

Strategic Plan Progress Update

September 2017

At Edmonton Public Schools, we align our actions and investments to a Strategic Plan. The plan sets out Edmonton Public Schools' Vision, Mission, Values, Priorities, Goals and Outcomes, and its Cornerstone Values of equity, collaboration, accountability, and integrity. The plan also helps us make sure that we're spending the money we've been given the best way possible: to impact student success.

What are our priorities?

In consultation with students, parents, staff and community partners, the Board of Trustees established the current four-year plan in 2014. This 2014–2018 plan sets out three priorities:

1. Foster growth and success for every student by supporting their journey from early learning through high school completion and beyond.
2. Provide welcoming, high quality learning and working environments.
3. Enhance public education through communication, engagement and partnerships.

An increase of 9,215 students.
That's over 305 classrooms!

Progress snapshot

	2013–14	2016–17
Schools	202	213
5-year high school completion rate	68.8%	80.6%
Drop out rate	3.2%	2.7%
Diploma Exams		
<i>Standard of Excellence</i>	21.7%	23.4%
<i>Acceptable Standard</i>	82.1%	83.6%
Provincial Achievement Tests		
<i>Standard of Excellence</i>	23.9%	25.1%
<i>Acceptable Standard</i>	77.2%	77.4%
Student enrolment	86,427	95,642
Total staff	7,540 FTE	8,239 FTE
Budget	\$1.009 Billion	\$1.122 Billion

Our District has made great strides while classrooms are increasingly diverse and complex.

Students	September 2013	September 2016	% increase
English Language Learners	18,411	23,503	27.7
First Nations, Métis, and Inuit (self-declared)	7,591	8,375	10.3
Requiring specialized services	11,035	11,953	8.3

How has the Strategic Plan helped support success for students so far?

Here are highlights of the great work that has happened since 2014.

Fostering growth and success for every student

- Established an Equity Fund to help all schools access the supports students need to be successful.
- Introduced Career Pathways across all grades and subjects to help students explore what their life might look like beyond school.
- Implemented First Nations, Métis, and Inuit professional learning sessions to lead teachers from all schools to strengthen First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students' engagement and achievement.
- Launched a District-wide focus on reading to support literacy instruction, assessment and interventions across all grades and subjects.
- Implemented the Math Intervention Programming Instrument (MIPI) with Grade 2–9 students, providing teachers with information to develop individualized math intervention plans.
- Increased English as a Second Language staff, resources and supports to welcome an increasing number of newcomers.
- Introduced a mobile mental health unit, increased mental health resources and staff, and held a student-led mental health conference
- Opened three full-day Kindergarten programs in areas of high social vulnerability, through the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation.
- Expanded Pre-Kindergarten programming to accommodate an increase of 20% enrolment over the past five years.

Providing welcoming, high quality learning and working environments

- Opened 14 new schools and completed four modernizations. Two more modernizations are in progress.
- Used capital fund dollars and bulk buying power to provide equitable maintenance and technology for schools (e.g., central purchasing of Chromebooks, interactive projectors and network switches saved over \$400,000 in one year).
- Responded to high enrolment issues in 11 schools in newer neighbourhoods through the District's Space for Students initiative. Working with parents and communities, this effort involved changing attendance boundaries for schools with high enrolment pressures and directing \$5.8 million to purchase six freestanding portables and 10 modular classrooms for five of those schools.
- Launched online pre-enrolment to make the process faster and more convenient for families.
- Established the Summer Institute, a series of intensive professional development sessions for educators.

Enhancing public education through communication, engagement and partnerships

- Held discussions with mature communities in the Lawton, Westmount, Highlands, Britannia, Rosslyn and Westlawn areas to consider modernizations or consolidations.
- Conducted two District Feedback Surveys to hear from students, staff, parents and the community.
- Upgrading to a mass notification system that will email and text parents in the case of emergencies.
- Partnered with the City of Edmonton and Edmonton Catholic Schools to hold annual Truth and Reconciliation events, as well as the Journey to Reconciliation Youth Leadership Conference (March 2015).
- Consulted with students, parents and community through online surveys as part of policy review; more than 1,700 individuals responded.
- Supporting the Province's new curriculum development by creating resources to be shared with staff and other school districts, and having staff participate on curriculum committees, in focus groups, and as reviewers.
- Piloting an upgraded SchoolZone this year to improve communication for schools and families.
- Introduced Alberta's first ever Student Trustee in 2014, and established a multi-member Student Senate in 2015–16.

We are proud of these accomplishments, but know that we still have work to do. The District looks forward to working with students, parents and community members as we work to transform the learners of today into the leaders of tomorrow.



Board of Trustees from left to right: Ken Gibson (Ward E), Nathan Ip (Ward H), Michelle Draper (Ward B), Michael Janz (Ward F), Sherry Adams (Ward I), Ray Martin (Ward D), Cheryl Johner (Ward A), Orville Chubb (Ward C) and Bridget Stirling (Ward G).