



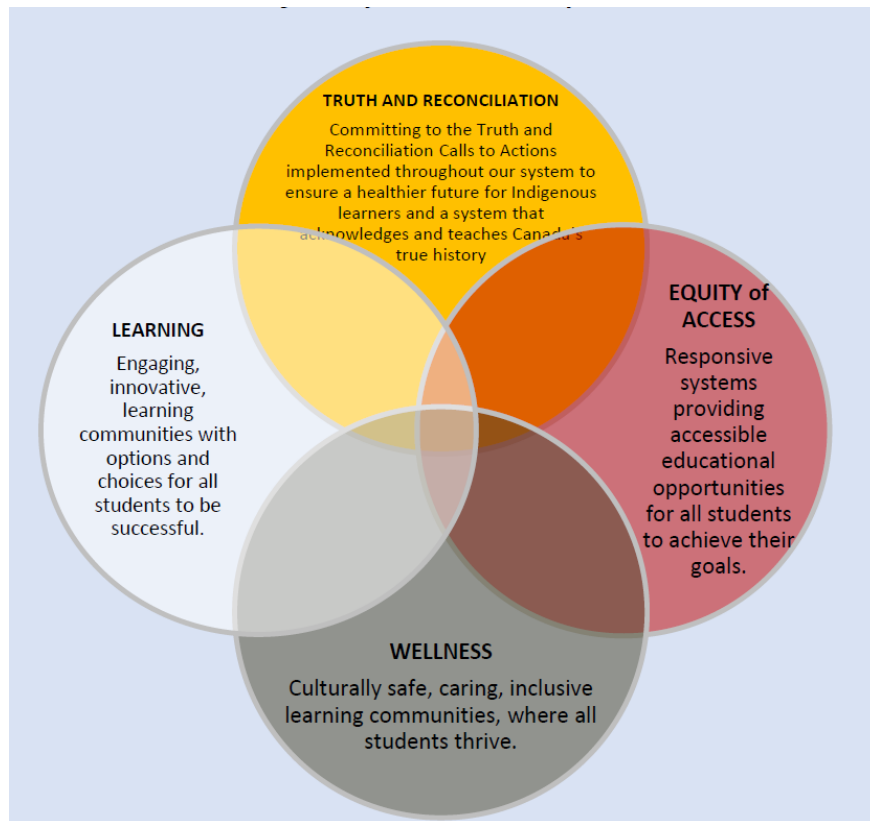
Hixon Elementary School Plan 2025-2026

At Hixon Elementary we are grateful to be working and learning on the unceded ancestral lands of the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation whom have been part of these lands for at least 9 000 years. On Lheidli T'enneh's ancestral lands we honour them in their Dakelh dialect: **Lheidli T'enneh hubeh keyoh whuts'odelhti. Nts'ezla hubeh yun ts'uwhut'i, ts'uzt'en ink'ez ts'unuwhulyeh.** We respectfully acknowledge the unceded ancestral lands of the Lheidli T'enneh, on whose land we live, work and play.

VISION Hixon Elementary creates an inclusive environment that ensures the success of all students through a welcoming learning environment that combines elements of our rural community with outdoor learning, academics and healthy lifestyle choices.

MISSION Hixon students strive to be BRAVE: Bold, Resilient, Accountable, Versatile, and Empathetic and student, staff and families are recognized as a contributing, connected members of our school community.

VALUES





Hixon Elementary School Plan 2025-2026

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Located just south of Prince George, Hixon Elementary School has been serving the community since 1922, with over 100 years of providing quality education. Today, we continue that tradition by offering students from Kindergarten to Grade 7 meaningful opportunities to learn, grow, and thrive with their peers. After Grade 7, our students continue their education at Prince George Secondary School.

Hixon Elementary is a warm, welcoming, and supportive environment where dedicated teachers and staff work closely to ensure every student can achieve success. Our small size and rural setting foster an inclusive, family-like atmosphere where students are known, valued, and encouraged. Parents are active partners in their children's learning and remain the backbone of our school community.

ENGAGEMENT PROCESS with staff, parents and students

Our school community is actively reviewing our goals, and meaningful engagement with students, staff, and parents/guardians is essential to this process. We are committed to gathering ongoing feedback to guide decision-making and ensure all voices are heard and represented.

Throughout the 2025/2026 school year, we will provide multiple opportunities for input. We will begin by presenting our goals at the October PAC meeting and distributing a parent survey in early October. Progress will be revisited in January and June, with updates shared at PAC meetings and staff discussions. Staff will also review goals regularly at monthly meetings and focused working sessions.

