

2023-2024

Divisional Plan

Seven Oaks
School Division



SEVEN OAKS
SCHOOL DIVISION
community begins here

Seven Oaks School Division is committed to realizing the ideals of public education to building community, fostering understanding and to helping all students realize their promise and flourish.

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[Our Mission Statement](#)

The Seven Oaks School Division is a Community of Learners, every one of whom shares the responsibility to assist children in acquiring an education which will enable them to lead fulfilling lives within the world as moral people and contributing members of society.

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

Foster strong teaching and rich learning opportunities to both raise and level the bar for achievement

Outcomes for students marginalized by poverty, race and trauma lag behind outcomes for more advantaged students. Children in Care and Indigenous students can be significantly impacted by these factors. COVID impacted all of our students, but it has impacted some more than others with the effect of widening achievement gaps and disparity.

We will Continue to Raise the Bar

Support instructional improvement that will raise the bar for student achievement throughout our schools including:

- Teacher Talk - Kindergarten to Grade 5 Literacy and Numeracy Initiative.
- Early Years Literacy Initiative. Regie Routman Hub schools (A.E. Wright, Collicutt, Elwick, Governor Semple, Margaret Park, O.V. Jewitt, Victory).
- Math Curriculum Initiatives (JUMP Math, Building Thinking Classrooms).
- Middle and Senior Years Writing Project.
- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths).
- Strengthening Post Secondary Pathways.
- Senior Years English Language Arts Initiative.
- Tech Hub (coding for video gaming, music and design).
- North End Schools Debate League.

We will Work to Level the Bar

1. Maintain and expand the capacity of Wayfinders to ensure that all high school students are on track for high school graduation and post secondary opportunities. Initiate Wayfinders programming for middle years students in order to support strong transitions to high school.
2. Develop, budget and begin implementation of more robust nutritional and food security programs on a pilot basis.
3. Solidify and expand First Teacher to support our most vulnerable families, to foster stronger school/family relationships and to support the healthy development of preschool children.
4. Expand programming to enhance the knowledge and skills of Learning Support teachers particularly with respect to reading intervention.
5. Maintain and expand Cultural Credit programming including exploration and development of an Indigenous focus high school option. Continue the development of cultural credit with expansion to middle years at Elwick and Edmund Partridge for 2023-2024. Plan to initiate our Indigenous focus MET School for 2024-2025 school year.

6. Expand Indigenous languages programming with the Ojibwe program expansion to Middle Years at Edmund Partridge, language offerings at high school and family language programs.
7. Expand school access to Elders and Knowledge Keepers.

Develop and support learning communities that promote positive mental health and well-being, paying special attention to the stressors for children, staff and families

1. Support students and families in understanding the impact of social media and cell phone use on mental health.
2. Access evidence-based positive mental health school-initiated programs (Project 11, self-compassion, mindfulness) with an emphasis on student voice.
3. Support school initiatives to implement evidence-based positive mental health. Offer and support the initiation of school and divisional programs to support the well-being of staff.
4. Re-engage a Divisional Mental Health committee that emphasizes student voice and Indigenous/holistic ways of knowing and being.
5. Continue to partner with community organizations to extend counseling services to high school students.

Anti-Racism/Peacebuilding

1. Build bridges to and between the rich cultural communities in Seven Oaks to foster both pride in identity and greater cross-cultural understanding.
2. Build opportunities for schools to engage in the anti-racist work in the division through classroom programming, local school initiatives and divisional working groups. (High school inservices, Black Student Unions, Evening of Black Excellence.)
3. Our anti-racism lead will continue to work with schools, teachers, principals and staff across the division to build knowledge and understanding of anti-racist education.

Improve the school experiences, outcomes and life prospects of Children in Care

1. Continue to engage with CFS agencies in efforts to ensure stable school arrangements and to support the school programming that benefits Children in Care.
2. Provide opportunities for Children in Care to have access to role models and build pathways to post high school opportunities. Wayfinders, Law Makers and Tech Hub are all vehicles for this.
3. Explore the potential of service enhancement and coordination with the goal of making Seven Oaks a community where no children come into care. Ongoing discussion with service partners. Continuation of First Teacher, Settlement Services, Wayfinders and partnerships with WASAC and Northwest Community Health are all furthering this goal.

Capital Planning

1. Begin construction of a dual track Kindergarten to Grade 8 school (École Mino Pimatisawin School) for Aurora at North Pointe.
2. Plan for new schools in Aurora at North Pointe, Meadowlands and Highland Pointe and update catchment areas in order to better accommodate enrollment growth.
3. Redesign West St. Paul grounds, parking and drop offs to accommodate Highway 9 upgrade, resolve drainage issues and construct a 134 space child care facility.
4. Construct a 134 space child care facility at R.F. Morrison.
5. Complete engineering and design to improve the grounds at Amber Trails
6. Begin to implement the next phases at the Aki Centre (adventure features, playscapes, dock, shelter).

Advocacy

Effectively mobilize and advocate with our Seven Oaks Community to ensure that senior levels of government respond to the needs of our diverse and growing community.

Specific areas for advocacy include.

- Improvements to Beryl Watts Park.
- Improvements to the West Kildonan Library.
- Establishment of a new library facility to serve Maples, Amber Trails and the growing communities of Aurora at Northpoint and Highland Pointe to be located as part of the Maples Collegiate, Maples Community Club and Seven Oaks Pool Complex.
- Completion of Chief Peguis Trail.
- Expanded childcare capacity.
- Expanded recreational facilities possibly as part of a Highland Pointe school and park campus.
- Active transportation.
- Advocate for an end to child poverty.
- Advocate for school trustee election campaign reforms in line with provisions that exist for elected officials at other government levels.
- Continuing advocacy with Mayor, councillors and MLA's.
- Advocate for fair and adequate provincial funding for schools.

Program, Policy and Governance

1. Complete a comprehensive review of governance and policy in order to clarify decision-making processes, streamline and modernize our policy manual and clarify administrative procedures.
2. Engage, as a Board, with students by planning "Student Voice Forums" for each high school and their feeder schools.
3. Re-activate the Finance Review Committee to review our fiscal position, wage pressures, program and capital needs, and use of resources prior to budget development.

Program Development and Renewal

1. Develop "Climate Action" initiatives at all schools to ensure that our students are aware of the threat of climate change and are developing the awareness and agency to contribute to the informed stewardship of our planet.
2. Continue to provide a safe and welcoming environment for all of our 2SLGBTQIA+ students, staff and families and both ensure and communicate to all parents and caregivers that we are doing so in ways that are age appropriate and positive.
3. Launch a Punjabi Bilingual program at Amber Trails Community School.
4. Continue to reorganize Heritage Language programming to eliminate the need for bussing.