



School District No. 51 (Boundary) Strategic Plan 2010-2015

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**Prepared with consultation by:
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Superintendent of Schools/CEO
For the Board of Education
July 2010 to June 2015**

**“Do not confine your children
to your own learning, for they
were born in another time.”**

Hebrew Proverb

Index

	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
PLANNING PROCESS	3
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT	4
FACILITY USE PLANS	5
TECHNOLOGY	6
HUMAN RESOURCES	7
ACCOUNTABILITY	8

Community Response

The Board of Education has embarked on extending its strategic planning from a one-year plan to a rolling five-year plan. A longer term plan will be more effective as a touchstone for the Board as they make their month-to-month decisions on the performance of the District. To start on this process the Board initiated four public forums and four employee forums in the fall of 2009. Additional meetings were held with the District Development Team and Principals and Vice-Principals. The following topics were discussed:

- Topic 1: Preserving Course Options**
- Topic 2: Managing Declining Enrolment**
- Topic 3: School Configuration**
- Topic 4: More Agencies In Our Schools**
- Topic 5: All Day Kindergarten**

These topics lead to broad discussions across the District. The Board of Education and senior management have considered the input received from the community and staff, factored in the changing landscape of Ministry of Education regulations, oversight and government direction. This draft represents the collaborative efforts of the Board of Education and Senior Management of the District.

The Round 2 forums were held in May 2010 - two public forums and two forums with employees. Round 2 forums responded to a working draft. Additional meetings were held with the District Development team and principals and vice-principals.

A Strategic Plan is a living document and the Board of Education will annually review the document itself and the progress the District is making in the implementation of the plans.

The Board of Education would like to thank all staff, parents, community members and students who gave so generously of their time during the forum process. Your thoughtful comments were most informative and helpful in our deliberations.

Trustees:

Teresa Rezanoff, Chair
Sally Garcelon
Vicki Gee
Ken Harshenin
John Malloff
Cathy Riddle
Kris Sabourin

Student Achievement

The Board of School Trustees, School District No. 51 (Boundary) is committed to providing opportunities for students to develop their individual and unique potentials in harmony with home, school and community, thus enabling them to become mature responsible citizens with inquiring minds and a desire for lifelong learning.

Priorities

1. Support for each student to transition successfully from home to Early Learning Programs, to Kindergarten through to graduation and beyond.
2. Every student will graduate with a career/life plan and the skills, credentials, and experiences to meet the plan.
3. Every learner wants to go to school – to learn, to contribute, and to achieve personal success.
4. Every learner will have the knowledge to make safe and healthy choices.

Student Achievement - Possible Strategic Actions

1. During this time frame of increasing financial constraints, maintain key support structures, services and initiatives to obtain **achievement levels** above provincial averages for all learners, including Aboriginal students.
2. **Align in-service and professional development activities** to support the District goals and objectives. (For example: A District goal is to integrate technology into the classroom. Resources would then be made available for in-service to realize this goal).
3. Further develop action plans to help all teachers in their implementation of **quality assessment and differentiated instructional practices**.
4. Develop and implement the District's **Health Promoting Schools Plan and Provincial Physical Activity** requirements.
5. **Integrate technologies** to support the teaching and learning process. Some examples include:
 - ✓ Supporting interested teachers who value and seek opportunities to use technology as a tool for learning, for increasing student engagement and extending learning beyond the curriculum.
 - ✓ Investigate implementation of an Internal Virtual School*
 - ✓ Joining the BC Learning Network to gain access to Distributed Learning courseware offerings. This is a consortium of BC School Districts pooling their resources for the development and sharing of online courses using open source software such as Moodle*.
 - ✓ Support teachers interested in learning and using Moodle.

*Check Glossary for an explanation of this term.

Immediate Action Items

- Renew our Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement effective July 2011 (Director of Instruction and Aboriginal Advisory Committee+)
- Develop a District Health Promoting School Plan (Superintendent and Director of Instruction+)
- Proceed with our Community Network in partnership with the City of Grand Forks (Superintendent, Secretary-Treasurer, IT Manager+)
- Proceed with joining the BC Learning Network and access its resources. (Superintendent, Principal GFSS)

+ Indicates individuals or groups responsible for initiating the action

Facility Use Plans

All building facilities in the East and West Boundary continue to operate as they have in the past. Summary of Options (detailed descriptions can be found in the Appendix)

Capital Planning – Facilities

For the 2010-2011 Capital Plan, Christina Lake Elementary will stay on the submission however for 2011-2012, the necessary groundwork for replacement of BCSS and GFSS will be completed and circumstances permitting replacement for these two schools will be the goal. The specifics of the school configuration and location will be determined at a future date. The options that were discussed are included in the Appendix for reference.

