2025 - 2029 Assurance Plan

Year Two

Ever Growing, Learning, and Living in Christ

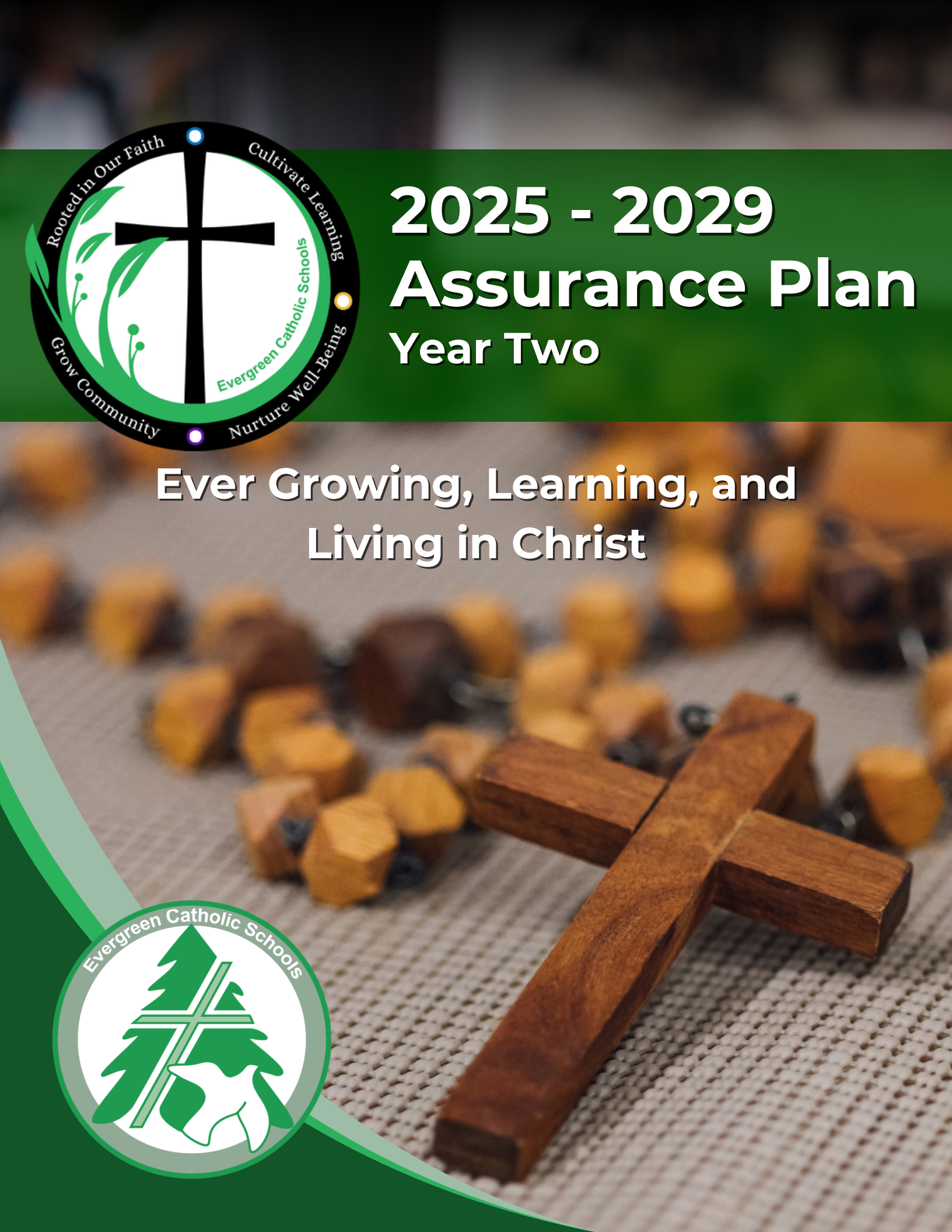


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Message from Jeri Wilson: *Chair of the Board*



Catholic education is a vocation. It is not solely about academic excellence, but about forming disciples of Christ—young people of integrity, compassion, and purpose. We strive to cultivate hearts that are open to God's grace, minds that seek truth, and hands ready to serve others in love.

