

OUR MULTI-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

Phase One Review and Reflect Stakeholder Consultation Report

Stakeholder Group:	CPIC & OAPCE
Meeting Date:	May 25, 2021 7-9pm
Participants:	24 participants inc. staff and facilitators
Format (Zoom):	Opening Presentation Group Discussion & Padlet input Breakout Sessions & Share



WHAT WE ASKED

Participants were prompted with 3 questions, discussed together as a group (verbally, in the chat function, and through Padlet) and in smaller breakout sessions:

1. *What do you anticipate as significant priorities and challenges for stakeholder groups (students, families, staff, faith community) over the next three-year term of the MYSP?*
2. *Does the current MYSP reflect the characteristics of a good MYSP?*
3. *Does the current MYSP address the priorities and challenges identified in Question 1?*

WHAT WE HEARD

A broad, shared goal that emerged from the discussion was the desire for stronger communication between all stakeholders, and more specifically between committees, the Board, school administrations, and parents.

Process

- Some participants expressed that the MYSP does not trickle down to the parent councils in schools, and called for better direction and decision-making with the MYSP. It was suggested that a better way to centre students in the MYSP was to involve and engage parents more.
- Some participants suggested that better access to parent contact info would improve communication & engagement.
- Some participants suggested improving the website to make it easier to find the MYSP.
- Other comments highlighted the need for a more equitable consultation process which accurately captures parent and marginalized groups' voices in the data.

Structure & Content

- Many comments highlighted the need for the TCDSB to lead by example, in part by promoting faith within schools and 'living' Catholic values rather than merely communicating them centrally.
- Many comments focused on the need to address learning gaps that students are facing as a result of learning during the pandemic. Suggestions include catching students up where they have missed foundational knowledge and providing additional supports and resources to address any learning gaps.
- Many comments focused on the need to support the mental health of both students and teachers as we emerge from the pandemic, including concerns over a rise in issues of low self-esteem and anxiety in students.
- Many comments identified the social impact of the pandemic on students, with some participants highlighting the social and academic milestones students have missed, and others calling attention to the need to further develop students' social skills coming out of the pandemic.

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WHAT WE HEARD (*continued*)

- Some comments focused on the topic of de-streaming and identifying whether or not it is working as it should.
- Some comments focused on the need for early teaching and intervention on the topic of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.
- Some comments identified that students may not be as prepared to take exams in the future due to a pause on exams and high-stakes testing in some schools during the pandemic.
- Other comments discussed the need to adjust the budget to spend money more efficiently and devote resources to items which need more funding, such as building maintenance and repairs.
- Other comments focused on the need for teachers and staff to be trained and upskilled in order to be better prepared for teaching after the pandemic.

SELECT PARTICIPANT QUOTES

“It feels like the Board wants parent input but then they don't really take it anywhere.”

“Improvements in communications overall. Too often parents struggle to find information that is credible and timely.”

“[Parents need to] participate more in planning organizing school activities and not only the CPSC. [Board needs to] promote collaborative efforts and empowering parents to contribute.”

“Many of our kids have lost out on some big social milestones. What can we do to try to assist and fill these social voids?”

“What is going to be done to try to close the learning gaps that there will be for many of our children?”

“We need to help our students re-enter their communities. We need to help them feel safe again.”

“We are currently teaching adults about [equity, diversity and inclusion] and harassment in the workplace. This needs to be taught as early as possible.”

“Exams are an issue but some have not even had tests for a year.”

“The church and the local school priests need to be more active at the schools.”

Did we miss anything? Get in touch: josh@maximumcity.ca

WHAT'S NEXT

June 2021: Update this summary report based on additional feedback from participants

July/August 2021: Analyze & synthesize feedback from stakeholder sessions & other data sources; draft Consultation Plan

September: Report to Board, including analysis of Review and Reflect data collected & draft Consultation Plan for approval

October 2021: Consult with parents, staff, teachers and committees