This plan is a living document. We will continue to refine our goals as we learn from student and district data, and from the feedback of our partners, rights holders, and stakeholders.

DISTRICT DIRECTIONS

Our District is nearing the end of its current five-year strategic cycle, with this year marking the final year of the plan. Recently, the District engaged in a feedback process to begin shaping a new Strategic Plan. From that process, four key directions were identified as priorities for the next five years. These overarching directions, outlined below, will also guide and align with our goals at **Hixon Elementary**.

Truth and Reconciliation

We are committed to implementing the Calls to Action across our system to create a healthier future for Indigenous learners and to ensure that Canada's true history is acknowledged and taught.



Hixon Elementary School Plan 2025-2026

Equity of Access

We aim to provide responsive, accessible learning opportunities for all students, with a particular focus on Indigenous learners, children and youth in care, and students with diverse abilities.

Wellness

We strive to build culturally safe, caring, and inclusive learning environments where all students, staff, and families can thrive, with an emphasis on mental, physical, and overall well-being.

Learning

We are dedicated to creating engaging and innovative learning communities that offer choice and opportunity for success. Our focus includes improving literacy, numeracy, and graduation rates, with targeted strategies to support Indigenous learners, children and youth in care, and students with diverse abilities.

First Peoples Principles of Learning

The First Peoples Principles of Learning are central to everything we do. They highlight a holistic and interconnected approach to education that values culture, community, and personal growth.

1. **Consequences of Actions** – Learning helps us recognize how our choices affect ourselves and others, building responsibility and accountability.
2. **Generational Roles and Responsibilities** – Knowledge and traditions are passed down through generations, reminding us of the important roles we each play in our communities.
3. **Indigenous Knowledge** – The wisdom and understanding found in Indigenous cultures enrich learning and deepen respect for traditional ways of knowing.
4. **Memory, History, and Story** – Stories and histories shape who we are, helping us understand ourselves, others, and our place in the world.
5. **Patience and Time** – True learning takes time. Growth happens gradually and requires patience, reflection, and persistence.

By embracing these principles, we create meaningful learning experiences that foster deeper connections to culture, community, and self.



Hixon Elementary School Plan 2025-2026

OUR SCHOOL GOALS

in the next year will be:

<i>Truth and Reconciliation</i>	<i>Wellness</i>	<i>Equity of Access</i>	<i>Learning</i>
Increase the number of students who feel connected to their culture and identity, with a specific focus on our indigenous students.	To create a supportive and respectful learning environment to help students feel safe and confident as they learn, discuss, reflect, and problem-solve together.	To create a supportive and empowering environment where all students feel valued, believed in, and equipped to enhance their educational experience	To enhance literacy skills for all students
To create a monthly school wide focus on Fridays in response to the calls to action: Student capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect, language, culture and impact of residential schools.	To create a culture of risk-taking and resiliency through targeted lessons to create coping strategies that align for kindergarten to grade 7.	To enhance the school library and home reading books so that every child has something engaging to read.	To enhance Numeracy skills for all students



Hixon Elementary School Plan 2025-2026

STRATEGIES

Building Cultural Connection and Identity

1. **Culturally Relevant Curriculum** – Integrate Indigenous history, stories, and perspectives into daily learning to deepen understanding and affirm Indigenous students' identities.
 2. **Elders and Knowledge Keepers** – Invite Elders and community members to share knowledge and stories, creating meaningful connections and role models.
 3. **Cultural Events and Celebrations** – Host events such as powwows, storytelling nights, and art exhibitions to celebrate culture and community.
 4. **Language Programs** – Offer opportunities and resources for learning Indigenous languages, supporting identity and cultural pride.
 5. **Safe Spaces** – Provide welcoming environments where Indigenous students can share their experiences and traditions without fear of judgment.
 6. **Community Partnerships** – Collaborate with Indigenous organizations to provide resources, workshops, and targeted support.
 7. **Celebrating Identity** – Encourage all students to explore and share their cultural identities, fostering appreciation of diversity.
 8. **Feedback and Reflection** – Seek ongoing feedback from Indigenous students to ensure programming meets their needs and voices are valued.
-

Supporting Student Safety, Confidence, and Mental Health Literacy

1. **Mental Health Education** – Use *Open Parachute* classroom resources to build awareness and coping skills.
2. **Peer Support Programs** – Establish buddy systems to strengthen community and reduce stigma.
3. **Safe Spaces** – Designate accessible areas where students can safely share feelings or seek support.
4. **Regular Check-ins** – Embed classroom check-ins to allow students to express emotions and concerns.
5. **Professional Support** – Ensure students know how to access SD57 counselors and Youth Care workers.
6. **Parental Involvement** – Provide tools and resources to engage parents in supporting their child's mental health.
7. **Mindfulness and Relaxation** – Incorporate mindfulness practices, relaxation activities, and movement into the school day.



