

# Providence Christian School



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## Education Plan for Providence Christian School 2025 - 2028

### School History

Providence Christian School was set up for committed Christian parents who desire to maintain Christian nurture for their children in their day-to-day life as well as their education. We seek to be obedient to God's command to us, as laid out in Deuteronomy 6 and Psalm 78, to pass on to the next generation His decrees, laws and mighty deeds. We believe that the home and school must work closely together to educate our children so that what is taught and believed in the home is reinforced at school. Since we believe that children are image bearers of God, we seek to have them educated in a safe, secure and caring environment where they are respected and valued and also where they take care of each other. Our aim is to develop within the students strong reading, writing and math skills so they are able to analyze data and develop ideas and inferences. We strongly believe that Christ-centered education is an essential building block of our society's future.

### Time Frame

Providence Christian School employs a three-year education plan time frame. This rolling plan maintains a consistent timeframe and 'rolls' forward with a new year added for each one completed. The school board reviews these plans regularly and adjusts them, considering the most current results from provincial and local measures and based on what is learned from the implementation of the plan. Updated plans are published annually and reflect any adjustments made to priorities, outcomes, measures, strategies, and plan implementation.

### Strategic plan

Throughout the 2024/2025 school year, the Board developed a Strategic Plan. This strategic plan was developed in consultation with society members and staff. This Education Plan was then developed using the data obtained from PCS's strategic plan.

### First Nations, Métis and Inuit Student Success

Providence Christian School Society does not have any self-declared First Nations, Métis and Inuit students. We support the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations by involving our students in programs throughout the grades that teach and enable them to speak knowledgeably and act with empathy and care for their neighbours. As we do not have any self-declared First Nations, Métis and Inuit students, our society has not accessed any grant dollars and has no information to provide for the First Nations, Métis and Inuit student grant.

## School Goal 1: Faith-Centred Education

Strengthen our Reformed identity by integrating biblical principles into all areas of operations, including enrolment and staffing.

Desired Result: Enhance local faith-based teaching practices	
Strategies	Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase implementation of local faith-based principles (TfT and GtC)</li><li>• Development of teacher capacity in these areas</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local survey results (administered to teachers, students and parents)</li><li>• Documented participation in PD sessions</li><li>• Visible evidence on classroom walls and in student work</li></ul>
Desired Result: Awareness of and adherence to foundational documents	
Strategies	Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yearly review of foundational documents by staff, school board and society</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discussion of documents during AGM agenda, beginning-of-the year staff meetings and inclusion in the September newsletter</li></ul>

## School Goal 2: Plan for Sustainable Growth and Development

Align school growth with our mission and ensure financial sustainability through strategic expansion of facilities and resources.

Desired Result: Strengthened Board understanding of governance roles and responsibilities	
Strategies	Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide targeted training on board governance best practices</li><li>• Engage in ongoing professional development for all board members</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attendance by all board members in workshop offered by PCCE</li><li>• Board minutes and conversations reflect a deeper understanding of the Board's role</li></ul>
Desired Result: Develop a long-term plan to meet the building needs for a growing student population	
Strategies	Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consult with membership regarding the financial feasibility of an expansion at the Spring 2025 AGM</li><li>• Develop a building plan that will meet our growth for the next 15 years</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Successful adoption of a motion that aligns with the society's direction and commitment regarding the building expansion.</li><li>• Development of a building plan that meets the critical needs of the school (including classroom space, science lab and band room)</li></ul>

### School Goal 3: Improve Community Engagement.

Foster stronger connections and higher levels of engagement with parents, staff, and the wider community.

**Desired Result: An increased level of engagement from parents and the broader society.**

Strategies	Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Host workshops and meetings that target the interests of parents</li><li>• Have an intentional online presence</li><li>• Organize an annual Celebration of Learnings that showcase student growth and success</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parent and community attendance at school-hosted events</li><li>• Ab. Ed. Survey results</li></ul>

#### **School Goal 4: Enhance Student Engagement and Success**

Create an engaging learning environment that inspires student success, motivating them to learn, grow, and succeed in their unique ways so that they are prepared for the future.

<b>Desired Result: Provide a variety of consistent, quality courses to all students</b>	
<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Measures</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to promote Off-campus courses such as Dual-Credit and Green Certificate</li><li>• Offer targeted PD sessions to build staff capacity, especially in the area of course quality</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Number of students enrolled in off-campus courses</li><li>• Percentage of students scoring in the acceptable or excellent range on the PAT/DIP</li></ul>
<b>Desired Result: Increase student engagement in school activities</b>	
<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Measures</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The development of a structured system that intentionally provides leadership opportunities across grade levels</li><li>• Continue to focus on various trades-based course offerings such as mechanics and woodworking</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Level of student participation in leadership opportunities</li><li>• Student ownership of leadership opportunities</li><li>• Enrollment numbers in trades-related courses</li></ul>
<b>Desired Result: Increase the literacy and numeracy skills of our Kindergarten through Grade 6 students</b>	
<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Measures</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue with implementation of UFLI, Secret Stories and Reading A-Z</li><li>• Look for a numeracy program that would develop our students' foundational math skills</li><li>• Increased teacher capacity in this area</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reduction in the number of students identified as "at risk" by Alberta early years assessment</li><li>• Increased percentage of students performing at or above grade level in the areas of literacy and numeracy</li><li>• Involvement in PD opportunities by teaching staff</li></ul>

# **Implementation Strategies**

## **Goal 1: Faith Centred Education**

In October of 2024, parents and staff members completed a survey that examined what is important to our school community. One of the recurring themes is that we, as a Christian School Community, hold fast to our faith and the roots of our Christian school. The following points outline ways we are striving to do this.

- All of our new staff are required to take Tft 101 sessions in their second year of teaching. As well, long-term staff members are encouraged to retake this training.
- We desire that our students live out their faith. As a result, we are intentional in providing learning opportunities where students leave the school campus in order to learn what it means to be 'servant-workers' or 'community-builders' or any of the other 10 Tft throughlines.
- In previous years, we have developed foundational documents that outline who we are as a Christian community. These documents will continue to be reviewed on an annual basis by staff and parents.
- Having conversations at Board level that keep this discussion active

## **School Goal 2: Plan for Sustainable Growth and Development**

As a school, we continue to experience enrolment growth at approximately 5% annually. Based on current projections, we anticipate reaching full capacity by the year 2026/2027. In order to plan for this increase in growth, the board has taken the following intentional steps.

- The Board is actively involved in discussions regarding proposed building plans. This includes discussion about potential location, ideal size, alignment with societal desires, and financial impacts.
- To ensure transparency, the Board will present a detailed proposal at the spring 2025 AGM. This proposal will outline the need for an expansion and the financial implications of the build. Following this, society members will be given an opportunity for feedback.
- As well, in order to develop Board governance practices, all Board members participate in an annual governance workshop facilitated by PCCE. This is in conjunction with a year-long PD book study aimed at deepening their understanding of effective governance practices.

## **School Goal 3: Improve Community Engagement**

Due to increased enrollment, our parent population is becoming more diverse. In order to continue growing our understanding of Christian education, we need to ensure our parent population is engaged. This engagement is facilitated through the following means.

- Providence Christian School will continue to utilize social media platforms to share stories, provide updates and give highlights from within the school community.
- Parents will be invited into the building for more intentional times of learning about Providence. This will be for 'coffee time with the principal' and for workshops on topics such as UFLI, AI and math numeracy development. Through these gatherings, parents will be provided with a stronger understanding of the curriculum taught at PCS and the school culture.
- The Education Committee is investigating the implementation of passion projects for our Grade 10-12 students. These projects will require our senior high students to identify a need in our community and subsequently develop a project that improves some aspect of their church, school or local community.
- The 2024/2025 school year was the first year that our Education Committee attached surveys to the Alberta Education Assurance surveys. The results of these surveys will provide deeper insights into parental perspectives and will guide future decision-making.

- Our Grade 10-12 students are expected to obtain volunteer hours before graduation. These volunteer hours are required to be in the community and reinforce our desire that our students live out their faith in practical ways.

#### **School Goal 4: Enhance Student Engagement and Success**

One of the ongoing challenges at Providence Christian School is a lack of student engagement, particularly in the high school grades. Over the years, we have been intentional about developing strategies and goals in this area, and we continue to do so. The following initiatives outline how we hope to continue doing so.

