

New Westminster Schools Long Range Facility Plan Update 2026

June 1, 2026



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Agenda

1. Background
2. Where are we now, and work done to date
3. Enrolment Projections 2036 and 2040
4. Two Scenarios (A and B)
5. Questions

2 Things Happening Concurrently

1. Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) & Capital Plan submission
 - Strategic document,
 - Longer planning horizon to 2040 and beyond,
 - Need for other considerations beyond capacity creation.
 2. Ministry direction around moving to business case for a super campus project at Lord Tweedsmuir Site
 - Narrower focus to resolve an immediate problem,
 - Ministry timeline up to 2036
- Opportunities and Challenges

How are decisions made ?

- All capital projects for public schools in BC are funded **provincially** by Ministry of Infrastructure.
- Each year, the 60 School Districts in BC submit their Capital Plan requests which are then prioritized, considered and in some cases supported by government.
- Supported vs. Funded Projects.
 - **Supported** – when a concept proposed by the District goes to business case development (Project Definition Report (PDR)). Note that a business case may have a few options included.
 - **Funded** – approval and acceptance of the business case to fund construction.
- Decision timelines from project approval to opening may take 5 years

Tools in our toolkit to address capacity

- Requests for capital projects (school additions and/or new schools) → Preferred
- Use of portables
- Relocation of programs
- Grade reconfigurations or timetable modifications
- Catchment boundary changes (complex puzzle considering new projects that may come online in a short window)

Where Are We Now & Work Done to Date



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Key Themes

1. Sustained Enrolment Growth
2. Geography, Topography, and Cost Constraints
3. Understanding Capacity and Intensification Opportunities on Existing School Sites

Work Done to Date

The team:

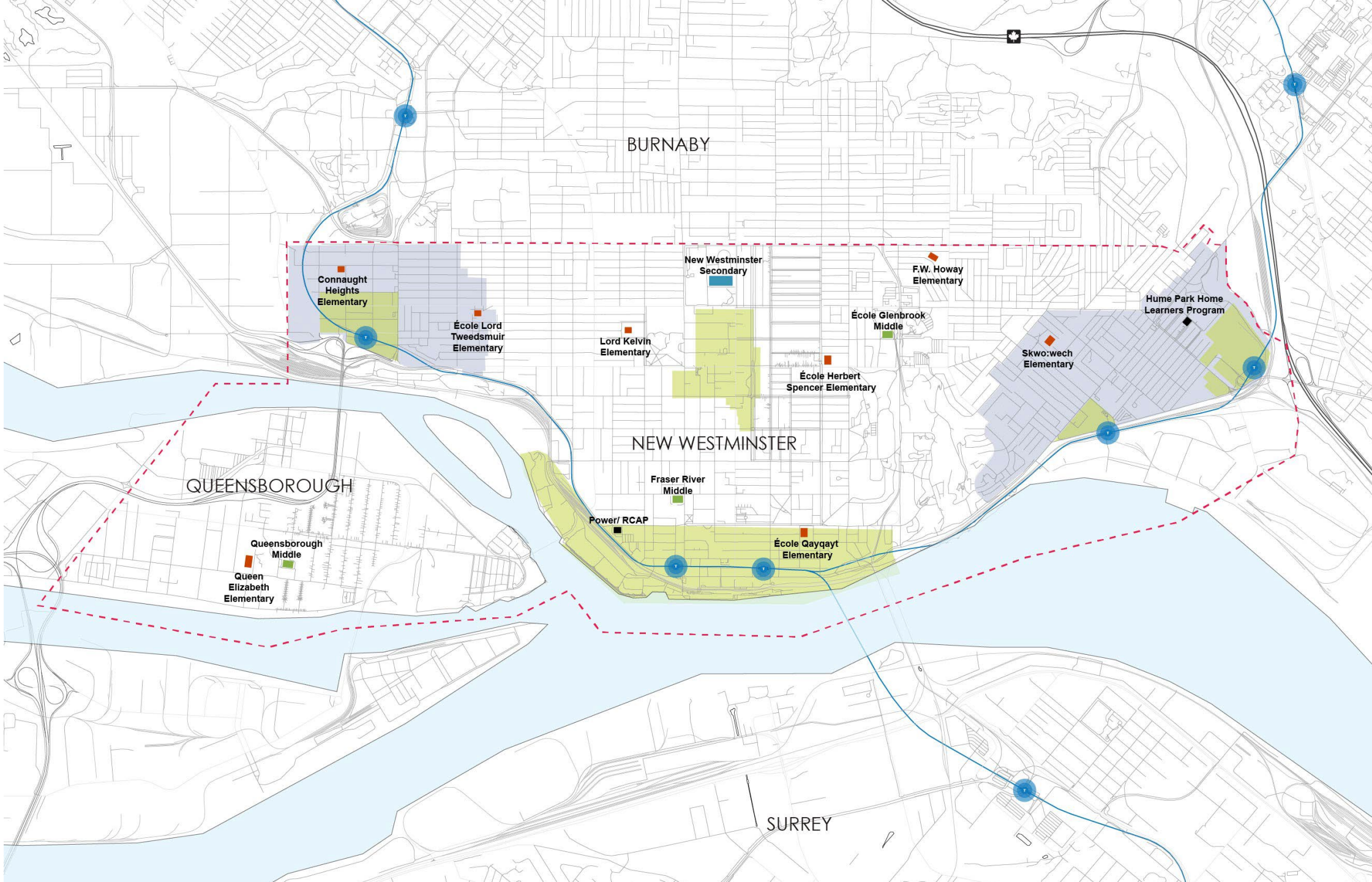
- Investigated 3 Grade reconfiguration models
 - Developed up to 8 options
 - Conducted multiple meetings with the Ministry
 - Developed two scenarios
-
- Each scenario can 'solve' the enrolment challenges until 2036 **with one super campus project**
 - Close to, or soon after 2036, each option will require future projects – **and this is where the major difference lies**