Each year the District is required to submit a facilities Capital Plan. This past two years the District has submitted a plan to replace Christina Lake Elementary. The changes in our economy, the aging of our population and the school enrollment forecast all point to the need in a dramatic shift in our future planning. More than one school can be on our Capital Plan.

Action

1. Meet with the Cities of Grand Forks, Greenwood and the Village of Midway to discuss Capital Plans before they are made public. (Superintendent+)

+ Indicates individuals or groups responsible for initiating the action

Technology in Education

Technology has held out hope for significantly impacting education. These changes have been slower than predicted but the pace of technological change is now increasing in schools. School District 51 recognizes that it must keep pace and make technology available to future generations of students.

Priorities

1. Develop a network backbone that will support District technology needs into the future.
2. Develop partnerships with local governments for the most economical technology services we can develop.

Action Items

1. Launch the **Community Network*** by September 2010. (Superintendent, Secretary-Treasurer, IT Manager+)
2. With the City of Grand Forks, develop a **governance model** for the Community Network. (Superintendent, Secretary-Treasurer, IT Manager+)
3. **Reach out to the Village of Midway and the City of Greenwood** to determine their interest in the network and keep updated for inclusion in various options of the Community Network. (Superintendent+)
4. Update our five-year **District Technology Architecture Plan*** to reflect the Community Network infrastructure. (Secretary-Treasurer & It Department+)
5. Develop a **District Learning and Technology Plan (DLT)** focused on building capacity to impact achievement in a 21st century learning paradigm. The focus would be to build a common vision of using technology to positively impact student achievement. (District Technology Committee+)

*Check Glossary

+ Indicates individuals or groups responsible for initiating the action

Human Resources

The Board of Education recognizes that the next five years will be challenging due to the many changes the District will be facing. There will be the ongoing challenge of declining enrollment and the restructuring that will bring. There will also be the challenge of diminishing resources. But most significantly there will be challenge of **Student Learning in the 21st Century** and how we as an organization and individually respond. We will need to stay committed to our own commitment to life time learning and we will need to continue exploring ways to improve the education experience for our students.

Priorities

1. Positive relationships with our employee groups are maintained
2. The most qualified and suitable people are hired and promoted
3. Health and safety of employees, students, volunteers and parents are top priorities
4. Investigate strategies for efficient sharing of specialists between schools
5. Re-visit Employee recognition practices in the district

Actions

1. Have in place sound financial controls to insure accountability and safeguarding of public assets (Board of Education, Superintendent, Secretary-Treasurer+)
2. Align financial resources with plans and strategies (Board of Education, District Management Team+)
3. Explore further shared services and contracting with other partners (Superintendent, Secretary-Treasurer+)
4. Optimize space utilization (Board of Education, Superintendent, Secretary-Treasurer+)
5. Encourage and help all employees to realize efficiencies (District Management Team+)
6. Explore ways to enhance communication and share information with the public and stakeholders (Communications Committee)

+ Indicates individuals or groups responsible for initiating the action

District Leadership

The Board of Education and school communities value the leadership of the District Leadership Team. Upon retirement or departure of members of the District Leadership Team the structure and positions will be reviewed.

School Based Leadership

The Board of Education and school communities value the leadership of building Principals and Vice-Principals. The Board will be maintaining this basic framework but upon retirement or departure of members of our Principal and Vice-Principal team the structure and positions will be reviewed.

Accountability

As stewards of the public purse the Board is responsible for the stewardship of District resources present and future.

Priorities

1. All decisions are made in the best interest of students
2. The District will strive to “stretch the dollar”
3. Long-term stability and sustainability are considerations in all financial decisions
4. Flexibility in the system is maintained to accommodate unexpected challenges
5. Initiatives will be pursued to increase revenue to the District
6. Services are environmentally conscious
7. Community and partner group input is valued
8. All effort will be made to make actions and decisions as transparent as possible and reflect our values

Actions

7. Have in place sound financial controls to insure accountability and safeguarding of public assets
8. Align financial resources with plans and strategies
9. Explore further shared services and contracting with other partners
10. Optimize space utilization
11. Encourage and help all employees to realize efficiencies