

SEVEN OAKS SCHOOL DIVISION

Divisional Plan

2017 - 2018

This draft plan was developed by the Seven Oaks School Division Board of Trustees at its annual Board Retreat in August 2017. It is intended to be a living document, updated and revised as required to meet evolving needs and changing circumstances.



October 2017

BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY

Culture

Examine our shared values and articulate the culture that we wish to affirm and continue to build on in Seven Oaks paying attention to the importance of learning and citizenship. This examination will contribute to a formal policy statement.

Communications

Review the stakeholder research report prepared by ChangeMakers and develop and implement a comprehensive communications plan including a more direct focus on literacy and numeracy learning and on our partnership with parents and guardians.

Governance

Initiate a Capital Planning Review Committee to focus on planning for continued residential and enrolment growth and maintaining and improving existing infrastructure.

Continue to focus Board attention on significant issues by structuring “big picture” discussions as part of the Board agenda.

Indicators and Outcomes

Develop a consistent and comprehensive “dashboard” for the Board to track and review indicators of progress (student engagement, time spent reading for pleasure, grade three outcomes, grade nine credit attainment, etc.) and indicators of success (grad rate, post-secondary entrance rates, fitness and health) taking care to represent the broad range of outcomes we desire.

Questions

- **Are we communicating effectively with our community?**
- **Are we planning adequately for the future?**
- **Are we focussed on continuous improvement?**

HEALTH and FITNESS

Continue comprehensive school based initiatives (SO Active, SO Healthy) to promote health, nutrition and fitness at four pilot schools (A.E. Wright, Margaret Park, Collicutt and Victory) using an approach modeled on the successful APPLE Schools program in Alberta and begin to roll out successful practices and approaches to more schools.

Continue to set school by school goals to improve our active transportation to school in partnership with the Green Action Centre using the BikeWalkRoll survey to track progress.

Continue Bike Education in partnership with Manitoba Public Insurance and Bike Winnipeg.

Continue to prioritize and expand the general community recreation use of our facilities (open gyms, rec leagues, parent run programming).

Implement a comprehensive program of concussion prevention, identification and treatment including parent education.

Question

- **Are we effectively introducing all students to the habits of lifelong fitness and health?**
- **Are we engaging our parent/guardian community in the promotion of health and fitness?**

EQUITY

Removing Barriers

Continue to build initiatives that remove barriers and lead to improved outcomes for those children who most need a difference made for them (First Nations students, children in care, children impacted by poverty). Specifically, the division will focus on:

Continued expansion of Wayfinders

Work towards a second Sistema program (Margaret Park School).

Expansion of the Ojibwe Bilingual program to grade four in 2017-2018 and grade 5 in 2018-2019. Conduct a review of the program in cooperation with Indspire.

Expanded use of tablets to bridge the digital divide.

Work to narrow achievement gaps in literacy, numeracy and credit attainment and graduation.

Complete implementation of no cost musical instruments at high school (Grade 12).

Question

- **Are we making a difference for those students who most need that difference made?**

A STAFF THAT REFLECTS OUR COMMUNITY

Continue to make progress in hiring and developing a strong staff this is reflective of our community.

Question

- **When our students enter our schools do they see themselves reflected back by our staff?**
- **Are we Narrowing achievement gaps?**

CHILDREN IN CARE

Work with other school divisions to implement an Interdivisional Protocol for Children in Care that would provide greater stability and security for children and improve educational outcomes.

Implement relevant and applicable recommendations from the “Improving Outcomes for Children in Care” report.

Further develop our partnership with Child Welfare Authorities and our research partnership with the University of Manitoba to benefit Children in Care. Explore transportation solutions to ensure continuity in school for children in care who move.

Question

- **How can we help children in care to flourish in school and in life?**

PLANNING and BUDGET

Review shifting to all day, every second day, Kindergarten.

Examine transportation services for non-eligible students.

Design and build the 8 classroom addition to Amber Trails School – approved by Public Schools Finance Board.

Proceed with construction of a 500 student plus Kindergarten to Grade 5 dual track school to serve Amber Trails for French Immersion and Precinct E for English.

Secure an addition to West Kildonan Collegiate.

Continue to plan for future development and acquire school sites in Precincts F, G, and West St. Paul

Construct a new Maintenance/Transportation Service Centre including a meeting/professional development space and a “learning garden”.

Work with the Evergreen Foundation to implement the School Grounds Greening Framework to support the development of school grounds and natural playscapes.

Complete the Seven Oaks Performing Arts Centre at Collège Garden City Collegiate and conclude the fundraising campaign in support of the project.

Complete a comprehensive accessibility plan for the division.

Complete engineering study and address drainage issues at West St. Paul School, R.F. Morrison School and École Belmont. In the short term remedy drainage issues with a vacuum truck.

Questions

- **Are we making the best use of our resources?**
- **Are we planning adequately for the future?**

PATHWAYS TO COLLEGE and CAREER

Continued expansion of CVE (Green Technologies, Building Construction, Theatre Arts and Tech) and Beyond Grade 12 program.

Further develop “MET semester” options as a way to expand internship opportunities.

Question

- **Is every student leaving high school with knowledge of themselves, a sense of confidence and a plan for their future?**

ENGAGEMENT IN LEARNING

Continue our focus on early years literacy and numeracy providing early years classroom teachers with increased time for collaboration and cooperation to ensure every student is learning, that we know the status and the progress of every student, know the reasons for any problems, intervene when there are signs of difficulty and use effective, evidence based teaching approaches

Expand the focus on literacy and numeracy to middle and senior years including formalizing “Teacher Talk” aimed at improving student learning. Track student success.

Focus professional development and school plans on literacy and numeracy.

Strengthen and focus professional development for educational assistants in order to ensure that we are fostering independence in our work with students with special needs.

Further develop comprehensive indicators in order to review and track progress.

Implement the Early Years curriculum and instruction partnership with the University of Manitoba.

Questions

- **Is every child actively and meaningfully engaged in learning?**
- **Do we know the status and the progress of every student, know the reasons for any problems, intervene when there are signs of difficulty and use effective, evidence based teaching approaches?**

Seven Oaks has a significant ongoing focus on instructional/educational leadership development. We engage regularly in meaningful discussions about educational purposes and instructional practices. Structures that support this work include: New Administrators’ Group (two-year commitment); Educational Leaves; Annual Administrators’ Conference; Liaison Superintendent/Administrator Meetings; Annual Reflection of Professional Learning; Educational Discussion at Administrators’ Meetings; University/School Partnerships.