

FOUR-YEAR EDUCATION PLAN

Background:

Educational planning is an essential part of ensuring all students have equitable opportunities to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to be self-reliant, responsible, caring and contributing citizens. Planning ensures resources for education are used in the best possible ways to meet the educational needs of Alberta's young people.

The Division is responsible for providing assurance to its stakeholders that it is fulfilling its responsibilities and students are successful. The key to building public assurance is engaging education partners in the Division's planning and reporting cycle. As part of this assurance, the Division is committed to engaging students, school families, staff and community members in the planning and reporting processes in the Division.

The [Four-Year Education Plan](#) outlines the Division's priorities, goals, outcomes, performance measures and strategies to support student success, guides budget development and forms the basis for reporting on progress and achievement.

Guiding Principles for Assurance in Planning and Reporting

1. Recognize that all education partners, each with unique contributions, share responsibility for student growth and achievement;
2. Build professional capacity and a commitment to continuous improvement;
3. Facilitate communication and the ongoing engagement of all education partners in respectful, collaborative action;
4. Engage regularly with education partners, across the spectrum of public engagement strategies (informing, consulting, involving, collaborating and empowering);
5. Acknowledge that communication must be constant throughout the engagement process;
6. Consistently use evidence from a variety of sources to ensure responsive and transparent decision-making;
7. Reflect local and societal contexts, enabling innovative and flexible responses in classrooms and schools;
8. Recognize the unique learning needs of students and foster equitable and inclusive learning environments;
9. Commit to demonstrating fiscal responsibility and effective stewardship of resources in supporting system and student outcomes; and
10. Provide a structure to ensure what is measured and reported is consistent with the best interests of student growth and achievement.

Procedures:

1. System Planning Guidelines:
 - 1.1. The mission and values will provide overall direction for system planning.

- 1.2. The planning process will recognize the identified local priorities.
- 1.3. The actions and endeavours of the Division and its schools must be guided by sound planning processes, which provides ample opportunity for input and meaningful involvement by stakeholder groups. Formal processes for the Division to develop, revise and extend its [Four-Year Education Plan](#) that identify priorities, outcomes, measures, targets, strategies and timelines for task completion will be developed.
2. The [Four-Year Education Plan](#) will:
 - 2.1. Be developed using feedback from students, parents, staff and community stakeholders and fulfil provincial accountability requirements.
 - 2.2. Be developed for a four-year time frame and implemented in the second term of a new Board of Trustees.
 - 2.3. Contain priorities with related outcomes, performance measures and research-informed strategies that address both local goals and Division priorities.
 - 2.4. Inform the development of the budget, so resources are allocated to support implementation of the plan.
 - 2.5. Be reviewed regularly and updated annually, in keeping with results arising from analysis and implementation, input gathered from stakeholder engagement activities and with consideration of changes in provincial direction and Division priorities.
3. The Superintendent will:
 - 3.1. Submit annually the [Four-Year Education Plan](#) to the Board of Trustees for approval.
 - 3.2. Ensure the Division's [Four-Year Education Plan](#) is submitted annually to Alberta Education no later than May 31.
 - 3.3. Make provision for annual distribution of the [Four-Year Education Plan](#) and its placement on the Division website no later than May 31.

Reference:

Section 18, 52, 53, 55, 66, 67, 222 *Education Act*

Fiscal Management Act

School Councils Regulation 94/2019

Policy and Requirements for School Board Planning and Reporting

School Authority Planning and Reporting Reference Guide

Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12

Funding Manual for School Authorities