



**SUN WEST  
SCHOOL DIVISION**

*Success for all*

## 2011-2012 ANNUAL REPORT

### Sun West School Division's Response to the Government of Saskatchewan's "Plan for Growth: Vision 2020 & Beyond"

Sun West School Division wishes to work collaboratively for and with the Government of Saskatchewan to assist the government in achieving its "Plan for Growth: Vision 2020 & Beyond". In order to contribute to the government's vision for growth, Sun West School Division made the following requests of government. These requests have been arranged in order of priority as seen by the Sun West School Division Board of Education.

- Request #1 That the Government of Saskatchewan immediately remove their Distance Education Policy that does not allow Saskatchewan school boards to deliver online Saskatchewan high school programming to students out side of Saskatchewan.
- Request #2 That the Government of Saskatchewan fund school divisions who wish to offer summer school programming to students either in a face to face environment or through online distance education.
- Request #3 That the Government of Saskatchewan provide "seed" money from its SaskBuilds organization to help develop public-private partnerships focused on developing dual credit online trades and health science related high school programming.
- Request #4 That the Government of Saskatchewan consider forming a partnership with Careers Next Generation or help interested parties in Saskatchewan form a similar organization that could focus on creating new training and apprenticeship opportunities for Saskatchewan youth.
- Request #5 That the Government of Saskatchewan monitor "Sun West's Initiative for School Improvement" (SWISI) as a pilot study in innovation in order to consider developing a similar provincial innovation fund for all Saskatchewan school divisions.
- Request #6 That The Saskatchewan Government immediately negotiate an agreement with SaskTel that will provide significantly more band width for Saskatchewan schools.
- Request #7 That both Saskatchewan Agriculture and Saskatchewan Education work cooperatively to bring all 8 strands of the Green Certificate program to Saskatchewan and work collaboratively with the Sun West Distance Learning Center in order to facilitate the online delivery of these strands to any student in the province.
- Request #8 That the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education cease the practice of charging school divisions a "Regulation 20 Fee" for foreign students, not allow school divisions to count foreign students in division enrolment figures and allow school divisions the flexibility of managing their own international student programs without government interventions.
- Request #9 That the Government of Saskatchewan lobby the Canadian Immigration department to streamline their international student study visa processes to allow more foreign students the ability to study in Saskatchewan.
- Request #10 That the Government of Saskatchewan seriously considers entering into a partnership with Alberta Education to collaborate on educational accountability systems already developed to a very successful level.

The Seventh Annual Meeting of the Ratepayers of the Sun West School Division  
7:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 26th, 2013  
Eston Composite School, Eston, Saskatchewan

### How the School Division Spends

**Instruction - \$38,434,162 - 70%**  
Textbooks, educational technology, extra-curricular funding, libraries, salaries and benefits for teachers, educational assistants, school-based administrators.

**Facilities - \$7,575,930 - 14%**  
Heating, lighting, maintenance, repairs and improvements to division property, salaries and benefits for caretakers and maintenance personnel.

**Student Transportation - \$5,623,525 - 10%**  
Vehicle maintenance, fuel and new vehicle purchases, salaries and benefits for drivers and mechanics.

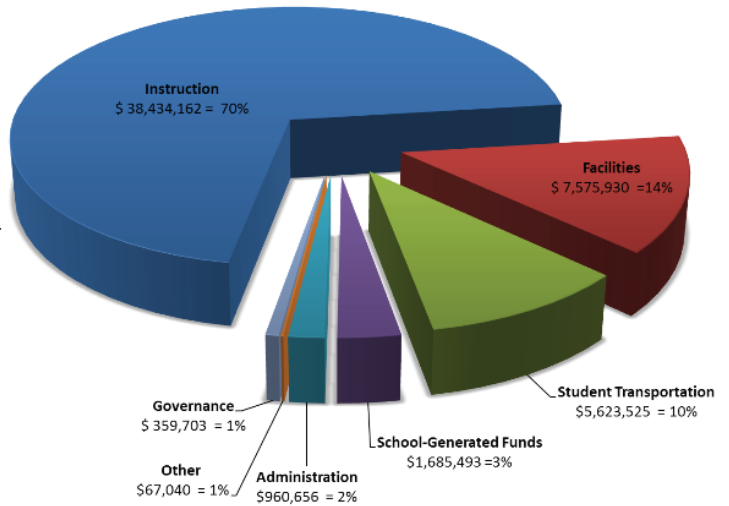
**School-Generated Funds - \$1,685,493 - 3%**  
These are fund that are raised and spent at the school level, but are reported on the financial reports.