Through our forward-looking Assurance Plan and ongoing dialogue with families, parishes, and community partners, Evergreen Catholic Schools is a place where every student is known, cherished, and called to grow in holiness. Together, we walk the path of faith, hope, and love. On behalf of our Board of Trustees, I extend heartfelt gratitude to our students, staff, families, and community members for journeying with us in the mission of Catholic education, where Christ is at the centre of all we do.

At Evergreen Catholic Schools, our commitment to Christ-centred education guides every decision we make. Rooted in the Gospel and guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church, we are humbled by the trust that families across our division place in us. We honour this sacred trust through our focus on student growth, wellness, and faith development.

Accountability Statement for Compliance with the Provincial Strategic Priorities for Education Regulation
The Board of Trustees of the Evergreen Catholic Separate School Division has reviewed its 2026-27 Assurance Plan in accordance with the requirements of the Provincial Strategic Priorities for Education Regulation. The Board confirms that the Assurance Plan aligns with the provincial strategic priorities of Strong Foundations, Academic Mastery, and Engaged
and Responsible Members of Society and includes outcomes, measures, and strategies that will enable the school authority to report results related to each priority in its 2026-27 Annual Education Results Report (AERR). Where necessary, the school authority updated its Assurance Plan or identified actions that will be taken to achieve alignment with the provincial strategic priorities and improve student learning and results. The Board approved this statement and confirmed the school authority's compliance with the Provincial Strategic Priorities for Education Regulation on **November 26, 2026.**

Priority Areas

Each priority connects to Alberta Education domains and Evergreen's vision of Catholic education.

- Rooted In Our Faith
- Cultivate Learning
- Nurture Well-Being
- Grow Community



Rooted In Our Faith

Ever Living in Christ: We openly celebrate our common bond of faith in God and we educate in an atmosphere of faith, hope, and love to prepare our students to live as compassionate, confident, and contributing citizens.

Cultivate Learning

Ever Learning in Christ: Students will gain the knowledge and skills to form the foundations for successful and fulfilling lives and make meaningful contributions to their communities and the world.

Nurture Well-Being

Ever Growing in Christ: Students will explore life opportunities that develop their unique talents and potential, provide a sense of purpose and belonging, and affirm the dignity of work. They will become life-long learners, who will cultivate the virtues of wisdom, courage, self-control, justice, charity, and hope.

Grow Community

Beliefs: In Evergreen Catholic Schools, we believe that collaboration among home, school and parish is essential for comprehensive Catholic education, with parents as the primary educators responsible for their child's development and faith formation.

Outcomes, Goals, Strategies and Provincial/Local Measures



ROOTED IN OUR FAITH

Ever Living in Christ: We openly celebrate our common bond of faith in God and we educate in an atmosphere of faith, hope, and love to prepare our students to live as compassionate, confident, and contributing citizens.

PROVINCIAL STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Engaged & Respnsible Members of Society

Key Outcomes & Strategies:

Students and staff demonstrate knowledge of our Catholic teachings and grow in their faith.

- Facilitate meaningful faith encounters for students and professional development for staff.
  - Establish consistent understanding of Catholic Social Teaching with school leaders.
- Establish consistent prayer practice within daily school routines.
  - Maintain floor level practices for prayer within schools with school leaders.
  - Maintain communities of practice to support teachers and leaders to become confident witnesses, grounded in worship, answering calls of service to others.
  - Continue to build confidence in teachers and leaders to lead various forms of Catholic prayers within schools and classrooms.

