NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
PUBLIC MEETING

INFORMATION SHEET

DATE: June 7, 2023
TO: Education Committee
FROM: Zeyad Merchant, Director of Information Technology; Kerri Steel, Director of
                       Instruction, Inclusive Education
SUBJECT: Student Data Analytics and Reporting Tool

Board of Education Strategic Plan – Board Goal

Continuous Improvement in students with complex and unique abilities, Indigenous and overall student population on student achievement

Objectives:

* *Continuous Improvement in special needs, Indigenous and overall student population on student achievement*

Background

A strategy identified within the DLS Operational Plan towards the District's goal of continuous improvement is to create a data system that supports adaptive and responsive decision making towards improved student success. Such a data system provides staff with more effective and meaningful ways to interact with the data available regarding students and their learning.

This strategy is being implemented this year with a data initiative led by Learning Services and IT through the local development of a Student Data Analytics and Reporting tool. The District selected Microsoft Power BI, a leading technology platform that provides actionable insight on data by connecting a variety of data sources together and provide users with interactive tools for aggregating, analyzing, visualizing and sharing data through reports, snapshots and dashboards. The Student Data Analytics and Reporting Tool provides staff the ability to monitor the impact of certain initiatives and identify areas where additional interventions are needed at the individual, school, cohort, demographic, or district level, supporting adaptive and responsive decision making toward improved student success.

Phases of the Project

The project, kicked off in December 2022, is split into three phases outlined below.

Phase 1, which was completed in April 2023, was the creation of a prototype set of reports and visuals which allow the district's data to be available in a single, consolidated location, without the need for time-consuming manipulation or calculation by the user. This prototype was also intended to illustrate the strengths and weaknesses of available data.

The secondary phase, which we are currently in, is intended to provide the Information Technology department with feedback from the Department of Learning Services regarding additional filters or capabilities to enhance the functionality of the tool.

A third phase, which will occur over the 2023-2024 school year, will create system capability for predictive data, and provide information for staff regarding ongoing initiatives and/or concerning data trends.

Data Sources

The data is sourced from a variety of origins: MyEdBC, Ministry of Education's Education Data Warehouse (EDW), as well as district data, in a variety of formats and structures.   The data available to us through these sources includes:

- Student Grades- Term/Quarter & Final Marks (e.g. ERC, literacy and numeracy assessments – both local and provincial)
- Completion Rate Details
- First Time Graduation Details
- Student Details- by demographics
- School details- by demographics
- School summary- headcounts
- District overview by demographics
- Course Information

Filters will include common demographics, such as: families of schools, grade levels, cohorts, genders, designation, ELL, and Indigenous identity.

It is anticipated that this project will be fully completed by May 2024. Our goal is to develop a tool that informs district and school level staff regarding "What's working? What's not? And "What next?" for our students.