



**NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BUSINESS COMMITTEE
PUBLIC MEETING
INFORMATION SHEET**

DATE: June 14, 2023
TO: Business Committee
FROM: Greg Keller, Board Chair
SUBJECT: Strategic Plan

Background

This Information Sheet is responsive to the requirement of Policy 1.2 - Strategic Plan that the Chair of the Board, with the assistance of the Superintendent, provide a report on the renewal, revision or extension of the Strategic Plan 6 months in advance of its expiry. The current Strategic Plan ends on December 31, 2023. This report will provide an outline of the process for renewal in line with Policy including proposed timeline for renewal and public consultation.

Discussion

Policy 1.2 - Strategic Plan provides the following requirements in advance of the completion of the Strategic Plan:

Creating the Strategic Plan

- a. The Chair of the Board with the assistance of the Superintendent shall provide a report (the "Report") to the Board at least 6 (six) months prior to the expiry of the Strategic Plan that outlines the process to renew, extend and/or revise the Strategic Plan.
- b. The Report and Action Sheet shall include:
 - i. The proposed term of the Strategic Plan which shall be between 3 (three) and 5 (five) years;
 - ii. Any requirements of the Ministry of Education to be included in the Strategic Plan;
 - iii. A general framework for consultation with the community, including Rights Holders;
 - iv. A copy of the most recent [District Review Story](#) that highlights the progress of the current Strategic Plan; and
 - v. A proposed motion for the Board to initiate the process.

Current Strategic Plan

The current [Strategic Plan](#) has been an enormous success. Focused on 4 goals, each goal area has progressed in meaningful and measurable ways.

Goal 1 is as follows:

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

- Continuous improvement in Special Needs, Indigenous and overall student population on student achievement
- Continue providing collaborative opportunities for employees to work toward full implementation of the new curriculum
- Improve opportunities for early intervention and learning
- Increase leadership capacity and excellence

In this area the District has seen all time high graduation rates for all segments of our student population. Of course the work of our committed teachers and support staff, in line with a responsive curriculum, accounts for much of this success, Board Policy and Investments aligned with goals and implemented by senior leadership also have contributed to this success.

Goal 2 is as follows:

Safe, caring and healthy learning and working environment that is inclusive of the diversity of our entire learning community

- Increase the number of students who feel welcomed, safe, connected and have a sense of belonging in their school
- Increasing awareness and capacity in supporting children and youth in care
- Increase the number of students who feel there are two or more adults at their school who care about them
- Increasing awareness and capacity in addressing mental health and wellness
- Accelerate seismic upgrades and upgrade aging facilities
- Increase employee engagement

This is another area of success. The focus on ensuring that students in schools feel that they have adults who care about them is a fundamental driver of our success. Further, our award winning Long Range Facilities Plan has provided a framework to ensure safe and educational appropriate facilities and has resulted in major investments from the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

Goal 3 is as follows:

To be a leader in environmental stewardship and sustainability

- Annually reduce School District Greenhouse gas emissions by 4.5% a year. (Achieving this target will require additional capital funding project approvals from the Ministry of Education).
- Create an Environmental Stewardship Action Plan
- Increase learning opportunities for students and staff on climate change and sustainability
- Implement a food security initiative that includes community partners
- Supply and support infrastructure for sorting, composting and recycling at all educational facilities
- Increase opportunities for outdoor education and programming in the district

The Board's commitment to the environment has resulted in our [Environmental Action Plan](#). It should be noted that the plan was only completed recently.

Goal 4 is as follows:

Truth and Reconciliation

- Implementation of the [Syeyutsus Reconciliation Framework](#) in the school community
- Support innovative indigenous educational and community partnerships
- Implement Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action #57
- Promote land and Hul'qumi'num language based learning programs

The District has provide significant resources and focus to achieve this goal and the relationships the District have made with our partners and Rights Holders are resulting in positive outcomes for students and a sense of partnership and walking together to achieve reconciliation.

Requirements of the Ministry of Education of Child Care

Given that the Ministry of Education and Child Care has specific requirements outlined in the [Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Policy](#) and [Ministerial Order M302](#), it is logical that the Board consider both documents when reviewing the Strategic Plan.

The Framework for Enhancing Student Learning plays a crucial role in guiding Boards of Education in the development of their strategic plans. The framework provides a province-wide vision for education and serves as a foundation for improving student learning outcomes. Ministerial Order M302, the Enhancing Student Learning Reporting Order requires Boards to submit to the Minister a report completed in accordance with the Order between June 30 and September 30, or a date otherwise determined by the Minister.

The Framework for Enhancing Student Learning places a strong emphasis on student success and well-being. Boards of Education are encouraged to develop strategic goals and objectives that prioritize improving student outcomes, engagement, and overall well-being. This may involve setting targets for graduation rates, academic achievement, social-emotional development, and other indicators of student success. While the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning provides a province-wide vision, it recognizes the importance of local context and flexibility and Boards of Education have the autonomy to tailor their strategic plans to their specific district's needs, challenges, and strengths

The framework ensures a coordinated and cohesive approach to education across the province while allowing flexibility for districts to address their specific needs and aspirations.

Consultation Framework

The framework promotes a collaborative approach to decision-making and planning. Boards of Education are expected to engage with various stakeholders, including students, parents, educators, and community members, in the strategic planning process. This collaboration ensures that the Strategic Plan reflects the diverse needs and aspirations of the community and fosters a sense of ownership and shared responsibility for student learning outcomes.

As noted at this time, the consultation process will be outlined in a report in the fall.

Next Steps

The Superintendent and Board Chair held a student voice session with representatives from all secondary schools on June 2, 2023 in part to discuss the Strategic Plan.

The Board will be holding Strategic Plan working sessions on June 14, 2023 and August 23, 2023, which will be facilitated by Piet Langstraat.

These sessions will help inform the direction of the Board with respect to the Strategic Plan. Specifically, it will assist in determining whether there will be a recommendation to renew, revise or extend the current Plan as well as recommended the length. This decision will be brought the Business Committee on September 13, 2023 with the formal approval of the process on September 27, 2023. These sessions will not result in specific outcomes as input from the community. However, they will assist in “Planning the Plan”.

Appendix A: Strategic Plan Timeline