**Administration - \$960,656 - 2%**  
Division office utilities, repairs and improvements, office supplies, salaries and benefits of Division Office staff.

**Governance - \$359,703 - 1%**  
Board of Education meetings, elections, fees, collective bargaining costs, School Community Council grants, Student Leadership Program, public relations.

**Other - \$67,040 - 1%**  
Tuition & related charges, external services, fees & bank charges and also includes Complementary Services which encompasses prekindergarten.

Expenses 2011-2012



Sun West  
Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus (Deficit)  
for the year ended August 31, 2012

	2012 Budget	2012 Actual	2011 Actual
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Property Taxation	23,067,672	23,809,667	24,362,134
Grants	31,877,959	34,621,426	28,386,526
Tuition and Related Fees	19,172	70,572	19,672
School Generated Funds	1,775,000	1,723,890	1,625,617
Complementary Services (Note 12)	260,004	260,004	91,740
Other	261,260	460,849	413,093
<b>Total Revenues (Schedule A)</b>	<b>57,261,067</b>	<b>60,946,408</b>	<b>54,898,782</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Governance	472,410	359,703	324,141
Administration	1,046,736	960,656	945,591
Instruction	40,581,323	38,434,162	36,543,444
Plant	7,514,564	7,575,930	7,343,750
Transportation	6,099,920	5,623,525	5,441,202
Tuition and Related Fees	51,410	-	32,406
School Generated Funds	1,775,000	1,685,493	1,678,756
Complementary Services (Note 12)	260,004	229,714	229,593
Other Expenses	66,600	(162,674)	9,329
<b>Total Expenses (Schedule B)</b>	<b>57,867,967</b>	<b>54,706,509</b>	<b>52,548,212</b>
<b>Surplus (Deficit) for the Year</b>	<b>(606,900)</b>	<b>6,239,899</b>	<b>2,350,570</b>
<b>Accumulated Surplus (Deficit), Beginning of Year</b>	<b>72,442,306</b>	<b>72,442,306</b>	<b>70,091,736</b>
<b>Accumulated Surplus (Deficit), End of Year</b>	<b>71,835,406</b>	<b>78,682,206</b>	<b>72,442,306</b>



### SUN WEST SCHOOL DIVISION



#### Members of the Sun West School Division Board of Education

Back, l-r: Chandra Archdekin (Sub-division No. 3), Connie Bailey (Sub-division No. 4) Cathy Morrow (Chair and Sub-division No. 7), Ruth Griffith (Town of Kindersley), Kim Gerein (Town of Kindersley), Barb Cowell (Sub-division No. 8), and Margaret Irwin (Sub-division No. 1)

Front, l-r: Bill Mescall (Sub-division No. 2), Lorne Ulven (Sub-division No. 6), Scott Sander (Vice-Chair and Sub-division No. 5)



#### Message from the Director of Education Dr. Guy G. Tétrault

The 2011-2012 school year was a very busy one for the Sun West School Division. Since the Board of Education had transformed its governance structure the year before, all of the division's administrative procedures had to be revamped to align with the new governance policies. This provided the division an excellent opportunity to reflect upon guiding principles and practices and make necessary changes to properly reflect present practice.

This introspective examination provided trustees and administrators with the necessary insights to move the system forward towards an excellent 21st Century Learning environment!



#### Message from the Board Chair Cathy Morrow

The Sun West Board of Education continues to focus on the future of our students, their achievement and the strategic growth of the division. Our Distance Learning Centre has been providing exceptional opportunities for our students and has been very well utilized by every school in our division and beyond. We believe our FitStats Program is increasing student learning, as healthy bodies correlate to healthy minds. Open communication with our stakeholders also continues to be a large part of our students' success. We feel strongly that the opportunities for our students' education and achievement are growing and the future of Sun West is very exciting!