Local Measures

- Catholic School Reviews
- School faith environment/assurance survey questions
- Staff faith formation - EXCEL (Excellence in Catholic Educational Leadership)
- Student faith formation/Assurance Survey questions
- Faith Formation Plan/Professional Growth Plans from staff
- Ongoing conversations with all education partners
- Success with school and parish partnerships
- Satisfaction with communication

Alberta Assurance Measures

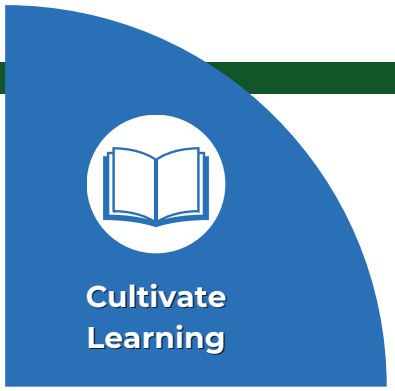
- Active Citizenship
- Parental Involvement
- School Improvement

Community Link

Strengthen connections with Catholic organizations through social justice projects.

- Strengthen partnerships and activate social justice engagement opportunities with Catholic organizations.

CULTIVATE LEARNING



Ever Learning in Christ: Students will gain the knowledge and skills to form the foundations for successful and fulfilling lives and make meaningful contributions to their communities and the world.

PROVINCIAL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: Strong Foundations/ Academic Mastery

Key Outcomes & Strategies:

Student success is established through high quality teaching and learning experiences for all students.

- Enhance professional development and foster collaboration to effectively address the diverse needs of all students
  - Align consistent and best practices in assessment and reporting
  - Leverage curriculum implementation to strengthen best practice to support improved student outcomes
  - Explore frameworks for data analysis
  - Expand teacher and leader confidence in innovative teaching practices and the use of technology
  - Expand integration of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit foundational knowledge into instructional planning
- Provide multiple pathways to respond to student needs.
  - Explore student opportunities in CTF options, dual credit and career planning.
  - Expand specialized programs for complex learners aligned with robust, modified and curriculum based learning progressions

Local Measures

- Early Years Literacy & Numeracy Assessments
- Student engagement & satisfaction
- Off Campus credit attainment
- Student transition structures and processes
- Acquiring and applying foundational knowledge
- Parental involvement and satisfaction with learner supports
- Success with adequacy of resources
- Satisfaction with communication
- Success of community engagement in Divisional decisions
- Ongoing conversations with all education partners

Alberta Assurance Measures

- PAT & Diploma
- High School Completion Rates
- Student Learning Engagement
- Access to supports & services
- Parental Involvement
- Education Quality
- Lifelong Learning
- First Nation, Métis and Inuit Success Rates
- Parental Involvement
- School Improvement

Community Link

Provide capacity building resources to support parents/guardians in their role as primary caregivers.

- Expand students and families role in Individual Program Plans
- Continue to collaborate with community partners and organizations who offer additional resources and support for families.

NURTURE WELL-BEING



Ever Growing in Christ: Students will explore life opportunities that develop their unique talents and potential, provide a sense of purpose and belonging, and affirm the dignity of work.

PROVINCIAL STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Academic Mastery

Key Outcomes & Strategies:

Student and staff well-being is supported through collaboration and building capacity.

- Engage leaders and school teams in collaborative processes to build capacity and commitment in addressing learner needs.
  - Develop and implement collaborative meeting structures for student services and learning services to support system well-being
  - Develop and implement targeted professional learning for support staff that focus on the specific skills required.
  - Embed comprehensive transition and orientation processes (programs and communication) for students transitioning between key stages (e.g., elementary to middle school, middle to high school, high school to adulthood).
- Increase opportunities for staff and students to learn how to support justice seeking groups within our Catholic schools.
  - Establish a division pastoral approach to discipline and behavior management with a focus on discrimination.

Local Measures

- Wellness assurance survey questions
- Employee engagement assurance survey questions
- Staff health and wellness as measured by absenteeism
- Student attendance
- Community members/parents attending engagement sessions
- Ongoing conversations with all education partners
- Satisfaction with communication
- Success of community engagement in Divisional decisions
- Success with school facilities
- Ongoing conversations with all education partners

Alberta Assurance Measures

- Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments
- Access to Supports and Services

Community Link

Promote opportunities to strengthen a sense of belonging and build community.

