



MANITOBA ASSOCIATION
OF PARENT COUNCILS

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SCHOOL & DIVISIONAL PLANNING

What is a School or Divisional Plan?

School and Divisional Plans are maps of how an education community will get from 'here' to 'there'. A plan maps out the specific goals, the timeline that will be followed to work towards each of these goals, the responsibilities of each person or group involved, and how success will be measured and reported on.

Why is a School or Divisional Plan important?

Divisional Plans are important because, by analyzing data and considering the most current research, educators are better able to determine direction as to how the division will improve literacy and numeracy skills of students – especially in the context of Aboriginal learners – as well as other priority areas determined by the local context, or needs, of the school division

School Plans are important because they determine how each school will work towards and support the goals that the school division has established.

Who participates in the development of a School or Divisional Plan?

It is required, as outlined in the Public Schools Act, that each school board consult with local parent groups about the budget on an annual basis. (*Budget Consultations, 178(1) Public Schools Act, MB*)

Each School Division has an elected school board, as well as a team of dedicated professionals, that participates in developing the **Divisional Plan** to address its specific needs relating to provincial curriculum, student programming, annual budget, and other priority areas. The division must also describe how education stakeholders were involved in the development of the Divisional Plan. This could include community business leaders, volunteer organizations, students, and families.

Each member of the school team participates in developing the **School Plan**, supporting the goals established by the school division. It is required, as outlined in the Public Schools Act, that the principal of each school consult with its parent group in the creation of the school plan on an annual basis. (*Parent Groups for Schools, Consultation re annual school plan, 55.2, Public Schools Act, MB*)

When is a School or Divisional Plan developed?

School divisions are required to post the most current **Divisional Plans** on their respective websites by October 31 of each year.

Each school board determines its own requirements for schools to participate in developing a **School Plan** on an annual basis.



MAPC Tips For Parent Advisory Councils



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How can you participate?

Parents and parent groups offer unique perspectives and insight about student needs in a learning community. When schools and school divisions include their voices in the planning process, the education community is better equipped to build awareness and understanding of the diverse family and student needs that exist in schools.

There are a variety of ways that schools, school divisions, and parent groups can explore when considering parental participation in the development of School and Division Plans. Your involvement could include:

- Reviewing the current plans and providing input at public consultations and PAC meetings
- Identifying challenges and opportunities that exist in the community which could potentially impact student and family engagement
- Creating opportunities for families to learn about the school and divisional plans and how they can support education goals from home and in the community

Discuss with your school or division how your parent group can participate in the planning process in a meaningful way which suits your parent and school community needs.

Resources:

MB Education and Training

K – 12 Framework for Continuous Improvement

<http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/ssdp/framework.html#framework>

Parent Groups for Schools (Public Schools Act)

<https://web2.gov.mb.ca/bills/40-2/pdf/b014.pdf>

School Partnerships: A Guide for Parents, Schools, and Communities

http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/docs/support/school_partnerships/index.html

Public Schools Act (Budget Consultations, section 178(1))

http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/ccsm/p250_2e.php

Manitoba Association of Parent Councils

MAPC Resource Guide for Manitoba Parent Advisory Councils *(available upon request for MAPC Members)*

MAPC Empowering Parents: A Guide to Addressing Concerns in Manitoba Schools

<http://www.mapc.mb.ca/PDFs/Advocacy%20Guide%20APPROVED%20APR%202015.pdf>

Manitoba School Divisions

Some school divisions have Divisional Planning included in their policy manuals as well as websites. Check your local division for more information.

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