## Kindersley Composite School Hosts Provincial Student Leadership Conference

Over 750 students from around the province descended upon the Kindersley Composite School on September 21, 2011 for a two-day provincial leadership conference. Students attended several acclaimed keynote presentations that included, comedian Stu Saunders, Arctic Explorer Geoff Green, and Motivational speaker Tyler Durman. During the conference students had the chance to attend several different breakout sessions with presentations on subjects such as: leadership in sports, music, dance and drumming, portrait photography and editing, apprenticeship and trade programs, careers in agriculture, Bioresources, and Business, plus many more. Students also took part in a trade show, banquet and dance. Staff, students, parents and



volunteers should be commended for their planning efforts, organization and hard work that went into such an undertaking. Staff advisors of the event Heidi Marchant and Deavin Vanthuyne were awarded with the Saskatchewan Association of Student Council Advisors, Advisors of the Year, for their efforts in organizing an event of this calibre. In 2012, Grade 12 student, Tenille Kirtzinger of Kindersley Composite School, was chosen as the Saskatchewan recipient of the Canadian Association of Principals Student Leadership Award. This is awarded annually to one exceptional student leader from each province. Schools throughout the province are able to



nominate one student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership. Tenille's name was chosen from all of the Saskatchewan applicants. She was involved with Team Sun West over the past two years and was also co-chair of the Provincial Student Leadership Conference that KCS hosted last September.

## 2012 "Roads to Success" Sun West Career Fair

Over seven hundred Grade 10 and 11 Sun West students travelled to Rosetown Central High School and the Rosetown arena for the third "Roads to Success" Career Fair that was held on April 24, 2012. Students arrived at Rosetown Central High School for opening ceremonies and then split into three large groups and attended various presentations and displays that were held within the arena and high school. At the school, there was a trade show with various businesses and groups providing information on their organizations and answering any questions that students may have had regarding featured careers. There was presentations by numerous organizations that students attended.

Universities and colleges also held breakout sessions as well.

The arena was host to a number of colleges, trades, and other industries so students received a hands-on feel for what those occupations may involve.

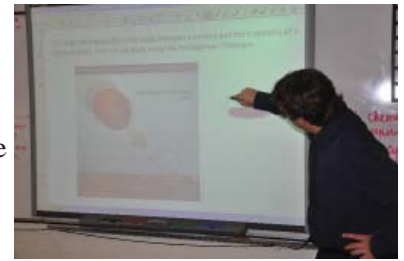
The Royal Canadian Navy brought in a display bus where

personnel explained what it is like to work in the Navy and had computers that students could try out. The Canadian Armed Forces had their machinery on display. There were other interactive displays from typing contests, to nursing, to hair design, to woodworking, and many more, where students could physically experience the occupation. The career fair is held every two years in Sun West School Division so students have the opportunity to investigate and "try out" several career options before deciding what they may like to do upon graduation. Team Sun West, a group of sixteen Sun West students led the event and were guides throughout the day for their peers. Vanessa Lewis, Career Development Consultant, organized the event with help from Career Development Teachers from schools in the division.



## Distance Learning Centre Grows

The Distance Learning Centre in Kenaston saw a huge influx of students taking the Green Certificate program with Sun West, which is a partnership that was created with Saskatchewan Agriculture. There were several students outside of Sun West taking those Distance Learning courses, as all of our asynchronous courses became available on the Provincial Distance Learning Hub. The Sun West Distance Learning Centre also developed course packages for grades 4 – 9 subjects to support home based education, as well as students enrolled in middle school that required online services. These courses are available in both print and online versions. The Distance Learning Centre also developed a partnership with the Edwards School of Business at the University of Saskatchewan to offer an online locally developed “Business” course that would be made available to all Saskatchewan students. Students who complete this course would receive a high school credit as well as receive advance placement if they enrolled in the Edwards School of Business at the U of S.



## Project Based Learning in Sun West School Division

Sun West School Division also had an initiative with a group of educators to develop “Project Based Learning (PBL)” with an initial special focus on “Leadership.” This initiative provided ready-made Project Based Learning projects that teachers anywhere in our division could use! Landis School was the first school last year to begin using Project Based Learning programming. Students were taught using project-based learning, so students know how to apply what they know to the real world by solving problems in their community. Projects are often cross-curricular, giving students credit for all their work. Entrepreneurship opportunities exist and are taught in all projects students design. The program features real-world leadership education, where students learn how to be leaders by doing, not just by hearing about it. Students collaborate with faculty and students at the Edward’s School of Business and other colleges at the University of Saskatchewan to broaden and enrich learning opportunities.

