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Mission Public School District serves a diverse student population, aiming to inspire learning through inclusive high quality learning environments so that every student can reach their full potential.

INTRODUCTION

The Mission Board of Education is responsible for the governance of the Mission Public School District (MPSD). This responsibility includes setting the operating and governance framework for the organization. Good governance practices recommend identifying and communicating priorities for an organization through a strategic plan.

In the fall of 2015, the Board of Education initiated the process of creating a strategic plan to set direction for the School District and guide decisions over the next three years. Through the process, the Board committed to focus on student learning, and to keep student learning at the forefront of Board decision-making.

The pages that follow reflect the Boards' understanding of the current state of MPSD, and the priorities to best serve our students in the coming years. The Board values the collaborative working relationships that are growing among all education partners, parents, and the community. The Board will continue to nurture these relationships by providing opportunities for meaningful dialogue and collaboration as we move forward with our goal of providing high quality inclusive learning environments that will result in greater success for our students.

**Mission Public School District
~ Board of Education**



BOARD OF EDUCATION STRATEGIC PRIORITIES (2016 – 2018)

OUR VALUES

As we lead the Mission Public School District, we will:

ACCOUNTABLE

- Be transparent in our decision-making.
- Seek information in order to base decisions on an informed understanding.
- Accept ownership of the results of our decisions.
- Establish processes to review key decisions so that we may better understand and learn from the outcomes we achieve.
- Make every effort to fulfill our promises and commitments.

ETHICAL

- Engage in principle-based decision-making.
- Demonstrate an unbiased, open, honest, non-judgmental, trustworthy and balanced approach.
- Act in accordance with the ethical professional standards and values that we have agreed upon.
- Acknowledge the un-ceded ancestral territory of the Sto:lo people

COLLABORATIVE

- Work together in an open-minded way that is respectful of other perspectives and points of view.
- Be receptive to new ideas and provide opportunities for two-way dialogue.
- Make every effort to engage in clear open communication.
- Ask for feedback and be open to suggestions. We will seek opportunities to listen to and involve others in decision-making.

COMPASSIONATE

- Have empathy for others.
- Seek to understand and respect various cultural perspectives and divergent points of view.
- Be caring, supportive, sympathetic, and respectful.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The Board identified six strategic priorities for 2016 – 2018. With this Strategic Plan, the Board directs the development of plans and programs for the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 school years to help achieve the goals.

The Superintendent is tasked with leading to the School District's administration in the development of plans and programs that align with these priorities and the identified actions.

1. A FRAMEWORK FOR LEARNING

Student learning is the central focus of the School District. In accordance with the Ministry of Education's Mandate for the School System, we want to provide our students with an educational environment that nurtures the development of an Educated Citizen.

Goal:

The development of citizens who are:

- thoughtful, able to learn and to think critically, and who can communicate information from a broad knowledge base;
- creative, flexible, self-motivated, and who have a positive self-image;
- capable of making independent decisions;
- skilled and who can contribute to society generally, including the world of work;
- productive, who gain satisfaction through achievement and who strive for physical well-being;
- co-operative, principled, and respectful of others regardless of differences;
- aware of the rights and prepared to exercise the responsibilities of an individual within the family, the community, Canada, and the world.

To support this, the School District encourages multiple pathways to graduation and post-secondary options.

Actions:

In collaboration with education leaders and partners, develop a 3-5 year implementation plan for the new curriculum that includes:

- full implementation of the [Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement](#) by 2019;
- respecting and implementing the [First Peoples' Principles of Learning](#);
- equitable access to resources to support the development of the Educated Citizen through the redesigned curriculum;
- quality assessment¹ in accordance with the Ministry of Education that informs meaningful instruction. School-based, School District and provincially developed assessment will provide information for students and families which reflects student progress and achievement.

In collaboration with education leaders and partners, develop a strong support system considering the needs of students that includes:

- effective services and initiatives that support our Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement Goals (1. Honouring Culture, 2. Meaningful Contributions, 3. Positive Learning Experiences, 4. Looking to the Future);



- a sense of belonging and ensuring successful transition for Aboriginal students;
- information in order to inform, understand, and develop support plans when students are struggling to achieve;
- a process to support a student's education program when assessments indicate that support is necessary to advance student learning;

- engaging the entire spectrum of learners with the design and implementation of rigorous academic programs and co-curricular opportunities;
- striving for inclusion by providing all students equitable access to learning, achievement and the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of their school experience.