Enrolment projections (2036 and 2040)



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How do enrolment projections work?

- Used an external consultant with 20+ years experience in planning and projections for school districts.
- The Consultant has considered Barager projections (company that does projections for all school districts in BC) plus City and Metro Vancouver projections, as well as conducted meetings with the City on various projects on the go and planned developments.
- The consultant looked at projections for the District as a whole, by family of schools, and individually by school.
- Using this data, various scenarios could be developed for consideration.

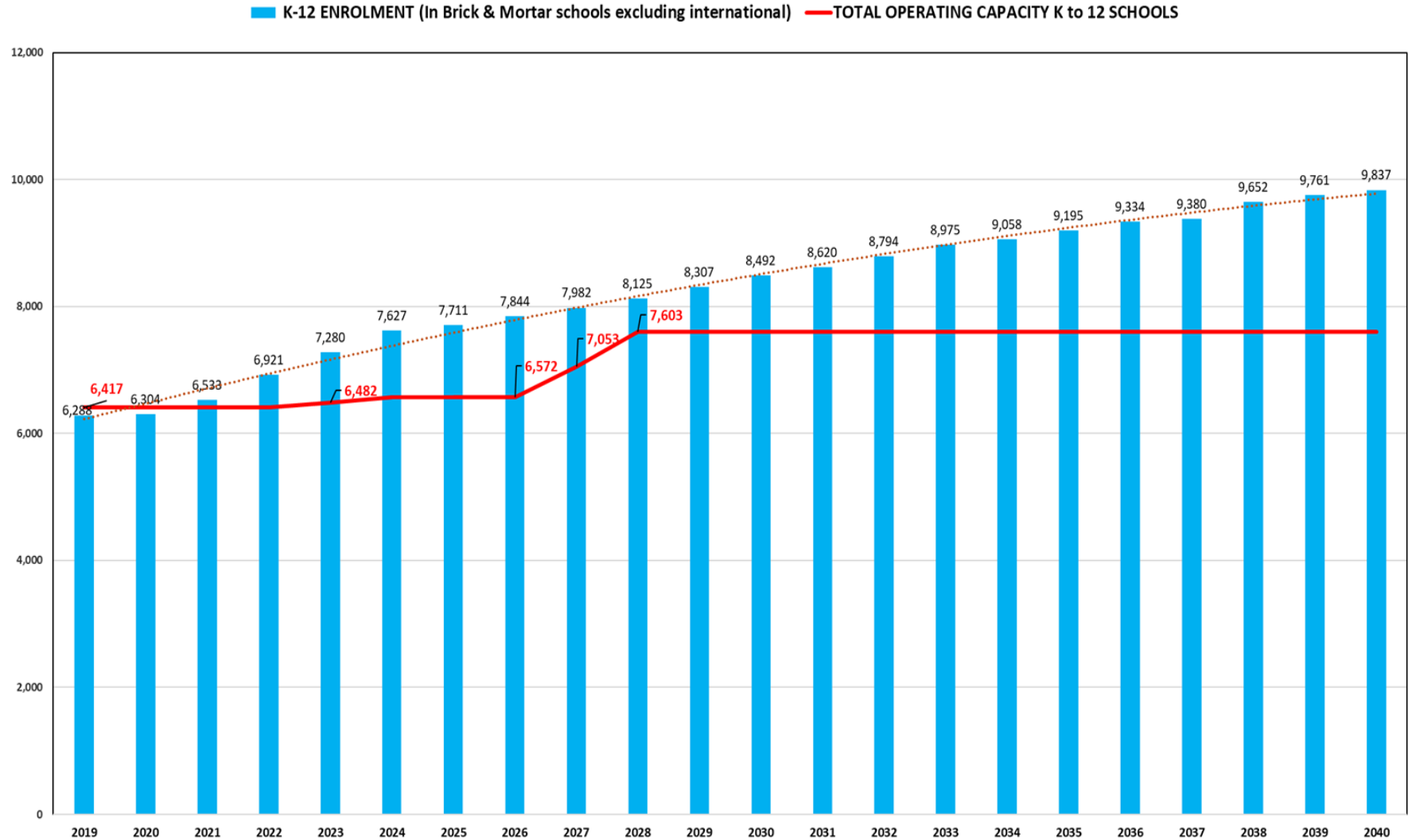
Enrolment Projections

2019-2025 ACTUAL ENROLMENT & 2026-2040 ENROLMENT PROJECTION

TOTALS K-12 SCHOOLS WITH APPROVED CAPACITY

Approved Capacity includes Expansion of Queen Elizabeth in 2027 and new Simcoe Elementary in 2028

(Total enrolment does not include Power & Royal City Alternate, New Westminster Virtual, Home Learners and International Students)



Scenario A & Scenario B



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A

Scenario A

- **Capital projects** 2026-2036:
 - Tweedsmuir Site super campus with Junior-Secondary School (6-12)
 - Middle School renovations to convert to elementary (K – 7)
- **Capital projects** 2036-2040:
 - Lord Kelvin replacement at increased capacity (650-800)
 - New Elementary at Hume Park
- **Capital projects** after 2040:
 - New Elementary School (cap. tbd, in Fraser River Zone)
- **Grade reconfiguration** K-7, 8-12

This Scenario Requires:



A

Scenario A (cont.)

- **Seismic:** Hume Park
- **Site Acquisitions:**
 - RCAP/POWER
 - Additional property adjacent to Hume Park Elementary
 - New **Elementary** site in Fraser River Zone

This Scenario Requires:

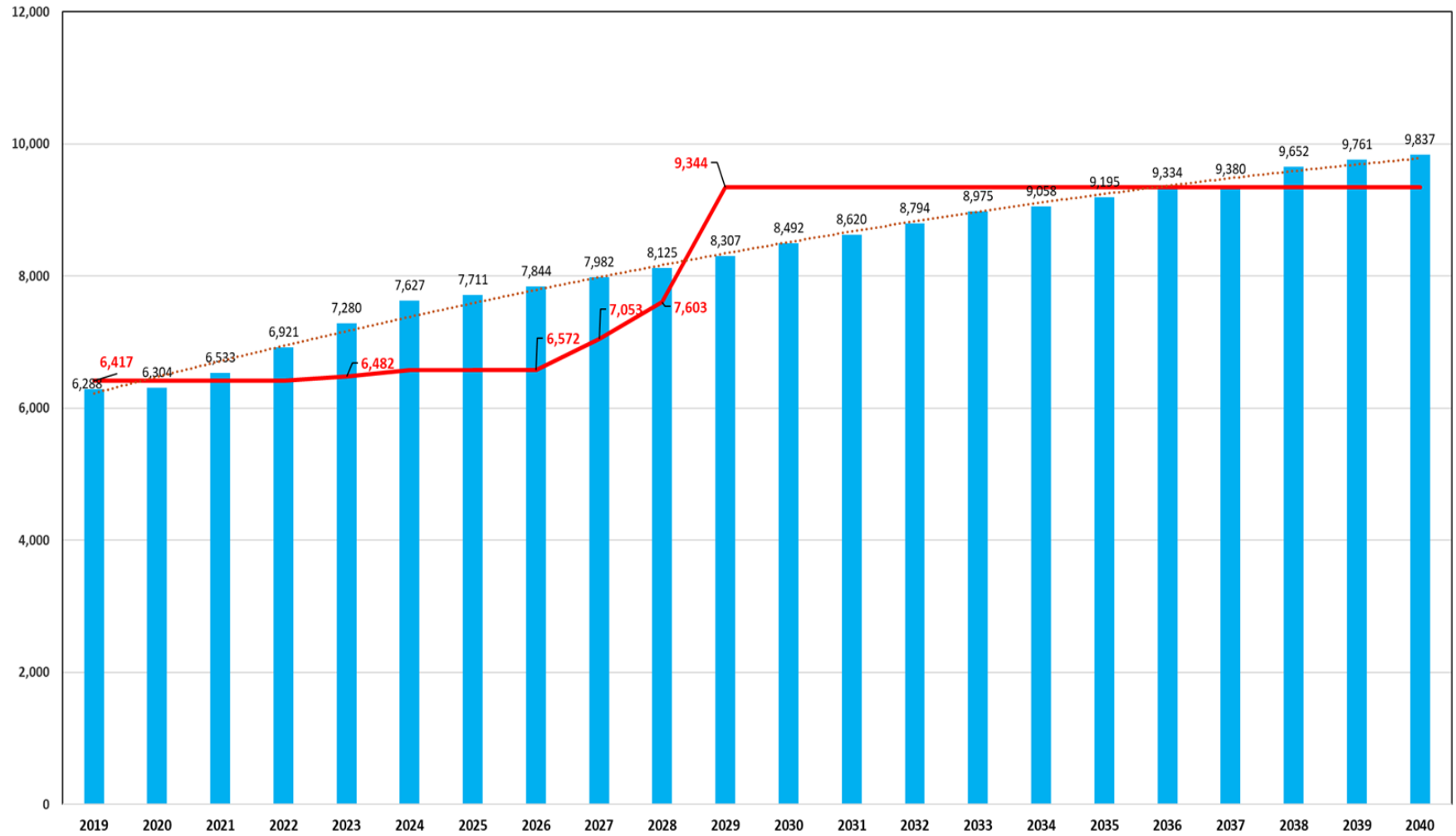




2019-2025 ACTUAL ENROLMENT & 2026-2040 ENROLMENT PROJECTION TOTALS K-12 SCHOOLS WITH PROPOSED CAPACITY EXPANSION SCENARIO #4 (New Middle-Secondary to replace Lord Tweedsmuir & Convert 3 Middle Schools as K to 7 Elementary Schools)

*(Total enrolment does not include Power & Royal City Alternate,
New Westminster Virtual, Home Learners and International Students)*

■ K-12 ENROLMENT (In Brick & Mortar schools excluding international) **— TOTAL OPERATING CAPACITY K to 12 SCHOOLS**