Each student was given an iPad 2 to facilitate team communication and technology use. Project-based learning, entrepreneurship training, and leadership education actually began in kindergarten at the Landis School.



## Information Sessions Held to Strengthen School Community Councils

The Sun West School Division Board of Education sponsored two public engagement information sessions on March 3rd, 2012 for School Community Council (SCC) members. Leslie Anderson, Communications Director for the Saskatchewan School Boards Association, presented in Rosetown that morning and in Outlook that afternoon. The sessions helped SCCs learn about their community’s demographics so that they can share responsibility for student learning. They also learned how to encourage and facilitate community engagement in school planning and improvement processes. School Community Councils have been busy since the end of the year collecting information from the 2011 Stats Canada census in their communities to decide what demographic they want to engage with. Both information sessions were well attended by SCC members, school staff and the public.



## Treaty Essential Learnings

Part of the Continuous Improvement Accountability Framework document priority area of equitable opportunities saw Sun West School Division create an objective to increase understanding for First Nations, Métis & Inuit (FNMI) world views and incorporate treaty essential learnings into their school culture and learning. In 2011 Sun West School Division was fortunate to receive a \$50,000.00 provincial grant to aid in this objective. The Division used this grant to partner with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner to train and establish close to forty Treaty Catalyst Teachers in the division, which is one for every school. Sun West School Division also developed an FNMI wiki, which is an online resource where teachers can share resources and instruction practices.



## Two Sun West Schools Celebrate Milestones

On Thursday, April 5, 2012 past and present alumni, staff, and students celebrated the 50th birthday of Dinsmore Composite School. Teacher Jeff Lawrence was the emcee of the program. Special guests were Sun West School Division trustee Connie Bailey, former DCS Principal Bill Paslawski, former secretary Kitty Paslawski, the first graduating class of 1962: Yvette Gates, Marilyn Blackwell, Diane Edstrom and Dale Beattie, and the first grade one class at DCS: Judy McConnell, Debbie Lonsberry, and Bruce Hopkins. The program started with a video prepared by the DCS SRC of students singing 'Happy Birthday' to their school. There were individual musical performances by students Lynden Thorpe, Kennedy Mann and Katelyn Annala, as well as by the grade 4 and 5 class accompanied by Mr. Lawrence. Bill Paslawski spoke on his time at DCS as principal. A student fashion show, written and produced by teacher Shauna Morrison, "School Gear Through the Years", was fun to watch as students modeled the different 'fashion statements' through the decades. A history slide show of DCS throughout the years, prepared by Maureen McIntyre, brought back memories for former students and gave the current students a window into the DCS world of the past. Current Principal, Deb deCaux, was the last to speak before the singing of 'Happy Birthday', after which cake and refreshments were served. Pictures were also taken of three family generations of students that have attended the school!



Harris-Tessier Central School opened as a high school in September of 1961. Because of overcrowding in Rosetown Composite High School, the Rosetown School Unit decided to build a school in the town of Harris for the students of Harris and Tessier. Doug Van Hagen became the first principal of the new school. The new school accommodated students up to and including grade 10. The Grade 11 and 12 students were bused to Rosetown for that year. In the fall of 1962, the Grade 11 students started in Harris and the Grade 12 students were taught in Harris starting the next fall.

The official opening of the school was held on December 8, 1961. To mark this historic occasion, the Harris-Tessier School Community Council took the opportunity of the December Christmas Concert to celebrate on Wednesday, December 21, 2011.

There were three sets of three generations of past school students present for the cake cutting: Kindergarten student, Gavin Johnson, his father Kurt Johnson, and grandfather, Ken Johnson; Grade 3 student, Erin Husband, her father, Jon Husband, and grandfather, Dave Husband; and Grade 3 student, Garret Longman, his mother, Alana Longman, and grandmother, Nita Wilson.



