

Step 1	Identification			
	Name of School Division/District Portage la Prairie School Division	Name of School La Verendrye	Principal Name Larry Muirhead	Date (yyyy/mm/dd) 2004/10/19

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Step 2	School Profile <i>(Complete the following using FTE.)</i>			
	Number of Teachers 28.	Number of Students 450	Grade Levels K - Senior 1	Program(s) <i>(With the mouse or X key, select all that apply.)</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> Français <input type="checkbox"/> Immersion <input type="checkbox"/> Vocational

Step 3	Planning Process
	<p>Did planning include review of the school mission statement? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Year last revised: 2003</p> <p>Describe school activities (curricular, extra-curricular) that you would like to highlight. La Verendrye School has been involved in a number of curricular and extra-curricular activities that continue as part of our school's tradition. A recent audit of these initiatives and services that are provided by students, staff, and community partnerships revealed involvement in over one hundred and ten projects. Highlights include: School Support Team, Advisory Council for School Leadership, Early Years Language Program, Highlights Reading Program, Reading Recovery Program, Precision Reading, Conflict Managers, Peer Connectors, Leadership Program, Programs from Guidance Department - Friendship Gr. 1 + 2, Getting Better at Getting Along Gr. 4-6, Anger management Sr. 1, Character Counts Gr. 1-3, Self-Awareness Gr. 4-6, Stars – Anger Management and Self-Control Gr. 4, Art Therapy - Art from the Heart and narrative therapy, Be Cool – Grades 4-6, Koats for Kids, Mitten Tree, BullyProofing, Second Step Program, Lion's Quest Program – trained instructors, Big Brothers and Big Sisters Mentorship and Life Choices Programs, Rainbows, Intramural Athletics, Volunteer-school Athletics, Badminton Club, Volunteer School Choir, Jazz Band, Salvation Army donations, Jump Rope For Heart, Boston Pizza Home Reading Program, Positive Atmosphere for Learning Social Skills Class (PALSS Class), Science Olympics, Guest readings and authors, ArtSmarts (McConnell Family Foundation), Book Fairs, Christmas Float, Student Recognition Programs, Skating rink, new "Access for All" playground equipment, Recycling, Adopt-a-Community Playground, Patrol, mural painting on the school building by students, building a Positive School Climate through the Pillars of Character Program- the six pillars of character include trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship, Student Council organized a carolling group to visit seniors, the D.A.R.E. program (Drug Abuse Resistance Education from the RCMP). This past year staff succeeded in receiving a \$5000 Clarica Educational Grant for Empowering Kids to Create a Healthy Community. This involved Leadership training, school beautification, community clean-up and involvement in service to the community through volunteering and donations.</p> <p>Describe any additional information that impacted your priorities. LVS has a highly transient population, with 32% of our families being single parent, a growing proportion (33%) of First Nations students, and an increasing number of students whose diverse needs are supported as a result of the new inclusion policy of our society. There is also a high proportion of low income families in the school catchment area. As a result, our programs are aimed at improving literacy and numeracy, providing an enriched learning and social environment for students, creating opportunities for parental and community involvement in our school and promoting citizenship and fair play within our school. This fall saw our student population grow by 26 students. La Verendrye is a school that has a very high needs population. Educational assistants staff has grown this year from twelve to seventeen, indicating an increase in needs. The major school community belief that has impacted our priorities is our mission statement: La Verendrye School strives to provide a safe, healthy and caring environment where students can enjoy learning, and be challenged to develop positive attitudes, and the skills and knowledge for success.</p> <p>Describe the planning process and the involvement of students, staff, families and the community. (Who was involved? How often did you meet? How were decisions made? Refer to example provided for guidelines.)</p> <p>The development of the school priorities involved the staff, students and parents. Decisions in direction were reached through consensus of the groups involved. Originally, one meeting was held with staff, a second meeting with parents and student representatives and a final meeting with staff, students, parents and interested community partners. With the first school planning report document and last year's school plan as a basis for renewing our own school plan and vision, the focus of the meetings looked at five questions:</p> <p>What is the recent history of the school? (What do we do well and how do we do it?) What are the challenges facing the school? Where are we now? (reference #2) Where do we want to be next year? Where do we want to be in the next five years? These questions created data which drove our school priorities. This data provided the direction for the school community.</p> <p>This year the priorities were reviewed by the staff, Parent Advisory Council and the Student Council. We continue to work on the priorities as part of a five year plan that is now in it's third year. In recognition of the work that the school is doing around literacy, a fifth priority was added.</p>

Step 4	Division/District Priorities
	1. Re-organizing existing programs and services
	2. Strategies for teacher/administrator recruitment and retention
	3. Plan for learning and its assessment
	4. Best practices for aboriginal students
5. Strengthening community partnerships	

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Step 5	School Priorities	Indicate if school priorities link with Department priorities*. (Insert X in box.)					
	1. Promote a positive school image	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
	2. Create parent accountability and involvement	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
	3. Develop positive empowerment for staff	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
	4. Develop a numeracy project for academically challenged students	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
	5. Improve outcomes for less successful learners through literacy programs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
*Department Priorities	1. Improving outcomes especially for less successful learners.	2. Strengthening links among schools, families and communities.	3. Strengthening school planning and reporting.	4. Improving learning opportunities for educators.	5. Strengthening pathways among secondary schools, post-secondary education and work.	6. Linking policy and practice to research and evidence.	