- We are in our third year of offering a dual credit program in collaboration with the Lethbridge Polytechnic. Every year, about 10% of our eligible students participate in this program. It has been well received by both our parents and students. In order to sustain and grow this initiative, we need to have ongoing conversations with parents and students about this program in order to ensure that they understand the value and accessibility of dual credit programs. We also have a comprehensive off-campus program that involves RAP, Work Experience and Green Certificate.
- Hands-on courses such as mechanics and woodworking have proven effective in engaging our senior high students. We will continue to promote these programs. This desire is one of the components of our current building expansion discussions.
- We have been blessed to have full staffing for this current year and are projecting the same for next year. This staffing stability allows us to offer a variety of taught courses at multiple levels, ensuring that we meet the needs and desires of a large part of our student population.
- In order to promote student excitement about learning, we are hosting an annual Celebration of Learning event. This event showcases students' learning and links their learning to the TFT principles. The desire is to foster a culture of positive narration about education, encouraging both parents and students to see their education as meaningful, purposeful and aligned with Christian values.

## **Stakeholder Engagement**

The governance structure of PCS enables the parents to be involved in board elections, board committees, society general meetings, volunteer activities, etc. AGMs are held in the Spring every year, and a board/society information and collaboration is held every Fall. Board and school administration provide extensive information during those meetings. During the Spring AGM, matters of enrolment projections, class configurations, curriculum updates, etc., are explained and discussed. The society membership considers the board's budget proposal and elects new board members to 4-year positions.

Parents serve on various board committees for Education, Curriculum, Finance, etc. The Education Committee in particular, serves to keep parents well informed of curriculum, staffing, and policy changes. Parents are encouraged to get involved as volunteer helpers in school, as committee members, etc.

The school society members receive monthly newsletters about the affairs of the society and the school. The parents receive weekly newsletters about the programs, events, and educational efforts of each week.

This year, the Education Committee developed and conducted a survey that speaks to our local goals and priorities. The results of this survey were used to provide advice to the principal and school board.

## Budget

### Budget Summary 2025/2026

#### Revenue Summary

Alberta Government Grants	\$ 1,690,714
Tuition fees	\$ 702,345
Donations & Misc. Income	\$ 387,900

**Total Revenue** **\$ 2,780,959**

#### Expense Summary

Instruction	\$ 1,899,619
Administration	\$ 238,398
Operation & Maintenance	\$ 262,892
Transportation	\$ 351,729

**Total Expenses** **\$ 2,752,638**

**Surplus (Deficit) of Revenue over Expenses** **\$ 28,321**

#### Comments:

- The above chart only provides a summary of the 2025/2026 budget. Detailed information is available from the treasurer of Providence Christian School Society.
- We have budgeted a small surplus for 2025/2026 school year.
- We are very thankful and show great appreciation for the support we receive from Alberta Education, and we pray for continued support in the years to come.

#### Capital and Facilities Projects

- The board is looking to the future as enrolment continues to increase to ensure that we can accommodate the growth. An active Future Growth Committee is exploring options to be shared with board, parents, and staff for input and collaboration.

#### Summary of Facility and Capital Plans

- Fundraisers take place throughout the year, and we have been blessed with a generous community that donates to the needs of our school. In February 2025 we paid off our mortgage through the Christian Credit Union in Lethbridge. We have started a building fund for our next expansion project.

## Accountability Statement

The Education Plan for Providence Christian School, commencing September 2, 2025 was prepared under the direction of the Board/Board of Directors in accordance with the responsibilities under the *Private Schools Regulation* and the *Education Grants Regulation*. This plan was developed in the context of the provincial government's business and fiscal plans. The Board has used its performance results to develop the plan and is committed to implementing the strategies contained within the plan to improve student learning and results. The Board reviewed the Education Plan for 2025 - 2028 on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, shared it with the school society members at the AGM of May 22<sup>nd</sup> and will approve the final document at the board meeting of June 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Communication

The AERR and the specific measurement results were shared with the board and society membership in the Fall of 2024. The rolling goals were reviewed and discussed with teachers in the spring of 2024. The Education Plan is shared with the board in the Spring and with the society at the May AGM.