

Building a Strategic Plan
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What We Did

A new strategic plan was necessary for Edmonton Christian Schools. We had gone through a visioning process 2 years ago where we reimagined what ECS could look like. The board then decided to establish a committee that would create a new strategic plan; a plan that would build on the vision and mission of the school. I had the privilege of chairing that committee.

The committee took on the task, with the help of many stakeholders, of creating a list of what good looks like at ECS. A fascinating discussion took place as we dreamed about what ECS could be. Once the lists were created we used 2 organizations, the Prairie Centre for Christian Education and CARDUS, to do a school review. Their task was to help us benchmark how close we were to the ideal, to the dream. Once we sifted through all of the data and benchmarked several of the points on the dream list we were able to document a number of strategic initiatives.

What we found out about the school

- Our parent and alumni communities were too loosely attached to the vision and mission
- We could do a better job of marketing our high school
- The relationships that our students had with each other and with the staff and administration could be better
- Our Bible program was no longer meeting the goals
- Our West campus building isn't adequate to meet the needs of all the educational initiatives
- Our teaching for transformation curriculum model needs to be refreshed

Strategic Initiatives

- Hire a consultant to help with our marketing. At the same time we believe, that through better marketing/storytelling, we will be able to engage our parent and alumni communities.
- Establish a building committee with a view to begin building a new West campus in the spring of 2019
- To help with building student to student and student to teacher relationships we intend to explore creating a "restorative practice" school
- Review and revamp the Bible program