



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

DATE: October 4, 2023
TO: Education Committee
FROM: Deputy Superintendent, Laura Tait
SUBJECT: DLS Operational Plan Overview

Overview

The Department of Learning Services creates an annual Operational Plan to synthesize its vision and strategies. This plan will be shared with the Board at every Education Committee meeting, along with presentations from schools.

For the 2023-2024 school year, Compassionate Systems Leadership will continue to inform our work and as an extension Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) will also continue to overarch much of the strategies aimed at meeting the goals of the Board Strategic Plan.

Background

Creation of the Plan

Each school year, DLS sets or confirms its guiding vision. This vision is utilized as a lens or stance when considering what strategies and actions will support and meet the goals of the system. Subsequently, the annual DLS budgets align with this vision.

Sources

The operations of a school district are multi-faceted and complex. The Department of Learning Services oversees the educational aspects of our school district and to that end, has different sources it must consider when creating a vision, strategy or action.

Sources that influence:

- NLPS Board Strategic Plan
 - goals and objectives
- Operational/Organizational needs or requirements (some examples)
 - School operations
 - Collective Agreements
 - Staffing issues – Ex. Recruitment challenges
 - Student enrolment/funding
 - Current societal issues
 - Student/family needs
 - Educational/pedagogical/research trends

- Ministry requirements, both general and specific (some examples)
 - General: Curriculum, Assessment, Mental Health in Schools
 - Specific: Reporting Order, Integrated Child & Youth Teams (ICY)
 - General and Specific: Early years and Child Care

With so many competing interests, DLS must work diligently to create, maintain and prioritize strategies to meet the demands of the overall system. These strategies contain many actions that support school operations, inclusive education, Indigenous education and learning & innovation.

Progress Monitoring

Progress monitoring occurs very specifically in actions and strategies to more generally in objectives and goals. The majority of efforts in a school system are to support the success of students. When considering a broader Board goal of Truth & Reconciliation for example, (table below) we can look to broader student data, such as Indigenous student completion rates or transition rates. One pathway forward with regards to this goal is to strengthen relationships with our Indigenous partners (objective); more specifically, to strengthen our relationship with Kw’umut Lelum (KL) (strategy), by co-creating a student monitoring practice between KL and schools (action). The success of these efforts would be measured by whether this relationship was formalized and by whether this student monitoring practice was created and maintained. All DLS strategies and actions have their own specific measures of success, while supporting the overall goal of student success. Overall student success is the Board’s purview, therefore overall student data will feature prominently in the information shared with the Board.

EXAMPLE			Measures of Success
Broad	Goal	Truth & Reconciliation	Indigenous student data - Increase
↓	Objective	Support innovative Indigenous educational and community partnerships	Indigenous student data - Increase
	Strategy	Strengthen and formalize relationship with Kw’umut Lelum (KL)	Agreement to formalize relationship - Complete
Specific	Action	Monthly collaboration meetings between KL Managers and NLPS Director of Instruction, to support shared students	Student monitoring practice co-created/implemented where regular connections are made between schools directly with KL staff - Maintained

Education Committee Meetings

The Education Committees Meetings are the primary touchpoints for staff to share information related to the Board goals and student success. DLS staff will report against one Board goal each month with one school presentation. In an effort to be timely, staff will include comprehensive information in the ‘Information Sheets’, rather than lengthy presentations.

Overall student data as it relates to the goals and objectives, will be shared when it becomes available to the district:

FALL
(previous school year's data)
Transition Rates
Completion Rates
Graduation Assessments – Literacy/Numeracy
Student Learning Survey
SPRING
(current year)
Foundational Skills Assessment (FSA)
Report Card Marks

Attachment: DLS Operational Plan (short)

