



Coast Mountains Board of Education School District 82

3211 Kenney Street, Terrace, BC V8G 3E9
Tel. (250) 635-4931 or 1-855-635-4931 • www.cmsd.bc.ca

November 12, 2025

Subject: Mount Elizabeth Middle Secondary School Infrastructure Update

Dear Parents and Caregivers:

The Coast Mountains School District (CMSD) Board of Education wishes to provide an update regarding the Mount Elizabeth Middle Secondary School (MEMSS) facility.

As shared in the attached *CMSD MEMSS Timeline*, the MEMSS facility has been included on CMSD82's Capital Plan submission to the Ministry of Education and Child Care since 2010. Over the years, the Board of Education has engaged in multiple discussions—both virtual and in person—with Ministry officials to highlight this as a continuing priority. Most recently, in June 2025, the Board Chair and district staff met in person with the Minister of Infrastructure to further emphasize the urgent need for facility renewal at MEMSS.

The Board remains deeply committed to advocating for a modern, safe, and inclusive learning environment for all students in Kitimat. We continue to work closely with both the Ministry of Education and Child Care and the Ministry of Infrastructure to ensure that the facility needs of the students at Mount Elizabeth school are clearly understood and prioritized by government.

We recognize how important this school is to the community and appreciate your ongoing support and patience as we continue this advocacy work. We will share further updates as new information becomes available.

Thank you for your continued trust and partnership in supporting the success and well-being of all learners.

Warm regards,

Margaret Warcup
Board Chair
Board of Education
Coast Mountains School District 82



COAST MOUNTAINS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT 82



Mount Elizabeth Middle Secondary School has been a priority request since 2010

2010	Listed as the highest priority facilities project within CMSD for consolidation and renovation through 2011 Long Term Facilities Plan. Ministry of Education completed a seismic assessment.
2011-2016	During this time the consolidation and renovation of MEMSS was the top priority in each (CMSD) Annual Capital Plan Submission to the Ministry of Education (MOE). These submissions were not supported by MEC.
2016-2017	Through the approval of the 2017 Long Term Facilities Plan, the board placed MEMSS as the top priority for demolition and replacement. This plan was submitted to the Ministry of Education.
2017-2019	Annually, the demolition and replacement of MEMSS remained the top priority in the capital plan - Not supported by MOE.
July 2020	Requested \$33 M for partial renovation/replacement - Not supported by MOE.
July 2021	Requested \$72 M for partial renovation/replacement - Not supported by MOE.
July 2022	Requested \$88 M for partial renovation/replacement and \$5 M for demolition of Academic wing - Not supported by Ministry of Education and Child Care (MECC).
May/June 2023	Ministry of Infrastructure approved completion for a preliminary seismic assessment.
July 2023	Requested \$112 M for partial renovation/replacement - Not supported by MECC.
September 2023	Site visit at MEMSS by the Ministry of Education and Child Care (MECC), Capital Management Branch Regional Director and staff.
November 2023	Seismic assessment completed, identifying much of the facility at high seismic risk.
July 2024	Requested \$101 M for seismic upgrades - Not supported by MECC.
September 4, 2024	Settlement near room 104 was noted by school district maintenance staff.
September 17, 2024	Area assessed by a structural engineer and significant deterioration of wood exterior column discovered. Entire academic wing was closed to staff and students. Repairs commenced immediately. A Letter was sent to parents/caregivers by Principal, Julia Jacobs, informing them about the closure of the old wing at the school.
September 19, 2024	Email to Kitimat District Teachers Union from Janet Meyer, Interim Superintendent, addressing safety concerns.
October 28-29, 2024	Completed structural inspections of all wood glulam columns with some rot noted in single story middle school wing. Engineering recommended relocation of staff and students by November 12, 2024, to facilitate repairs.
November 1, 2024	Virtual meeting was held with Chris Brown, Assistant Deputy Minister and Damien Crowell, Executive Director, of Capital Branch from MECC. Tracey MacMillan, Superintendent, Ginger Fuller, Secretary Treasurer, and Janet Meyer shared recent assessments obtained from the structural engineer and to convey the urgency for a new school facility in Kitimat. Outcome was to continue to prioritize this on CMSD Annual Capital Submissions.
November 4, 2024	A Letter was sent to parents/caregivers informing them about temporary closure of the middle school wing at the school by Principal, Julia Jacobs.
November 5, 2024	Students and staff relocated from middle school wing to other areas of the MEMSS.
January 13, 2025	Staff meeting update on middle school wing – Julia Jacobs, Principal of MEMSS.
January 15, 2025	Tracey MacMillan, Superintendent, and Rob Schibli, Director of Facilities and Maintenance, met with the District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC) to provide updates.
January 24, 2025	Interim structural repairs were completed; staff and students returned to the middle school wing classrooms for the start of the second semester.
February 18, 2025	Response letter was provided to MEMSS Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) addressing concerns that were brought forward by the PAC.
June 24, 2025	Met with Minister of Infrastructure, Minister Bowinn Ma. CMSD provided a detailed package about the conditions at MEMSS.
July 2025	Requested \$128 M for seismic upgrades – Waiting for response from MECC.