

# Middleton students angry renos stalled

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[CBC News](#)

Hundreds of high school students rallied outside the Nova Scotia legislature Monday demanding to know why a \$2-million renovation of their school is off the books.

The students from Middleton Regional High School arrived in six buses and a few minivans.

As the school jazz band played on, students marched in front of Province House waving signs with slogans such as, "Don't lie to kids."

Education Minister Karen Casey said the money for renovations was still coming and she urged the students to be patient, but they said the government should honour its commitments.

Middleton school administrators found out last week that the \$2.2 million promised in January 2006 had been withdrawn.

The new full-sized gym and music room were expected to be ready for the start of the 2008 school year. Students, parents and staff had raised \$145,000.

Officials with the Department of Education blamed budget constraints for the renovation delays at Middleton and dozens of other schools.

Hundreds of students marched in the streets of Middleton on Friday in protest. The excursion to Halifax was billed as a field trip and civics lesson.

"We're very disappointed that students have to see that this is how government is working," Marilyn Wilkins, chair of the school advisory council, told CBC News earlier Monday.

More than 600 students attend Middleton Regional High School in the Annapolis Valley.