NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS COMMITTEE
PUBLIC MEETING
INFORMATION SHEET

DATE: April 9, 2025
TO: Strategic Directions Committee
FROM: Don Balcombe, Assistant Superintendent
SUBJECT: Priority Population Student Success/Graduation Rates

Background

The Ministry of Education and Child Care (MECC) has identified three priority populations for improved outcomes. These populations include Indigenous learners, students with diverse abilities and disabilities, and Children and Youth in Care.

The goals in our Strategic Plan include Student Success, Student and Employee Wellness, and Truth and Reconciliation. One of the Objectives for our goal on Student Success is to increase graduation rates for students who identify as Indigenous, who have disabilities and diverse abilities, and/or are Children and Youth in Care. Metrics to measure success toward that objective include graduation rates, disaggregated for our priority population students. This information is reported to the Board and the Ministry annually through the Enhancing Student Learning Report (ESL).

Discussion

The Ministry of Education and Child Care (MECC) collects graduation data for all school districts and shares graduation reports back to districts. The methodology used to ensure graduation reports are accurate is complex. The ministry reports provide district-wide graduation results and provincial rates. The ministry reports allow us to view results for our priority populations. This helps us understand district trends over time.

The ministry graduation reports do not provide individual school graduation results. As schools identify intentional strategies to support students in our priority populations, disaggregated graduation results must be accessible at the school level.

Schools determine student progress and success through various methods, from teacher observation to report card marks, provincial assessment results, and Student Learning Survey results. Graduation completion rates provide schools with a snapshot of how well the various strategies have worked for individual students and cohorts each year.

Our Information Technology Department, in collaboration with Learning Services, is working to develop a data system that will allow school leaders to review student success through report card marks and school-specific graduation rates.

During a short presentation to the Committee, staff will introduce the work-in-progress Data Dashboard that will allow school leaders to examine specific report card marks and graduation results for our priority populations.