



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
June 30, 2022

BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVES 2022-23 CAPITAL PLAN SUBMISSION

LANGFORD, BC – At the June 28, 2022 public board meeting, the Sooke School District Board of Education approved the 2022-23 Major Capital Plan Submission. The submission prioritizes district-wide needs for new school construction, seismic upgrades, modernizations, and replacements from the provincial government. The Board of Education acknowledges that new schools as well as improvements and additions to our current schools are critical to keep pace with the unparalleled growth in our region.

“Building new schools in our rapidly growing communities is essential, but it is not enough to meet our responsibility to deliver high-quality learning experiences for all of our students,” said Ravi Parmar, Chair of the Sooke School District Board of Education. “One of the highlights from the submission is the request for a seismic replacement that would see a partnership between the Sooke School District and Pacheedaht Nation to build a K-12 campus in Port Renfrew. The campus would drastically improve access for Grade 5-12 students by offering education in their home community instead of having to ride a bus 3 or more hours a day to get to and from the nearest middle or secondary school in Sooke. This partnership is an example of one of the many collaborative relationships we pursue to improve our communities as a whole.”

“As our communities continue to grow, the accommodation pressures on our district become more challenging every year. Without adding new schools or expanding current schools, more students are forced into out-of-catchment schools and that is not ideal,” said Scott Stinson, Superintendent and CEO of the Sooke School District. “We would like our students to be able to attend schools closer to their homes and at the same time, take financial pressures off of the transportation and portable budget cost associated with temporary measures to accommodate students.”

Highlights from the [Capital Submission Plan](#):

- New Schools
 - North Lanford Elementary
 - South Colwood Elementary
 - North Langford Secondary
 - Sooke River Elementary
- Seismic
 - Port Renfrew Elementary
 - Sooke Elementary
- Replacement
 - Millstream Elementary

- Addition
 - Ruth King Elementary
- Building Envelope
 - Edward Milne Community School

The Sooke School District continues to advocate for new projects with the Ministry of Education and childcare but recognizes that the provincial government determines where and when new schools are built. Each year, school districts across the province submit a Capital Plan to the Ministry of Education by June 30 for the following year.

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