- Expand engagement strategy to improve the well-being needs of students.
- Develop and implement a guiding framework to support a cohesive and collaborative approach to enhance well-being
- Continue to strengthen positive and meaningful partnerships with First Nation, Métis and Inuit community members and organizations within local school communities.

Evergreen Catholic Schools is a faith-based school division serving the communities of Devon, Hinton, Spruce Grove, Stony Plain, and Westlock. We provide a Christ-centered education that nurtures the academic, spiritual, and personal growth of over 4,000 students from Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12.



Our Mission

To educate in an atmosphere of faith, hope, and love, preparing our students to live as compassionate, confident, and contributing citizens in our communities and beyond.

Our Beliefs

- Every person is made in the image and likeness of God
- Learning must be student-centered, inclusive, and accessible
- Faith-filled and highly qualified staff are the foundation of success
- Collaboration between home, school, and parish enriches Catholic education
- Social justice, compassion, and care for others are at the heart of our mission

- Faith-Centered Learning from Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12
- Early Literacy & Learning Support Programs
- Fine Arts & Athletic Programs
- Honours and Advanced Academics
- French as a Second Language Courses from Grade 4 to Grade 12
- Registered Apprenticeship & Career Pathways
- Inclusive Education and Knowledge & Employability
- Technology & Design Integration across Grades

Our Schools

Evergreen Catholic operates ten schools, each fostering a unique identity rooted in Catholic values while upholding academic excellence across a diverse range of programs.

Devon
Holy Spirit Catholic School (PreK - Gr.9)

Hinton
Father Gerard Redmond Community Catholic School (Gr.5 - Gr.12)

Hinton
St. Gregory Catholic School (PreK - Gr.4)

Spruce Grove
St. Joseph Catholic School (PreK - Gr.4)

Spruce Grove
St. Marguerite Catholic School (Pre-K - Gr.4)

Spruce Grove
St. Peter the Apostle Catholic High School (Gr.9 - Gr.12)

Spruce Grove
St. Teresa Catholic Learning Centre (Gr.8 - Gr.12+)

Spruce Grove
St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School (Gr.5 - Gr.8)

Stony Plain
St. John Paul II Catholic School (PreK - Gr.8)

Westlock
St. Mary Catholic School (PreK - Gr.12)

2025-2029 Assurance Engagement Process

- **September 2024 – Planning Phase:** Senior Administration reviewed the engagement timeline and developed focus group structures and guiding questions.
- **October 2024 – Council of Councils:** School councils discussed the purpose of assurance, reflected on priority areas, and reviewed guiding questions.
- **November–December 2024 – Focus Groups:** Students, staff, and administrators from across the division participated in focus groups held at multiple school sites**.**
- **December 2024 – Division-Wide Survey:** Surveys using consistent guiding questions were completed by students, families, and staff, and the results were analyzed for emerging themes.
- **January 2025 – Data Review and Goal Setting:** Data themes were reviewed and assurance goals were co-created and presented in draft form to the Executive Team.
- **February–March 2025 – Plan Finalization:** The draft Assurance Plan was reviewed by Trustees, approved, and shared with school administrators.
- **May 30, 2025 – Public Release:** The final Assurance Plan will be published on the division website and shared with stakeholders.

Annual Education Partners Engagement

To gather meaningful input from students, staff, trustees, and families to shape the priorities and goals of the Assurance Plan.

To set direction, the results from local and provincial surveys, focus groups, anecdotal observations and conversations were used to update the strategies for Year Two of the Evergreen Catholic Assurance Plan.

