

DATE: January 31, 2012
TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Edgar Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Student Learning Services Reorganization Update (Trustee Request #143)
ORIGINATOR: Tanni Parker, Assistant Superintendent
RESOURCE STAFF: Sandy Forster, Heather Raymond, Carol Symons, Corrie Ziegler
REFERENCE: November 29, 2011 Board Meeting (Trustee Johner)

ISSUE

The following information was requested: provide an overall update regarding the state of the reorganization of Student Learning Services. Include what has taken place and completed. What is in progress and what has yet to be done?

BACKGROUND

The Student Learning Services (SLS) reorganization is part of the Superintendent's multi-year plan regarding the organization of the District's service to schools. In 2009-2010, staff from schools and central were part of a district-wide engagement process. Recommendations from this engagement process informed the direction of the reorganization of SLS.

CURRENT SITUATION

Since August 2011, services to schools have been provided through the four new units: Executive Services, Inclusive Learning, Projects and Research, and Support for Staff and Students.

As part of the reorganization, the service delivery model for Inclusive Learning and Support for Staff and Students moved from a first come-first served, cost recovery model to a coordinated service being provided to groups of schools within a School Assistant Superintendent catchment area. This shift in delivery has been significant for school and central staff. Staff in these units are continuing to refine methods of delivery as well as defining the fair share of services that each school should receive. This work will continue throughout this year with a more comprehensive definition of fair share and the service delivery model being provided in the fall of 2012.

In the area of Executive Services, support to schools has continued on an as need basis without cost recovery. In the new unit of Policy and Partnership work is still underway regarding the development of a partnership framework for the District. The partnership framework will allow the District to have clearly defined working relationships with external partners and assist in matching partners to schools on a needs basis.

Within the Project and Research department, Research, Data and Knowledge, is providing ongoing support to schools regarding student information systems, student assessments and awards. The newly formed Project Management unit is currently working on implementation of the Special Needs Task Force recommendations and is starting a new project related to Behaviour and Learning Assistance Program review.

KEY POINTS

- The new organization was fully implemented for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Adjustments to delivery of services through school groupings are continuing to be refined.
- The cost recovery model has been eliminated for almost all services.
- Development and implementation of a fair share model continues and will be refined for 2012-2013.
- Services are being delivered in a more efficient, effective and equitable manner.

ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES

N/A

TP:ja