



University School Planning and Engagement Summary for Families

Thank you to the families who took the time to participate in our School Planning and Engagement survey. Your feedback supports our school planning and helps ensure decisions reflect the priorities of our community.

Purpose of Engagement

The purpose of this school planning engagement was to gather parent and caregiver feedback related to the School Development Plan (SDP), school fees, programming priorities, and the effectiveness of school communication and engagement activities. Feedback was collected through an online survey following school planning communication and/or a school planning meeting.

How Families Learn about the School Development Plan (SDP)

Families shared how they have learned about the School Development Plan and related updates:

- Information about the SDP was accessed through **multiple communication channels**, including:
 - **School Website** 29%
 - **School Council Meetings** 29%
 - **School Messenger** 29%
 - **Other sources** 13%

This feedback highlights that no single communication method dominated, suggesting that families access SDP information in diverse ways. This supports the school's approach of using multiple communication formats to reach families and reinforces the importance of continuing multi-channel communication strategies to ensure broad awareness and accessibility.

Focus on Student Learning

Participants were asked to reflect on whether the SDP is developed with all students in mind and whether the goals, outcomes, actions, and resources support student learning

- Families showed **strong agreement or agreement** that:
 - Their child's learning can benefit from the goals, outcomes, actions, and resources outlined in the SDP.
 - The learning of all students is reflected and prioritized within the SDP.

This confirms that families see our planning as student-centered and inclusive.

Activities and Services Valued by Families

Families were asked to identify which school-based activities and services are most important, recognizing the need to remain mindful of school budgets and family affordability:

- **Out-of-school field trips 33%** including experiences such as:
 - Telus Spark
 - Bow Habitat Station
 - Leighton Arts Centre
 - Calgary Philharmonic
 - Aggie Days
- **Residencies 33%** including experiences such as:
 - Felting
 - Dance
 - In-line skating
- **Camp Chief Hector 22%**
- **Indigenous Elder opportunities 11%**

Families value experiential learning opportunities that extend beyond the classroom and enrich student learning through cultural, scientific, and community-based experiences. This shows a strong family support for experiential learning opportunities that enrich classroom instruction.

Importance of School Activities Beyond Classroom Instruction

When asked about the importance of activities beyond the regular classroom (such as field trips, guest speakers, and school activities):

- **71%** responded **Yes**
- **29%** responded **Sometimes**
- **0%** responded **No**

These responses highlight the value of maintaining opportunities that enhance engagement, real-world connections, and student motivation.

Perceptions of School Fees

Families we asked whether school fees are reasonable given the benefits they provide:

- **100% of respondents** indicated that school fees are reasonable.

This feedback supports our continued effort to balance meaningful experience with financial considerations for families. This reflects thoughtful budgeting practices and clear communication regarding the purpose and value of school fees.

Summary

- Families reported positive awareness of the SDP.
- Strong agreement that the SDP supports inclusive, student-centered learning.
- High value placed on experiential learning opportunities.
- Strong satisfaction with school fees.
- Positive feedback on engagement processes and communication.

Moving Forward we will use this feedback to

- Continue using multiple communication channels to share SDP information.
- Maintain experiential and culturally responsive learning opportunities.
- Be thoughtful and transparent regarding school fees and program value.
- Use engagement feedback to refine future school planning meetings and materials.

Thank you for your partnership and for sharing your voice in our school planning process.

Jennifer McTghe

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