

# Campbell River School District

## Strategic Plan 2009-2012



## Overview

School District 72 is first and foremost a people organization, comprised of some 5,600 students and 850 employees working together in a sizeable and varied geographic region that ranges from the Oyster River to Sayward, the Discovery Islands to Strathcona Park Lodge. As a school district, we believe deeply in the power of an excellent public education to enrich individual lives and improve the prospects of all the students who place their trust in us as they pass through the doors of our twenty schools each day. We understand that individuals and groups approach education with varying strengths and challenges, and we're committed to providing an equitable education to each and every student. We believe that the effectiveness of our organization rests on a clearly articulated vision, shared goals and values, policies which reflect our beliefs, and educators whose practice is rooted in their personal commitment to children and thoughtful teaching practices.

This document is the culmination of a two year process of consultation with all our community partners, as well as the work of past superintendent Julie MacRae and the previous Board of Education. The current Board has dedicated itself to the creation of a strategic plan which affirms the vision and values of our district, and identifies the heart of our educational focus for the next three years. As creators of the 2009-2012 Strategic Plan, we have thought deeply about our responsibility to our students, our community, and our planet. This document reflects this thinking in its three strategic focuses: success for all learners, enhanced community connections, and an expanded and purposeful environmental ethic. Recognizing our strengths has helped us to identify objectives that will improve our practices in these fundamental areas. As we move through the next three years, this document will enhance our ability to best serve our educational community by making our objectives clear and visible to all.

We invite your comments,  
and welcome your feedback.



Helen Moats  
School District 72 Board Chair



### **Campbell River Board of Education**

*Front Row (left to right):*  
**Barbara Bowbrick, Trustee**  
**Helen Moats, Chair**  
**Michele Babchuk, Vice-Chair**

*Back Row (left to right):*  
**Warren Harle, Trustee**  
**Daryl Hagen, Trustee**  
**Joyce McMann, Trustee**  
**Ted Thorburn, Trustee**



## **Our Vision**

*School District 72 is dedicated to the achievement of personal excellence for all members of its learning community.*



## Our Values

*Learning is Central.*  
*Collegiality is Essential.*  
*Respect is Fundamental.*



The commitments to learning as our core purpose, to teamwork and inclusion as a means of working together, and to respectful approaches to diversity and problem-solving drive how we operate and make decisions.





*“Life’s not about waiting for the storm to pass.  
It’s about learning to dance in the rain.”*  
- anonymous

## **Strategic Focus 1      Success For All Learners**

*All of our students will experience increasing success at each level of their education.*

### **Objectives**

- Provide all students with respectful and safe learning environments.
- Provide an inclusive environment which supports the individual educational needs of all students.
- Use effective instruction and assessment practices.
- Investigate the most effective and sustainable grade configuration and timetable structures to meet the needs of all learners.
- Ensure that resources, whether they are human, material or technological, are allocated to best support student learning.
- Use technology to support classroom learning in a way that is sustainable and considers the technology that students are using outside of school.
- Strive to ensure that learning is relevant, engaging, and exciting, instilling a value of life-long learning.







### What's Working

- We identify struggling students early in our school system resulting in improved course completion rates.
- Instructional support teachers work with fellow teachers to improve methods of instruction.
- We are reviewing school services for special needs students and redistributing these services to provide better support.
- Two StrongStart Centres have been designed to serve the needs of their individual communities. Sandowne StrongStart runs programming at a neighbourhood centre to reach families without transportation and Sayward StrongStart includes a preschool component.
- The use of technology is creating new learning environments, particularly at the middle schools.

### Evidence of Success

*We will see increasing school completion rates and successful transitions to the next step on the life paths of our students.*

## Strategic Focus 2      Enhanced Community Connections

*We believe it takes a community to successfully educate a child and, therefore, recognize that close and respectful connections with our partners are critical to our success. We will continue to cultivate and nurture those relationships, listen and respond to concerns, and communicate our achievements.*



### Objectives

- Promote School District 72 by highlighting the achievements of our students and staff to all our communities.
- Increase the student voice by involving more students in School District 72 committees and community / student forums.
- Continue to build relationships with current Robron Centre tenants and seek new occupants who support and enhance the purpose of the centre.
- Demonstrate educational leadership through connections with local community, municipal council and community organizations.
- Continue to build upon our positive relationships with the early years and adult literacy communities identified in our expanded mandate.
- Deepen our connections with our communities by hosting ongoing community forums, respecting and encouraging their involvement in our learning community.



## Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement Goals

Year by year improvement in Aboriginal student achievement in literacy and numeracy at the intermediate and middle school levels.

Year by year improvement in the rates of Aboriginal students who graduate with a Dogwood certificate.

To increase the number of Aboriginal students who graduate having met post-secondary requirements aligned to personal career goals.

Increase a positive sense of identity and self-acknowledgement for Aboriginal students.



## What's Working

- Strong links between the early childhood education community and the district as exemplified by StrongStart Centres and Success by 6 involvement.
- First-rate progress on the district's precedent setting third Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement. The deep and respectful connection between School District 72 and the Aboriginal community is unique across the province.
- Expanding relationships with other organizations such as the RCMP, John Howard Society, Ministry of Children and Family Development, Vancouver Island University, Vancouver Island Health Authority, and North Island College.
- School trustee liaison meetings with the mayor and council of Campbell River and education committee meetings held at 10 schools each year.
- The hosting of forums for our special needs, Aboriginal, and Robron communities.
- The public acknowledgement and celebration of student academic success through dedicated Continuing Education and Aboriginal graduation ceremonies and recognition articles in the local press.

## Evidence of Success

*As we increase our community connections, the collaborative structures that exist with the early years and Aboriginal communities will become typical of all our connections. Members of our partner organizations and the public will know the purpose, direction and vision of the school district.*

### **Strategic Focus 3      An Expanded and Purposeful Environmental Ethic**

*What happens in our classrooms every day shapes future generations. As an educational organization, we must ensure by policy and action that environmental stewardship is an important theme in every school. We will continue to raise environmental awareness, implement “green” projects and initiatives, and encourage environmentally sustainable behaviours.*

#### **Objectives**

- Empower our students to lead the way by creating more opportunities to hear their thoughts and ideas on environmental stewardship.
- Use existing programs, partnerships and funding opportunities to build upon environmental efforts already underway.
- Continuously evaluate current practices and identify our strengths and weaknesses.
- Communicate environmental priorities and initiatives to the district and community.
- Promote professional development opportunities in environmental education.
- Celebrate environmental achievements in the classroom, schools, and district offices.







### What's Working

- By exploring the school yard and the local environment, students are learning about nature.
- Successful conservation activities include garbage audits, garbage-free and walk-to-school days, and lights out campaigns.
- Programs such as Science in Action, SEEDS and Trees for Tomorrow combine cross-curricular activities with social responsibility, physical fitness and environmental education.
- All schools and district offices have recycling programs and several schools operate composting, schoolyard greening and trail maintenance programs.
- Student groups and classes are working with community agencies such as Greenways Land Trust on stewardship projects.
- In day-to-day district operations, environmentally responsible practices are being adopted. For example, all paper bathroom products include recycled content, cleaning chemicals are certified green, batteries and fluorescent light bulbs are being collected and recycled, and all garbage bags are biodegradable.

### Evidence of Success

*We will see increased energy efficiency, reduced garbage and a significant increase in recycled materials. All of our students will experience environmental education. Our success will truly be highlighted in our awareness of the impact we have on the planet.*





*“Education is not the filling of a pail,  
but the lighting of a fire.”*

*- William Butler Yeats*

This document was developed with consideration to the following district reports and publications: Report on the Strategic Planning Process, Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement, Achievement Contract, Environmental Policy, the Balanced School Year Report and Developing the Connection: Robron Centre. All of these documents are available on the district website ([www.sd72.bc.ca](http://www.sd72.bc.ca)). Also considered was the Review of Programs & Services for Student Services prepared by Don Chapman in Fall 2001, and which is not available electronically.



**Campbell River School District**  
*Learning to Be Our Best*

Campbell River School District  
425 Pinecrest Road  
Campbell River, BC V9W 3P2  
Tel: 250.830.2300  
Fax: 250.287.2616  
[www.sd72.bc.ca](http://www.sd72.bc.ca)