



SUN WEST

SCHOOL DIVISION

Success for all

**School Learning Improvement
Planning
A Guide for School Community
Councils**

School Learning Improvement Planning A Guide for School Community Councils

School Community Councils (SCCs) are mandated to develop shared responsibility for the learning and well-being of children. SCCs encourage parents and community members to engage in school life and school improvement. This guide is meant to help SCCs in their work supporting their school in developing the School Learning Improvement Plan (SLIP).

What is a School Learning Improvement Plan (SLIP)?

The School Learning Improvement Plan (SLIP) is a road map that sets out the changes a school wants to make to improve student achievement and wellness. The plan shows what, how and when these changes will be made

Why is a School Learning Improvement Plan Needed?

School improvement plans help principals, teachers, and school community councils answer the following questions:

- What are our strengths as a school?
- What areas do we need to improve to reach all of our students and improve student achievement?

SCCs collaborate with the school principal and staff in the development of an annual learning improvement plan. Involving all stakeholders in the development of the School Learning Improvement Plan contributes to:

- A complete plan
- Ownership by all the important adults in a child's life
- More success in meeting the goals
- A common vision for the future

How to be an Active Participant in Improvement Planning

1. Understand the big picture:

- The Provincial Education Plan
- The Sun West School Division Educational Plan

School planning is connected to provincial and division priorities and needs. These priorities are realized within the local context of each school community. Your school principal and school superintendent can answer any questions you have about the Provincial Education Plan and the Sun West School Division Educational Plan.

2. Know Your School: Ask About What You Don't Know

- Mission/Vision
- Current school staffing
- School Program Plan
- Enrollment trends

3. Share What You Know

- Community supports
- Community needs and resources
- Hopes and dreams parents and the community have for their children
- Potential community partners such as daycares and local volunteer groups.

4. Review the Data

At the planning meeting, the school staff may review data and information about student achievement and wellness.

The data presented is aggregate data and student confidentiality is maintained. It reveals strengths and challenges. Possible data may include:

- Sun West Reading Assessment (Gr. 7 and 10)
- Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA Grade 1-5)
- Writing Assessment (Grade 4, 7, 9)
- Math Assessment (Grades 2,5,8)
- Personalized Goals
- Graduation Rates
- School-based Common Assessments
- OurSCHOOL Survey Data
 - Intellectual Engagement
 - Interest and Motivation
 - Effort
 - Positive Sense of Belonging
 - Effective Learning Time
 - Other Areas

As you review the data, ask yourself:

- Did our students do as well as we expected them to do?
- Is there anything I find surprising?
- Is there something I do not understand?
- What factors do I need to consider when reviewing this data?

Ask for clarification if needed.

5. Goal Setting

Following a review of data, the group will explore goals setting. Some schools will have an academic goal, wellness goal, engagement or a combination.

Example:

- By June 2023, all students in Grades 1-5 will be achieving at grade level or higher in reading or achieving a personalized goal.

Each school goal will have an action plan that included numerous activities. SCCs strive to support the school goals through activities connected to staff actions as well as activities they plan, organize, and lead.

6. Build an Action Plan to Support the School Goal(s)

An action plan answers the following questions:

- What will we do?
- What will you see?
- Who is leading?
- When will we do it?
- What/who will we need to do it?
- How will we know we were successful?

Tips for SCCS in Supporting School Learning Improvement

- Know that your voice is valued and important and you play a bigger role than approving the plan
- Create a SLIP Planning Committee
- Lead and carry out your SLIP activities
- Think of the impact on all children in the school
- Make other parents/community members aware of school goals – tap into their expertise
- Build community partnerships with social service agencies, recreational departments, community groups, business and industry to help implement the plan.
- Plan to discuss SLIP progress at meetings throughout the school year to stay engaged and informed.

Why it is important for SCCs to be Involved in School Learning Improvement Planning?

SCC engagement in SLIP planning:

- Reinforces the shared responsibility for a child's education,
- Increase information about community needs incorporated into the plan,
- Increase parent/community support in activities and initiatives, and
- Builds better relationships between the parents and school staff

School Community Councils are valued partners in learning. If you have questions about how you can support your school, please reach out to your school principal or the Sun West School Division SCC Representative.