



PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO. 41
Answered on 17th October, 2025
Second Meeting 2025-2026 Session – Third Sitting

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION
ASKED BY

MR. ROY TATUM, MP –ELECTED MEMBER FOR THE
CONSTITUENCY OF RED BAY

TO

THE HON. ROLSTON M. ANGLIN, MINISTER OF FINANCE & ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION & TRAINING

QUESTION:

Can the Honourable Minister state what assessment the Government has made of the value-for-money and long-term benefits of the new Cayman Brac high school, and confirm what changes have been made to the original plans - including the reported \$6 million reduction in cost - and explain how the revised project will still deliver the full educational and community benefits originally intended?

ANSWER:

The New Cayman Brac High School (CBHS) project went through all required (value-for-money and business case assessments), as mandated by Government's three-stage capital project approval process. Independent consultants completed both an Outline and Full Business Case, which confirmed that building a modern, hurricane-resilient high school on the Bluff represented the best long-term investment for the Sister Islands.

These assessments found that the project would:

- Provide modern, safe, and inclusive learning environments;
- Support science, technology, arts, and vocational learning;

- Improve accessibility for all students; and
- Strengthen community resilience and youth development.

At the time, the inclusion of a large gymnasium was one of the major cost drivers in the overall project. The Business Cases were guided by the priorities of the Steering Committee under the previous administration, which placed emphasis on sports tourism and multi-purpose community use.

With the change in administration, there was a shift in focus toward fiscal responsibility and cost control. Following Cabinet's approval in July 2025, the Ministry carried out a value-engineering and descope exercise, which resulted in the omission of the gymnasium and associated facilities. These changes are projected to save approximately CI\$6 million, while maintaining all essential educational spaces and design standards.

The project will still deliver:

- Fully equipped classrooms, laboratories, and specialist teaching spaces;
- Safe and accessible facilities meeting international standards; and
- Energy-efficient systems to reduce long-term operating costs per square foot.

The Department of District Administration's nearby multipurpose hall will also be available for indoor physical education, large events, and examinations ensuring no loss of student benefit.

In summary, the revised project configuration achieves value by delivering an educational facility. The Ministry is confident that the new school will meet and exceed the needs of the Cayman Brac community. From a value-for-money perspective, however, the assessment of the new Cayman Brac High School (CBHS) project indicates that, based on cost metrics (e.g., cost per student and cost per square foot), it does not represent good value for money when compared to comparable facilities constructed within the private sector. It should be noted that while modern infrastructure supports improved learning experiences, new buildings alone do not directly raise educational standards.

When assessing Value for Money (VFM), one must compare what has been spent to achieve a particular outcome versus what could have been spent to achieve the same outcome. In the context of a school, the desired outcome is to provide a safe, modern learning environment.