### eJournalism Teams

Learning Coach Jade Ballek organized several eJournalism/blogging opportunities for students last year. The blogs are part of an eJournalism project to integrate new media and technology into student learning. The first was a group of 11 Sun West School Division students that covered the Professional Development day for all staff on September 26, 2011. Throughout the day, students participated in capturing video clips, taking still pictures, interviewing presenters and participants, and reporting on the sessions. The students then created a blog, I Learned 2011, as a way to share information about the day. Then on January 11, 2012 a group of four students attended and blogged from the Crop Production Show in Saskatoon.



The four students were enrolled in the Green Certificate Program (Field Crop Strands) through the Sun West Distance Learning Centre in Kenaston. Students interviewed exhibitors and post secondary institutes for their assignment and then posted video and pictures on the blog site. The students attending the event were from Outlook High School, Loreburn Central School and two of the students were from the Big Rose Colony School.

### Physical Education Teaching Excellence Award - Miles Bennett

Mr. Miles Bennett, a physical education teacher at Rosetown Central High School was awarded the Physical Education Teaching Excellence Award for the province of Saskatchewan.

The award is given out by Physical and Health Education Canada.(PHE) This Physical Education Teaching Excellence (PETE) Award honours exceptional teachers (one from each province) for their excellence in teaching physical education and their ability to motivate children and youth to participate in physical activity. This award is the only national award in Canada that recognizes physical education teachers for their hard work and dedication in helping to build strong, healthy and physically active children. Miles has been teaching for twenty-four years, all of which he has taught physical education. He is a model teacher who keenly promotes a healthy, active lifestyle and has always been an advocate for physical activity.



His most recent initiatives have come from his desire to improve the physical health of children in this province. The work that Miles has done in Sun West School Division is ground-breaking. He has provided physical education and health teachers with the opportunity to attend Healthy Active Living Workshops as well as teaching them how to incorporate FitStats in their fitness appraisals. Miles is currently the only teacher in Sun West School Division to be teaching the Exercise Science 30 course. He initiated a Physical Education Leadership team. As well, Miles is the athletic director for our West Central District and is the Official Commissioner for the Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association.

### Inclusive Teacher of the Year - Candace Besharah

For some teachers and schools, meaningful inclusion of students with intellectual and other disabilities is the norm. Together with parents, students and community members, they figure out ways to make it happen. The Inclusive Teacher of the Year Award recognizes a teacher in Saskatchewan whose classroom inclusion strategies model inclusion, or 'best practices'.

Candace Besharah, a grade six teacher at Westberry School in Kindersley, was awarded the Inclusive Teacher of the Year Award. Candace has always been serious about including all students in the classroom and finding ways to ensure that they are members of the classroom community in every possible sense. Candace made a videotape demonstrating strategies that she uses to ensure that all children are included in the learning and socializing that take place in her classroom. She has graciously shared this project with numerous schools in the division. She is currently the Vice-principal at Westberry School. She will also be part of the student support team at the school, supporting teachers and students with the aim of ensuring that all children belong fully in their neighborhood schools.



## Stop, Drop and Animate at Eston Composite School

Imagine taking 6,000 photos and then editing them together to create a six and a half minute video!

Well that's just what the Grade 10 Art and History class at Eston Composite School did and premiered it to the community on June 8, 2012. Teacher, Marea Olafson was awarded an ArtsSmart Saskatchewan TreatySmarts grant to help create a stop-motion animation film about Aboriginal and European economic decision-making, world views and the impact of treaties, specifically



Treaty 4. The group of students worked for three months with two artists, Jay Kimball and Karlie King, who came to Eston three times to help the students with the clay modeling of their characters, and to help shoot and edit the video.

It took over 30 hours of shooting the characters moving centimeters at a time and then editing the scenes together on computers. Evelyn Katz, a retired First Nations teacher, was the narrator of the film and helped with presentations beforehand to the students about treaties. The amount of work that the students did for the project is unbelievable! Congratulations and a job well done to Ms. Olafson and her students—you should be very proud!

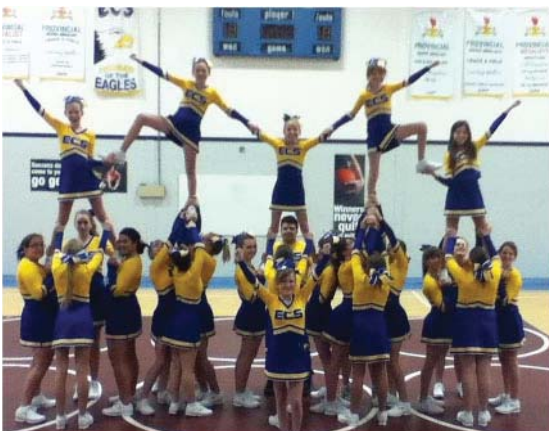
## Sun West School Division Opens Sixteenth Colony School

It was a special day on December 1, 2011 in Sun West School Division, as the sixteenth Hutterite Colony School opened its doors to students at the McGee Colony, located west of Rosetown.

The McGee Colony is a sister colony to the Glidden Colony and Charlene Krahn is the principal at the new school. Presently, there are 12 students at the new McGee Colony School and 19 at the Glidden Colony School.



## Elrose Composite School Cheer Spirit Team Successful in First Year Competing!



The Elrose Cheer Spirit Team won the gold medal in the Senior 2 division at the University of Regina Cheer Club competition on March 4th, 2012. The team competed against three other teams: Calgary, Prince Albert, and Regina. Elrose was the last performance of the day and they were amazing. They did ECS and all of their parents and fans proud!! The coach for the Calgary team, that placed 2nd, congratulated the team and said that she was very impressed. One of the judges said that the Elrose Cheer Spirit team was the best performance of the day. The team then went on to compete at the Saskatchewan Provincial Cheerleading Championship on March 24th and 25th. They brought home a silver medal in the All Star Senior Level 2 Division!

### Davidson Students Head North

The most extraordinary Canadian adventure was experienced by the Grade 10 class of Davidson School in March 2012. After many months of planning, preparing, and fundraising, Davidson School students were finally connected with their Northern friends from Gjoa Haven, Nunavut. During their minus 25 degree stay in the only community on King Williams Island, the students learned first hand how to survive in the Arctic. The teachers, elders, and students taught everyone how to skin seals and eat their raw liver, build igloos for protection from the cold, and catch 46 Arctic Cod from a hand chiseled seven foot ice hole. The community of Gjoa Haven has an active school, a new hall and an old hall, reliable health centre, two stores, "The Northern" and



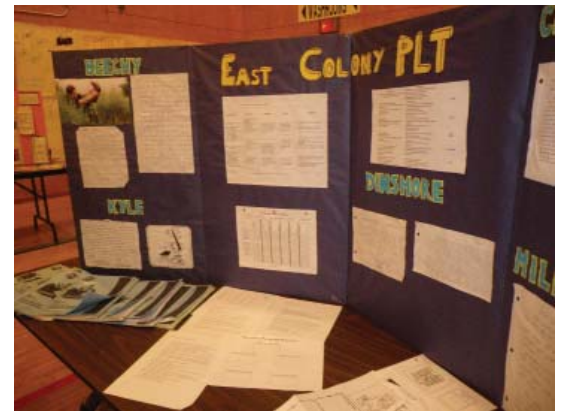
"The Co-op", one busy airport (when the weather is cooperative), and an expensive, but simple, hotel.

After five days of almost 24 hour daylight and developing new friendships, a tearful good-bye was said by all. On May 19th, the students were reunited with each other in Davidson. During their visit, the Gjoa Haven students experienced a Saskatchewanian's life on a farm, at the lake, at school, and in a big city. The northern students' visit wrapped up with an all day volleyball tournament.



### 2012 Literacy Fair

The Rosetown Civic Centre was abuzz with energy on June 7, 2012 for the first Sun West School Division Literacy Fair. School-based administrators, teachers, SCC members and students set up display booths—highlighting all of the work that has been done in their schools since the beginning of this year in relation to their School Learning Improvement Plan (SLIP) and Literacy Goals. All 24 schools were represented as well as three colony Professional Learning Teams that grouped the Northern, Eastern and Western Colony Schools together. School teams presented for 10 minutes showing how they have progressed on their Literacy Goal and what goals they are hoping to reach in the future.



There were several innovative presentations that had skits, videos, poems, and two Kyle Colony students read their work to the entire audience. Attendees visited school booths and networked to gather ideas that could be used in other schools. It was a wonderful day and fabulous to see the work that is being done in our schools toward student learning!



## Sun West School Division Values:

Accountability ♦ Cooperation ♦ Leadership ♦  
Lifelong Learning ♦ Respect