(Source: Special Education Services: A manual of policies, procedures and guidelines).

2. HUMAN RESOURCES TO SUPPORT STUDENT LEARNING

Employees bring the skills and talents that will move us closer to achieving our goal for student learning. Students benefit from working with well-trained educators, support staff, and leaders.

Goal:

We have engaged, well-educated, and committed employees to support student learning.



Actions:

To support School District employees through:

- effective recruitment, retention, and succession planning strategies;
- a program of collaboratively developed on-going professional development for educators, leaders, and education support staff;
- supporting all employees with health and wellness initiatives;
- provision and funding of time for teachers to collaborate and implement new initiatives; and
- strong, productive working relationships with employees, unions, and employee groups.



3. PLAN FOR TECHNOLOGY

The Board recognizes the need for a plan to address the acquisition and use of technology to support the School District.

Goal:

In a fiscally responsible manner, use technology to provide more effective support for student learning and more efficient business services.

Action:

Develop a plan to upgrade and expand the use of technology in order to enhance student learning *and* improve business processes. The plan must include funding and implementation.



4. COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Effective communication, both internal and external to the School District, and effective public engagement is critical for success in all areas of the organization.

Goal:

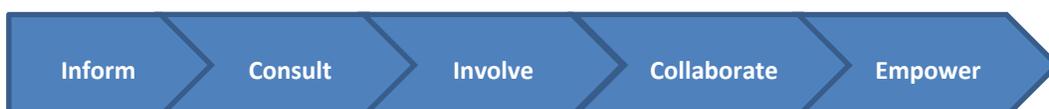
To enhance the School District's communication and public engagement processes.

Actions:

Develop a communication plan that outlines key communication objectives and strategies for the School District including specifying the way in which the website, social media and traditional media will be used.

Develop a public participation process for decision making to more effectively engage with students, staff, parents, employee organizations, and the general public. Consider the IAP2 spectrum of public participation.

IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation



5. ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

The Board works diligently to ensure fiscal responsibility attaining a balanced budget.

Goal:

To maintain a healthy financial position and at the same time provide the resources necessary to support student learning and effective School District operations.

To ensure School District assets are readily available to support student learning.

Actions:

Using an open and transparent process, develop an annual balanced budget that provides for efficient operations, enhanced student learning, while achieving the objectives of the new curriculum.

Develop short and long-term plans for the optimal use of School District assets and resources. This includes identifying emerging demographic changes that will affect both the affordability and sustainability of School District assets and resources.

6. GOVERNANCE

The Board is dedicated to providing effective Governance for the Mission Public School District recognizing the responsibility we have to the public and education partners.

The Board is committed to working strategically and cooperatively with the Superintendent, recognizing the need for productive working relationships.

Ultimately, the Board must make decisions and be held accountable for those decisions.

Goal:

To provide effective governance for the Mission Public School District, by working with and listening to our education partners.

To ensure that the School District needs are held paramount in the co-governance model with the BC Ministry of Education.

Actions:

Review, revise and create policy and committee structures that contribute to effective governance and operational direction. Policies will be reviewed and revised ensuring transparent participation.

Roles and responsibilities will be clear and articulated to match the values of the Board of Education.



End Notes:

Framework for Learning: Assessment and Curriculum.

ⁱ According to the Ministry of Education, Assessment and curriculum are interconnected. Provincial exams and classroom assessments are being redesigned to align with new curriculum content. Equally importantly, our new provincial graduation exams will align not only with new curriculum, but with research on best practice, which highlights student centered and personalized ways of learning. Exams will continue to be rigorous and based on learning standards evaluating student achievement, core competencies, essential learning and literacy and math skills. However, more flexibility will be introduced into the assessment process wherever possible.

Quality assessment is fair, transparent, meaningful and responsive to all learners

- Focuses on all three components of the curriculum model – knowing, doing, understanding
- provides ongoing descriptive feedback to students
- is ongoing, timely, specific, and embedded in day to day instruction
- provides varied and multiple opportunities for learners to demonstrate their learning
- involves student in their learning
- promotes development of student self-assessment and goal setting for next steps in learning
- allows for a collection of student work to be gathered over time to provide a full profile of the learner and learning
- communicates clearly to the learner and parents where the student is, what they are working towards and the ways that learning can be supported

Source: Ministry of Education

Date of Board Approval: December 13, 2016

Date Amended: