

2021-2026

Multi Year Strategic Plan

Information Sessions



Q U E S T I O N S & A N S W E R S

Fall 2023 Questions and Answers

Q1 How will the Board measure the success of the MYSP?

The MYSP committee is provided quarterly progress reports which include qualitative and quantitative data. The MYSP committee provides the Board of Trustees with written and verbal reports at Board meetings. The committee also shares mid-year and end of year data with the board of Trustees based upon quantitative data based on the 4 pillars of the MYSP.

Quantitative and qualitative data are gathered on a continual basis by staff in schools and at the system level and examined in iterative cycles of plan, act, observe and reflect throughout the school year. The measures vary dependent on subject focus, purpose, and type of measurement tool. The Director of Education keeps a finger on the pulse of all areas of the board through the dissemination of school, department and system plans and updates. The Director regularly shares data based on measures that matter with the Board, staff and the public in a variety of reports including but not limited to the monthly [letter to families](#), the monthly staff newsletter, [Board and committee reports](#), [mid-year and end of year MYSP status reports](#), [Board Highlights](#), updated and posted [Student Achievement Plan \(Former BIPSAWB\)](#) and the [Director's Annual Report](#).

Q2 What types of parent feedback do you collect for your planning? I saw reference to a variety of surveys, data pieces but wasn't clear on the parent piece.

The 2021-2026 strategic plan is the result of more than 16 months of consultation and planning in which our communities contributed their voices to identify key priorities for Near North District School Board.

Nanos Research, Ramsay Partners Inc. and Ministry Special Advisors Wayne Joudrie and Wally Easton engaged with the public in multiple modes including but not limited to surveys, interviews and interactive parent and student consultations. Parent consultations included feedback regarding current and future trends in education and their perception of the most important aspects of student achievement. This input, combined with board and industry data, helped us to develop goals that align with the four strategic priorities of the plan, excellence in teaching and learning, excellence in relationships, excellence in communication, excellence in innovation as determined by the gathered data.

NNDSB continues to gather parent feedback through "Safe-Schools", "School Climate", "This is Me" and "MYSP" surveys. Opportunities to engage in these annual and biannual surveys as they arise are found on the new web site under [Community Voices](#). The public is invited to provide opinions on revised [Administrative Guideline Consultations](#). Parents are also invited to join or attend [Parent councils](#), and attend [Board and committee meetings](#). Meeting notes are found on the [Board Website](#). Parents are encouraged to reach out to their child's principal for school-based information.

Q3 Will programs like the new Seven Stones Indigenous School be extended beyond North Bay for the rest of the student community?

NNDSB is fortunate to have active partnerships with First Nations communities throughout the Near North Region. In North Bay, the partnership with the Indigenous Friendship Centre evolved to support a growing need in the community. The partnership and several months of collaborative planning resulted in the Seven Stones School.

Each region engages in programs that meet the unique needs of their students and the community. We are always seeking opportunities to collaborate and build or grow programs that address the strengths and needs of each community. Similar programs are possible based on each region's unique needs and must be created in collaboration with partners and respecting all voices.

Q4 Will the operational plans that stem from the strategy be open for input/discussion? We have an interest in how services and resources are available equitably for all students in all communities.

NNDSB administers public education to approximately 10,000 students across the following regions Parry Sound, Almaguin, Mattawa, Nipissing, Sturgeon Falls, North Bay, and some portions of Muskoka. This unique makeup of distinct regions contributes to many rich opportunities within the school community. The Ministry of Education establishes the budget framework to guide how NNDSB allocates resources to support students. Often, this framework is enrollment driven, with additional funding allocated by the Ministry and provided in special circumstances for special circumstances. NNDSB endeavors to offer unique programming options based on student demand and community need.

Q5 I've noticed some instability in schools, i.e., communication, activities etc., where there is regular turnover of principals in schools. Communication and activities may be discontinued with principal changes. I appreciate it's not intentional, but can we find a way to plan for this better, so students and overall community aren't impacted with transitions while school is in session?

Principals are vital for ensuring student success. Their actions help maintain a positive school climate, motivate school staff, and enhance teachers' practice. NNDSB endeavours to place principals in schools according to best fit for them and the school community. We always endeavour to ensure consistency in school leadership personnel.

However, it is impossible to anticipate all circumstances that require adjustments to principal placements. We are often faced with circumstances that compel us to make adjustments. In these cases, we may need to adjust placements to ensure we are finding the best fit. This may cause a shift for several principals. These shifts are common and completely unavoidable, but we work hard to contain the ripple effect of principal reallocations.

If parents are concerned about school-based programming and activities, they are encouraged to speak with the principal.

Q6 You've all recognized mental health challenges students face. Can you be more specific in how the multi-year plan is looking at all factors to help address/support students to promote an overall healthy school environment?

The Multi Year Strategic Plan is a document which provides overarching priorities and objectives to achieve excellence in teaching and learning, communication, relationships, and innovations. Specific plans to address and support mental health challenges are created and carried out by the Mental Health Team meeting the priorities of excellence in teaching and learning and excellence in relationships. Efforts are many and varied. We would invite you to read the [NNDSB Mental Health and Addiction Strategy](#) and access the mental health resources on the [Mental Health Resources](#) page. Information regarding mental health initiatives for each school year can be accessed in the [Director's Annual Report](#), which is submitted to the Board of Trustees and the Ministry of Education and made public in January of each year.