

Grand Forks Secondary School
School Plan 2026-2027
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Purpose and Vision:

School Plans are school-specific strategic plans that are

- Collaboratively developed
- Focused on student learning goals
- Aligned with the District Strategic Plan
- Evidence-informed using a cycle of improvement
- Specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound

Be Curious

- Teachers have noted anecdotally increased absences and the subsequent struggle to keep students caught up and connected
- Attendance continues to be a big concern for families, who report struggling with students who don't want to come to school
- Attendance data shows a high number of students reaching the threshold for chronic absenteeism (more than 10% of time missed)
- Students report mixed feelings of belonging and engagement at school
- Attendance is reported as a challenge across schools in BC

Get Intentional

- Students are struggling with increased mental health concerns and demonstrate low resilience
- How can we help students feel a strong sense of belonging and engagement to improve attendance at school? Is that truly the issue?
- Our goal is to dive deeper into the root causes of attendance challenges and then build a plan to address them

Make Time for Learning

- We need to learn about the root causes of attendance challenges and what has been effective in addressing them in other high schools/context

Action with Intent

- One staff member attended a Youth Mental Health Conference that included exploration of attendance issues. They will share that learning with the team

- We will survey students in a more detailed way specifically on the issue of attendance
- Teachers will coordinate directly with the office, SBT and/or the counselling department as soon as attendance appears to be becoming an issue for a specific student so that the team can follow up
- Follow up plans will develop as we complete our learning on this topic

Thoughtful Sharing

- Attendance data will be tracked at each quarter and specifically highlighted for families and students
- Teachers will review attendance data as a team quarterly and discuss how the current plan is working and where gaps are appearing