Scenario A - summary

Through the construction of a 2300 Junior-Secondary School at the Tweedsmuir site, enrolment in the District can be managed until close to 2036.

Work will include eventual renovations to all 3 middle schools to convert them into elementary schools.

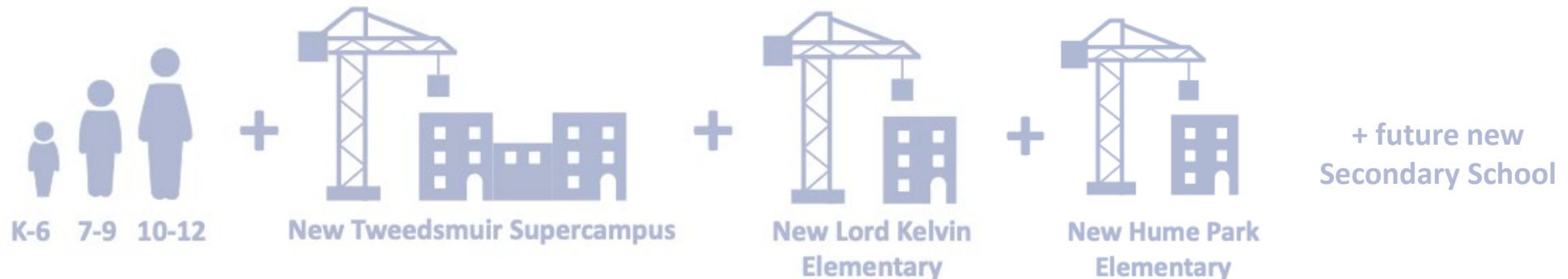
Soon after, additional elementary capacity will be required in the Fraser River Zone, and some additional elementary capacity will be required in the Glenbrook Zone.

