRAMMING/CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION**Table 5:****Sandstone Academy**

- Two classroom spaces currently being utilized.
- Two other available spaces.
- Multi-purpose/gym area with equipment room.
- Canteen and main office area.

Table 6:**Phoenix Academy**

- Gymnasium with extended stage (doubles as the school's cafeteria).
- Cafeteria space and services - all students can order a hot meal.
- Public library supported by the community with internet access, wifi, hours of operation open to the community. School classes visit the library with a designated period in their schedule.
- Music room - fully equipped with access to the adjoining theatre.
- Theatre with a seating capacity of 130 for performances, assemblies, guest speakers, musicals, and drama productions.
- Computer Lab - one room dedicated solely to computer technology.
- Science Lab.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY FOR STUDENT PROGRAMMING

Both schools use a variety of technologies to support student programming.

Sandstone students avail of: laptop computers, Chromebooks, coding software, assistive technology (Word Q/SpeakQ), hovercams, light tables, Zorbis - math online programming supplied by the District and other online resources (e.g. Under the Sea), Epic online resource used to support reading and a Green Screen. If Sandstone Academy closes, these resources would be transferred to Phoenix Academy.

Additionally, Phoenix Academy has: a dedicated Computer Lab, 3-D printer ordered, Makerspace in the initial stages, Surface Pro computers and iPads used for assistive technology which are given to support specific learning needs of students.

OPTIONAL PROGRAMS - GRADE 6 INTENSIVE CORE FRENCH

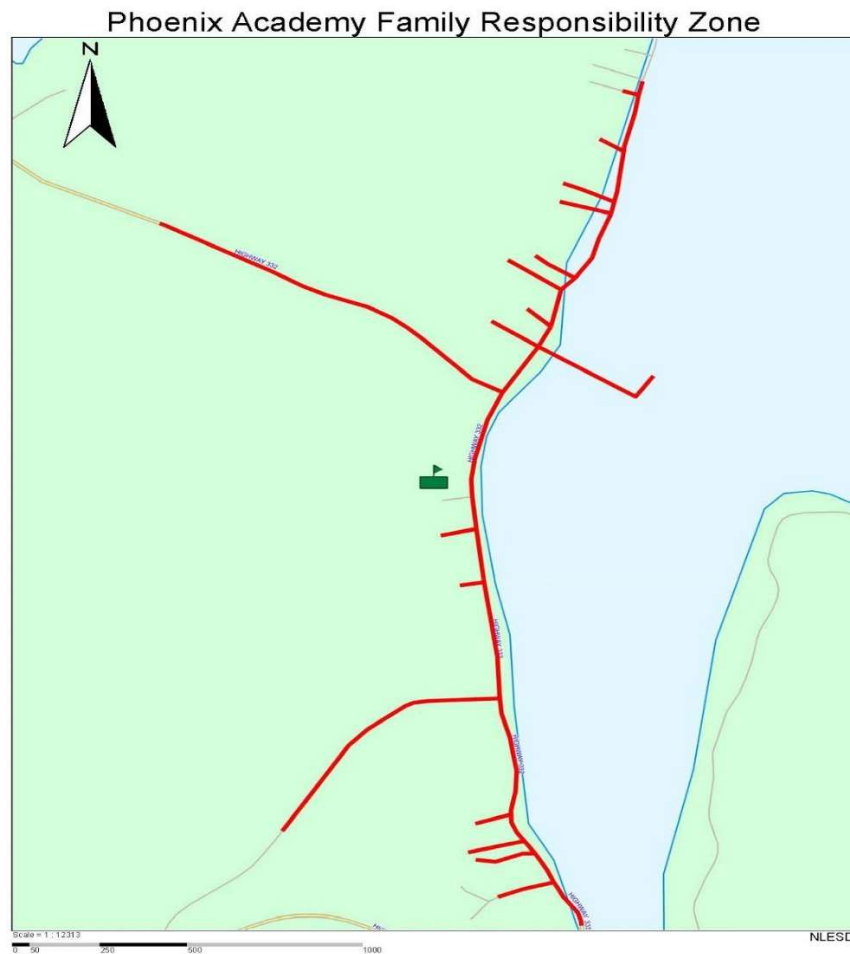
Phoenix Academy offers Intensive Core French (ICF) to all Grade 6 students. ICF students have the opportunity to study French culture both inside and outside the classroom. This program enhances student understanding of the French language and provides students the opportunity to become more fluent in their oral and written work.

TRANSPORTATION

The current configuration of the Phoenix Academy system uses five buses to perform six bus runs. The current longest bus run time is 45 minutes from Aspen Cove/Ladle Cove to Phoenix Academy.

With the proposed configuration change, there would be no change to the longest bus run time. One less bus would be required, for a total of four buses performing five bus runs, since Grades K-6 students from Aspen Cove/Ladle Cove could travel to Phoenix Academy on the existing run with Grades 7-12 students.

The Family Responsibility Zone for Phoenix Academy is shown below. It includes 66 non-bus-eligible students. There would be no change to this Family Responsibility Zone with the proposed configuration change. All students currently in the student attendance zone for Sandstone Academy would qualify for busing to Phoenix Academy.



RESULTING FINANCIAL IMPACT

Annual cost reductions for each school are estimated based on projected student enrolment for the 2020-21 school year and may vary in future years. Reductions are comprised of support staff salaries, facility operating costs, and transportation costs. These figures do not reflect potential changes in instructional units (for information regarding changes in instructional units, see Programming and Services section above). Actual reductions will vary from estimated amounts due to a number of unknown factors, such as potential costs relating to upkeep of vacant school buildings during disposal period.

The proposed configuration change would result in an estimated annual reduction in costs of between \$155,000 and \$162,000 from the closure of Sandstone Academy.

Further information on these schools can be found at the links below.

Gill Memorial Academy: www.nlesd.ca/schools/schoolprofile.jsp?id=447

Sandstone Academy: www.nlesd.ca/schools/schoolprofile.jsp?id=443

Phoenix Academy: www.nlesd.ca/schools/schoolprofile.jsp?id=436