



Barlow Creek Elementary School Growth Plan

2023-2026

School growth plans are aligned with the District's [Strategic Plan](#) with priority measures represented in the Framework for [Enhancing Student Learning Report](#).

September 2023

School District 28 rests on the traditional lands of the Lhtako Dene.



SCHOOL INFORMATION

What makes Barlow Creek great, students say:

Having breakfast every day!
Terry Fox run
Planting and eating from the garden
Learning new things
ASSAI after school program
Easter egg hunt
School dances
Multiage classroom activities
Sports clubs
Computers
Fun activities
STEM projects
Our playground
Having great friends!

PAC

Barlow Creek has an active Parent Advisory Council (PAC) that supports students and staff. Our PAC is small in size but generous in heart and support! They meet on the third Thursday of every month.

OUR SCHOOL THE STORY/JOURNEY

Barlow Creek Elementary School is located in a rural setting 10 kilometers northeast of Quesnel on the Barkerville Highway in the Cariboo Regional District. Enrollment is approximately 100 students from Kindergarten to grade 7. The school has 5 divisions (classrooms) in this 2023-24 school year and operates a StrongStart Program four days a week.

We believe in nurturing learning for all in a calm respectful, connected community. Barlow students participate in their community by being involved in athletic teams, school jobs, recycling, gardening and taking on a variety of leadership activities.

We promote and model a calm, safe, empathetic environment that focuses on positive relationships.



SUPPORTIVE SPACES

At Barlow Creek Elementary School our learners will be able to identify and communicate how they and others are feeling and practise strategies that support self-regulation and healthy decision making.



RATIONALE

We believe inclusive, caring schools are fundamental to a thriving community. True inclusion ensures students and staff see themselves represented and feel as though they belong in the space, are connected to the other members of the school and are able to access the curriculum they are engaging with.

ACTIONS / STRATEGIES:

Belonging – buddy classes, student jobs, leadership, class jobs, clubs

Communication – website, newsletters, daily announcements

Mental Health and Well-being – deep breathing practice
- positive affirmations
- growth mindset

Gratitude acknowledged at assemblies

MEASURES:

School-based Belonging Survey with students and parents.

Restorative practices

Office referrals

Student Learning Surveys

Middle Years Development Index

Early Years Development Index

Student Learning Surveys

SPEAK TO THE DATA:

Research suggests that connections to one or more adult at school is key factor to student success. Our parent and student surveys indicate our students have a strong connection to one or more adults and feel safe at school.

The majority of students and parents feel positive and happy going to Barlow Creek.

Our student survey results show we need to work on social emotional skills to help students calm down when they are upset, angry, anxious, nervous, or scared. We will work on supporting self-regulation skills as we move forward.

EQUITY & ENGAGEMENT - LITERACY

At Barlow Creek, our students will demonstrate increased academic growth in literacy.



RATIONALE

We are preparing learners for a world that we do not yet know. A focus on intellectual, human and social, and career development we will provide meaningful learning opportunities for all students to achieve their goals.

ACTIONS / STRATEGIES:

Support students to attain the skills to be successful on the Provincial Literacy Assessment

Develop and utilize a Literacy Framework inclusive of Tier 1, 2, 3 interventions

Fostering Literacy – with Literacy Quesnel

RAZ – Kids, Epic Books

Read – Ins

Book Battle

Reading Buddies

MEASURES:

MyEd data

Reading Level Data

FSAs

Learning Pathways

SPEAK TO THE DATA:

Our June 2023 reading data indicates that 66% of our grade 1 – 3 students were meeting grade level reading expectations for fluency and comprehension. This is down 6% from 2022.

The percentage of intermediate students meeting grade level reading expectations in June 2023 saw a 4% decline compared to 2022, with 82%

As we move forward into the school year we will work on focused tier 1 interventions and provide more opportunities to share the power of reading.

EQUITY & ENGAGEMENT - NUMERACY

At Barlow Creek, our students will demonstrate increased academic growth in numeracy.



RATIONALE

We are preparing learners for a world that we do not yet know. A focus on intellectual, human and social, and career development we will provide meaningful learning opportunities for all students to achieve their goals.

ACTIONS / STRATEGIES:

Use comprehensive and consistent numeracy assessment practices to guide planning and deepen understanding

Number talks, Esti-Mysteries, Esti-Clipboards

Rich Math routines

Math games and centres

Hundred Day

Guided Math

MEASURES:

MyEd Data

Learning Pathways

SPEAK TO THE DATA:

Without a district wide assessment tool, it is difficult to speak to numeracy data.

There is evidence that we need to support a growth mind-set in numeracy and we continue to work on supporting this in our classes.

Problem solving is another area that needs more attention and we continue to work on making math more visible in our school.

CULTURAL COLLABORATION

At Barlow Creek, our students will continue to engage in cultural experiences with local Indigenous communities to build a learning environment free from racism and discrimination.



RATIONALE

While the results for Indigenous students continue to improve, gaps still exist between non-Indigenous and Indigenous students. The results, together with the feedback from community consultation, highlight the need for the district to address these inequities of outcomes, by partnering with Indigenous communities to create safe and culturally responsive learning environments for the students free from racism and discrimination.

ACTIONS / STRATEGIES:

Language – District Language lessons, daily announcements, bulletin boards, language posters, Dakelh games, Dakelh team names and signage.

Local Knowledge: bannock, Lahal, jigging, dancing, beading, history, guest artists, crafts, land and animals.

Orange Shirt Day, National Indigenous Peoples Day, Truth and Reconciliation Week

Indigenous texts and resources.

Lunch time clubs with Indigenous Education Support Staff.

MEASURES:

Visual presence

Restorative Practices

Observations & anecdotal evidence

Evidence of tolerance and diversity

SPEAK TO THE DATA:

This year 10 % more of our Indigenous grade 4 to 7 students are meeting expectations for reading levels

There was a 3% decrease in the number of Indigenous students in grade 1-3 who are meeting expectations for reading levels this year.

Non-Indigenous primary students about 10% above Indigenous students and there is a 22% gap in reading ability at the intermediate level.

More targeted interventions are needed to bridge this gap.