B

Scenario B

- **Capital projects 2026-2036:**
 - Tweedsmuir Site super campus with new Elementary School (1000) and new Middle School (1000)
- **Capital projects 2036-2040:**
 - Lord Kelvin replacement at increased capacity (750-1000)
 - New Elementary at Hume Park
- **Capital projects after 2040:**
 - New Secondary School (location & capacity TBD*)
- **Grade reconfiguration K-6, 7-9, 10-12**

This Scenario Requires:

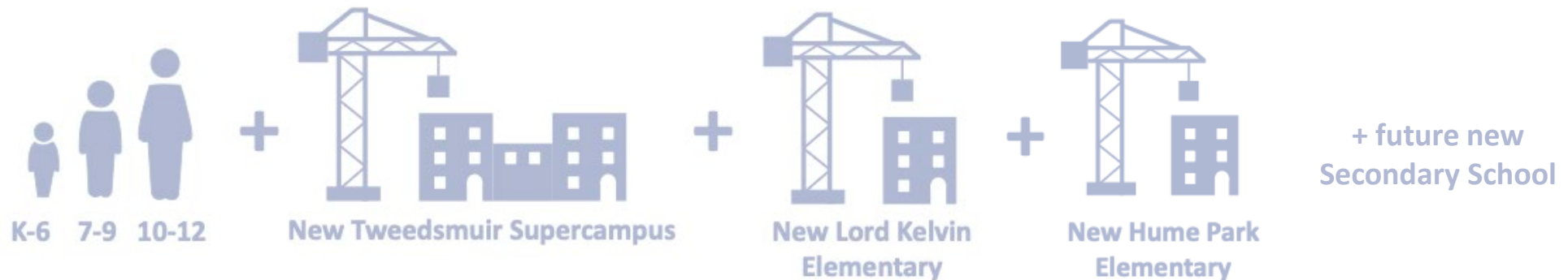


B

Scenario B (cont.)

- **Seismic:** Hume Park
- **Site Acquisitions:**
 - RCAP/POWER
 - Additional property adjacent to Hume Park Elementary
 - New **Secondary** site in Fraser River Zone

This Scenario Requires:

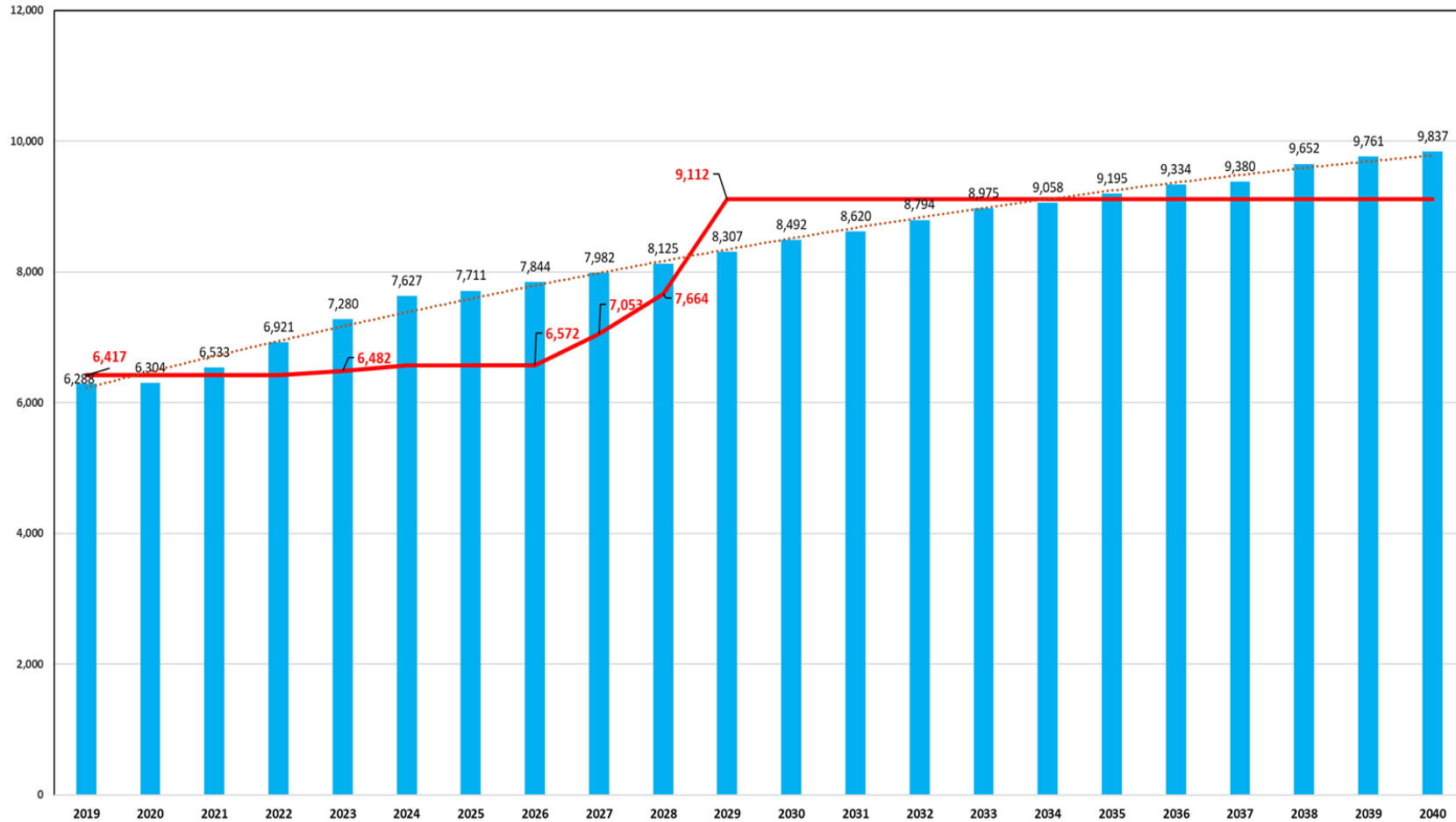




2019-2025 ACTUAL ENROLMENT & 2026-2040 ENROLMENT PROJECTION
TOTALS K-12 SCHOOLS WITH PROPOSED CAPACITY EXPANSION
SCENARIO #2 (New Elementary-Middle K-9 School at Lord Tweedsmuir)
Approved Capacity includes Expansion of Queen Elizabeth in 2027 and new Simcoe

*(Total enrolment does not include Power & Royal City Alternate,
New Westminster Virtual, Home Learners and International Students)*

■ K-12 ENROLMENT (In Brick & Mortar schools excluding international) **— TOTAL OPERATING CAPACITY K to 12 SCHOOLS**



B

Scenario B - summary

Through the construction of a super campus with a 1000 capacity Elementary and a 1000 capacity Middle School at the Tweedsmuir site, enrolment in the District can be managed until close to 2036.

Soon after, additional elementary capacity will be required in the Fraser River Zone and the Glenbrook Zone.

In addition, new secondary capacity will be required as NWSS will be over capacity by 2036 (location TBD), despite the grade reconfiguration.

Further Scenario considerations

- **Land Scarcity:** The rising cost and scarcity of available land within the City will make it exceedingly more difficult to find appropriate land suitable for larger schools (such as a high school).
- **Additional Projects:** Even though both scenarios will require additional projects after 2036/2040, the additional project(s) required for scenario A will be to add elementary capacity, whereas in scenario B, a new secondary school will be required in addition to new elementary capacity
- **Queensborough conditions:** The construction of the addition at Queen Elizabeth has demonstrated the extraordinary costs of building in Queensborough (due to poor soils and high water tables) and thus a high school in that region may prove challenging.
- **Operational considerations:** Challenges of only one high school in a growing community.

Next Steps

- **June 16** – Board to approve Long Range Facilities Plan recommendations and 2027-28 major capital projects. *Note: Long Range Facilities Plan document to be approved in September 2026.*
- **June 30** – Annual submission deadline to Ministry of Infrastructure on project requests for consideration in the 2027-28 capital plan.

Thank You



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