



Chair (Vancouver DPAC) <chair@vancouverdpac.org>

Nov 24 - LRFP Vision

Chair (Vancouver DPAC) <chair@vancouverdpac.org>

Tue, Nov 24, 2020 at 11:59 PM

To: "Chair (Vancouver DPAC)" <chair@vancouverdpac.org>

Cc: Janet Fraser <Janet.Fraser@vsb.bc.ca>, Carmen Cho <carmen.cho@vsb.bc.ca>, Jennifer Reddy <jennifer.reddy@vsb.bc.ca>, Fraser Ballantyne <fraser.ballantyne@vsb.bc.ca>, Lois Chan-Pedley <Lois.Chan-Pedley@vsb.bc.ca>, Estrellita Gonzalez <estrellita.gonzalez@vsb.bc.ca>, "Oliver C. Hanson" <oliver.hanson@vsb.bc.ca>, Allan Wong <allan.wong@vsb.bc.ca>, "Vice-Chair (Vancouver DPAC)" <vicechair@vancouverdpac.org>, "Suzanne Hoffman (Superintendent)" <shoffman@vsb.bc.ca>, David Nelson <dnelson@vsb.bc.ca>, Barb Parrott <barbara.parrott@vsb.bc.ca>

Dear Trustees:

Thank you for sharing the draft "Long Range Facilities Planning Strategy 2020-2030" with us.

From the start of this process, we have called on you, our democratically elected trustees, to articulate your priorities for the district. We are pleased by the broad vision and strategy you have outlined, which sees schools not only as places of learning, but as vital parts of complete neighbourhoods and important tools for equity and reconciliation.

I have attached a compilation of clarifying questions and comments.

We believe that this vision and strategy document is an important foundational document from which everything else will flow. We look forward to providing feedback on the plan that will support your vision.

Sincerest thanks for your engagement with DPAC.

Gord Lau
Chair, Vancouver DPAC

Honouring the traditional, unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Coast Salish Peoples

Website: vancouverdpac.org · Twitter: [@VanDPAC](https://twitter.com/VanDPAC) · Facebook: [@VSBDPAC](https://www.facebook.com/VSBDPAC)

If you are not the intended recipient, please do not copy, distribute, or use this email, or the information contained in it, for any purpose other than to notify us and to delete this email from your system. Thank you!

 **DPAC Feedback on LRFP Strategy 2020-2030.pdf**
152K

DPAC Feedback on LRFP Strategy 2020-2030

The educational vision for the Long Range Facilities Plan is to support student learning and well-being through:

Neighbourhood schools

Safe schools

Vibrant learning spaces

Community partnerships

The Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) is intended to support this vision by providing the processes and facilities necessary to improve student outcomes.

The VSB is embarking on a new Five-Year Strategic Plan, which will inform future iterations of the LRFP.

The Board is committed to ongoing relationship building and consultation with the three local First Nations, the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, which is foundational to the VSB's plans.

- The educational vision does not directly address equity, although it does reference the strategic plan. Might wish to make equity lens more explicit.
- "Neighbourhood schools" needs additional definition to be meaningful. Perhaps neighbourhoods could be defined by the Vancouver Plan? If we must use a walking distance, suggest revising the 4KM limit in AP300, that's over an hour walk one way for a child in grade school. Also give consideration to safe routes as part of the definition.
- QUESTION: what are "processes... necessary to improve student outcomes"
- QUESTION: Are the priorities in order?

1.0 A Broad Educational Vision

The Vancouver School Board's vision is:

We inspire student success by providing an innovative, caring and responsive learning environment.

Our District's responsibility is to welcome every student into our schools and develop their individual potential through learning experiences that provide them with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to contribute to a healthy and just society. Students learn about their rights and responsibilities during their K-12 journey in preparation for life beyond school.

- QUESTION: Do we think the "District responsibility" should explicitly mention academic learning, or is knowledge sufficient?
- We are pleased to see "Human and Social Development: develop an appreciation of fine arts", and look forward to seeing the steps to making this a reality, including steps in the LRFP that would support the implementation of the music review
- We appreciate that equity is emerging as a key theme in the next strategic plan. Much work remains to be done to center BIPOC voices in an intersectional manner.
- Much work also remains to be done on TRC.

2.0 Educational Programming Priorities

With respect to the work of the Board, Indigenous education, supporting diverse learners, elementary and secondary programming, choice programs, and community programming have emerged as educational priorities in relation to the Long-Range Facilities Plan.

- QUESTION: How will equitable access to choice programs be defined? It's not necessarily a simple question.
- Community Programming could be expanded to include other wrap around services that would benefit students as well as the community.

3.0 Learning Environments: Through an Equity Lens

- Again, “neighbourhood” and “neighbourhood school” need to be defined, perhaps by working with CoV. Depending on the definition, the statements “opportunity to attend their catchment school” and “opportunity to attend their neighbourhood school” may mean different things.
- QUESTION: What does “strong” mean with reference to a neighbourhood school, and what steps would be taken to make a school “strong”?
- To be equitable, schools must be made accessible.
- Safe schools - consider factors beyond seismic safety such as water and air quality.
- Spaces for learning - we believe that advocacy to include space requirements for holistic education and equity seeking groups in the Area Standards would be worth mentioning here.
- Some partnerships that support learning that you might mention: Ministry of Health, wrap-around supports, fine arts organizations, food programs.

4.0 Foundational Supports and Actions

There are many supports and actions, some of which we have provided feedback on elsewhere.

- No mention of food programs: educational programs, school gardens, breakfast/lunch programs
- Collaboration with CoV & UBC/UEL – the established communication committees are not transparent. Need to be made public or have minutes and decisions publicized.
- Should reference the Vancouver Plan