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Step 6	2003–2004 Report End of year status, data or anecdotal evidence	
	Expected Outcomes	Results
	1. By June of 2004 the community will have a better sense of what La Verendrye School staff provides for students and does for the community.	Distributed positive contact policy and data collection system at general staff meeting and reviewed. Teachers report contacts to the office on a recording form at the end of each month. School brochure is still in beginning stages, with some data collected but not formalized. Web-site has been updated to reflect changes in the school and provide accountability reports to the public. There has been increased coverage of school events and activities by the local newspaper. A news bulletin board was started and items reflecting events at La Verendrye were posted. Planters were placed at the front of the school. A community clean-up afternoon was held and students cleaned up 70 city blocks. New picnic and park benches were placed around the school.
	2. There will be an improved representation of parents across the grades in the Advisory Council for School Leadership. Parents will be involved in extra-curricular activities.	Advertising in the school newspaper and on the website. An open house was held . Results were disappointing and only two news persons were added to the Parent Advisory Council. Elections were held in the fall and we have nine active members. Parents were also involved in coaching teams and volunteering for field trips. Community members were also mentoring students in reading programs. Parents were part of Parents-on-Patrol, volunteers who helped ensure safety for kids on the way to and from school.
	3. By June 2004, staff will have developed a communication process for the school and will be involved either directly or indirectly in the hiring process.	Communications plan has yet to be developed. Staff has been invited to participate in the hiring process wherever feasible.
	4. By June 2004, staff will have developed and piloted a numeracy project for early years.	Committee was established and a budget developed. Staff looked through materials and constructed math bags for use in one class of grades 1, 2 nd 4 and both kindergarten classes. These went home on a regular basis.
5.		

2004–2005 Plan			
For more examples, see the Planning in Education website at http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/sdds/pie/index_pie.html .			
Expected Outcomes Measurable and Observable Format	Strategies	Indicators	Data Sources (Tools)
1. By June 30, 2005 La Verendrye will publish and circulate a school brochure, highlighting programs and opportunities for students at our school.	1. Committee formed to plan brochure 2. Input from parents, students and staff 3. School brochure will be developed, published and distributed to businesses and realtors and persons interested in LVS. . 4. Post brochure on the website.	1. Increased positive community response from businesses, realtors and new families to the school 2. Increased hits on website students	1. Survey to community 2. Hits on website increasing 3. Observation
2. There will be an improved representation of parents across the grades in the Advisory Council for School Leadership. Parents will be involved in extra-curricular activities.	1. Advertise for parents through school newsletter and booths at special school events 2. Teachers approach parents to ask for volunteering at parent conferences 3. Involve parents in field trips and coaching opportunities	1. Increased parent participation on Parent Advisory 2. Parents on field trips 3. Parents involved in other volunteer opportunities	1. Observation 2. Attendance data from meetings
3. By June 2004, staff will have developed a communication process for the school and will be involved either directly or indirectly in the hiring process.	1. School committee will develop a communications plan. Communications web established. 2. Staff will be surveyed about what skills and attributes are required for positions as they open and, where suitable, will be involved in the interview process	1. Fewer questions from staff regarding communication. 2. More information will be available to create and/or add to the interview questions. 3. Teachers will be seen as part of the interview team.	1. Survey of teachers 2. Observation 3. Interview reports
4. By June 2005, the school will assess the value of its literacy programs - Reading Recovery, Highlights Reading, Precision Reading	1. Reading Recovery has ongoing assessments for each student. 2. Teacher meetings are held every term. 3. In Highlights, student journals are kept. 4. The teachers track records of their progress. 5. Celebrations of student success are held at assemblies. 6. These programs are established and ongoing.	1. Positive results from students 2. Parent comments 3. Improved reading scores	1. Detailed record keeping 2. Parent conferences 3. Assessment 4. Response in daily agendas.
5. By June 2005, the numeracy project will be active and promoted in all early years classrooms	1. Numeracy bags created and sent home on a regular basis to supplement student skills. 2. Committee will provide numeracy kits for all early years classes. 3. Teachers will review the project through response sheets which will indicate suitability and motivation for students. 4. Conference with parents to determine the effectiveness in developing skills.	1. Bags are made and in full use. 2. Response sheet comments 2. Positive feedback through parent conferences, phone contact or agenda contact 3. Numeracy abilities improving	1. Response sheet data 2. Conferences/communications 3. Assessment tools
6.			

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<p>Direct inquiries about the <i>School Planning Report</i> to:</p> <p>Larry Budzinski Phone: (204) 622-2254 Email: lbudzinski@gov.mb.ca</p>	<p>DUE DATE:</p> <p>OCTOBER 29, 2004</p>	<p>Submitting Completed <i>School Planning Report</i></p> <p>Please submit completed <i>School Planning Reports</i> to your division/ district office. Divisions/Districts send the reports to Brenda Henderson at: Email: bhenderson@gov.mb.ca or Fax: (204) 945-8843 or Mail: School Support Unit, E140–1970 Ness Avenue, Winnipeg MB R3J 0Y9.</p>
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