



BUDGET BUILDING PROCESS  
FOR 2026-2027

**APPENDIX B: Suggestions for Budget Priorities  
Feedback on Guiding Principles, Criteria, and Related Orientations**

Group/School/Centre: Gerald McShane Elementary

**Preamble;**

In 2025-2026 the MEQ imposed significant budgetary cuts as well as restrictions on the hiring and replacement of personnel. In addition, the EMSB continues to experience declining enrolment, leading to decreased funding.

**1. Budget Priorities:**

Within the context of declining enrolment-and therefore decreasing subsidies- establishing budget priorities can realistically imply that these priorities *could* simply be exempted from reductions. In this light, please list, in order of priority, the needs among the schools/centres which you feel are most important for your School or Centre:

1. Installation of a school intercom and bell system
2. FOB and camera system for school access points
3. Sound proofing the GMS gymnasium
4. Learning garden – the installation of a shaded area (canopy) that will allow teachers to teach outside on the school grounds
5. Building an extension to the school – a cafeteria and an auditorium (cafetorium)

(Please use another sheet if this space is insufficient)

Please note this list is part of the overall budget planning process. As the MEQ funding parameters become known, some funds may have to be directed to specific spending initiatives per budgetary parameters.



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#### 2. GUIDING PRINCIPLES, CRITERIA, AND RELATED ORIENTATIONS

Please provide your comments on the *Guiding Principles, Criteria, and related Orientations* as outlined in the attached document. You may use the reference numbers i) to xi) used in the document.

1. **Intercom** – will allow teachers and staff to communicate with classrooms in case of emergencies or other important events such as administrative announcements.
2. **FOB & Cameras** – will allow for an efficient control of access to the building as well as maintain a secure vigilance on people entering and exiting.
3. **Sound proofing gymnasium** – will allow for the gymnasium to split into 2 parts and accommodate a better use of the space without sound interference while 2 activities take place rather than only one activity at a time.
4. **Learning garden** – will permit teachers to move their classroom outside and teach in an area that is shaded and comfortable for both students and teachers.
5. **Cafetorium extension** – this multipurpose hall will create a large space for which GMS is very limited presently and serve as:
  - i) a cafeteria for lunchtime in which a larger number of students can be accommodated at once and alleviate children eating at their desks in their appropriate classrooms.
  - ii) a dedicated area for student group work with tutors and other facilitators (outside of the classroom).
  - iii) a dedicated area for during school events such as a robotics fair, a science fair and a book fair.
  - iv) a dedicated area for afterschool activities such as the dance program, theatrical events (plays) musical recitals and other programs requiring a large space for which the gymnasium cannot be used because it is occupied by the various sports programs and not suitable for these types of activities.

(Please use another sheet if this space is insufficient)