Hixon Elementary School Plan 2025-2026

-
8. **Mentorship** – Create opportunities for older students to mentor and support younger peers.
-

Ensuring Equity of Access

1. **Inclusive Culture** – Celebrate diversity and ensure all students see themselves represented in teaching materials.
 2. **Personal Connections** – Build strong relationships by regularly checking in on students' interests and challenges.
 3. **High Expectations with Support** – Maintain high standards while ensuring scaffolding for success.
 4. **Differentiated Instruction** – Adapt teaching strategies to meet a variety of learning styles and needs.
 5. **Access to Resources** – Provide equitable access to technology, learning supports, and mental health resources.
 6. **Mentorship Programs** – Pair intermediate students with younger peers for learning and connection.
 7. **Celebrating Achievements** – Recognize student successes of all sizes to build belonging.
 8. **Universal Design for Learning (UDL)** – Use observations, discussions, and feedback to strengthen UDL practices.
-

Enhancing Literacy (Reading and Comprehension)

1. **Diverse Reading Materials** – Offer a wide selection of texts reflecting varied cultures, interests, and levels.
2. **Guided Reading Groups** – Provide small group instruction targeted to student needs.
3. **Explicit Comprehension Strategies** – Teach skills such as summarizing, predicting, and questioning, and model them during instruction.
4. **Interactive Reading Activities** – Use read-alouds, shared reading, and partner reading to promote fluency and engagement.
5. **Integrating Technology** – Use digital resources (e.g., RAZ Kids, Epic) for personalized reading practice.
6. **Daily Reading Culture** – Dedicate time each day to independent reading and promote challenges or incentives.
7. **Vocabulary Development** – Explicitly teach and reinforce new vocabulary in context.
8. **Discussion and Reflection** – Encourage students to discuss and reflect on texts to deepen comprehension.



Hixon Elementary School Plan 2025-2026

-
9. **Ongoing Assessment** – Use BC performance standards to track progress in reading and writing (Grades 5–7).
-

Enhancing Numeracy Skills

1. **Hands-On Learning** – Provide manipulatives to build conceptual understanding through concrete experiences.
 2. **Differentiated Instruction** – Tailor math instruction to meet a range of student needs and abilities.
 3. **Math Games and Technology** – Use engaging games and interactive tools to strengthen skills.
 4. **Professional Learning** – Encourage staff participation in district math workshops.
 5. **Collaborative Problem-Solving** – Have students work in pairs or groups to develop strategies together.
 6. **Ongoing Assessment** – Monitor progress with regular assessments and timely feedback.
-

MEASURES FOR HIXON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1. **Cultural Orientation** – By October 10, all staff will participate in the Fall Teacher Cultural Orientation to strengthen cultural awareness in classrooms.
2. **Dakelh Language Initiative** – A Dakelh vocabulary list will be displayed in the school, and one new word introduced weekly at assembly.
3. **Emotional Vocabulary Development** – By June 2026, all students will be able to articulate a wide range of emotions beyond “happy,” including sadness, frustration, and disappointment.
4. **Digital Literacy and Safety** – By June 2026, all students will demonstrate safe and responsible computer use.
5. **Reading Growth** – By June 2026, all students will show measurable improvement in reading assessments.
6. **Daily Breakfast Access** – 100% of students will have access to a healthy breakfast each morning.
7. **Healthy Snack and Lunch Access** – 100% of students in need will have access to healthy food throughout the school day.



Hixon Elementary School Plan 2025-2026

Implementation:

- **Regular Monitoring** – Ongoing check-ins to track progress on each measure.
- **Engagement** – Involving students, families, and the wider community to support initiatives.
- **Feedback Mechanisms** – Providing ways for staff and students to share input and guide continuous improvement.

HIXON ELEMENTARY COMMITMENT STATEMENT

Hixon Elementary School is committed to fostering culturally sensitive and inclusive practices for all staff and students. We regularly review and reflect on our practices, use data to inform decisions, and ensure our goals are effectively monitored and achieved. Our focus remains on student learning, engagement, and a strong sense of belonging.

Thank you for reviewing our plan for the **2025–2026 school year**. We deeply value our school community and all stakeholders, and we welcome your feedback, suggestions, and questions as we work together for student success.

Please send any feedback or inquiries to jforbes@sd57.bc.ca.

Sincerely,
Bryan MacLean, Principal
John Forbes, Vice-Principal