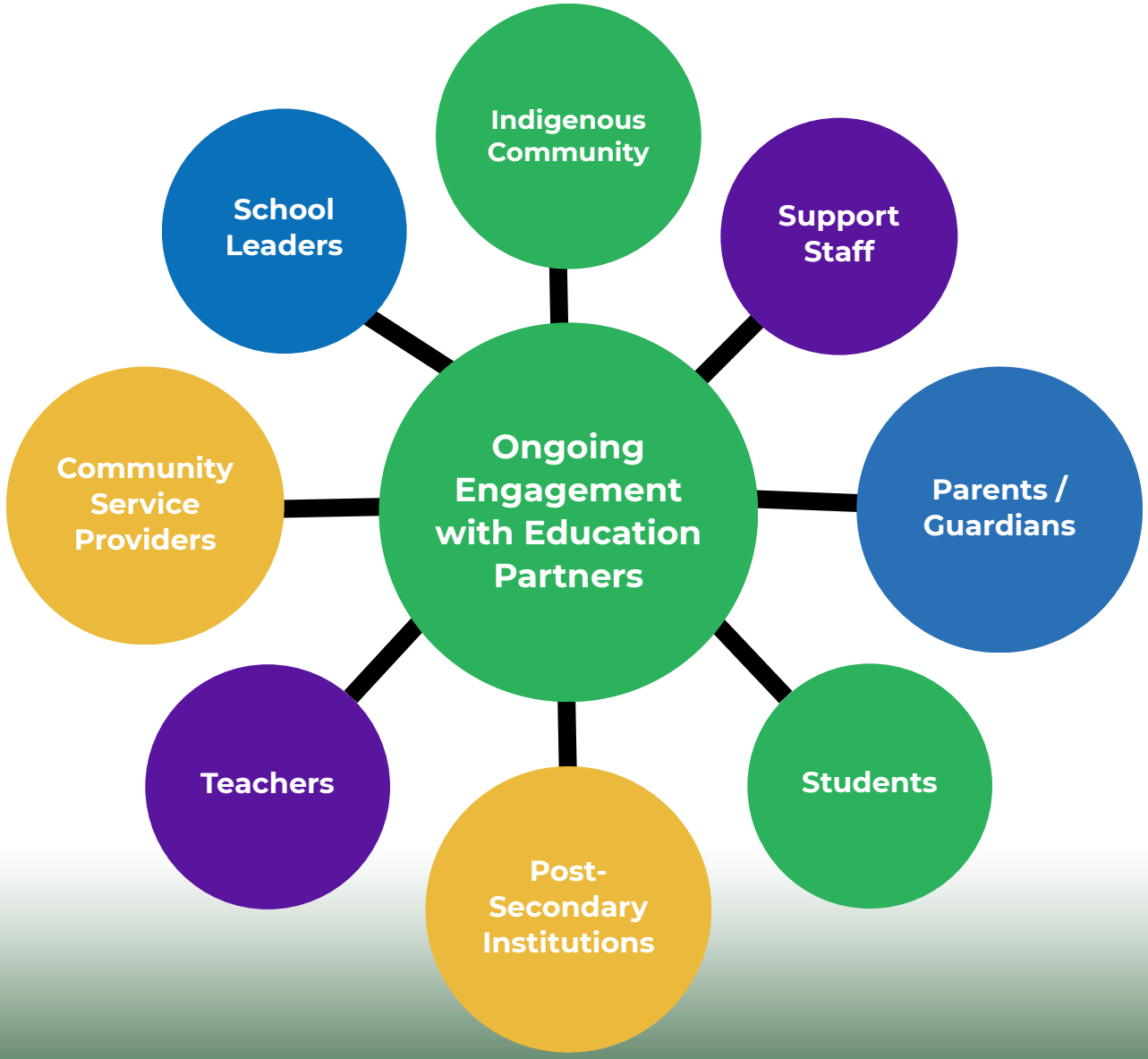


Implementation Plan

The strategic actions in the assurance plan are guided by a logic model grounded in collaboration and stakeholder input. As a flexible, working document, the plan supports division and school leaders in carrying out key initiatives, managing resources, monitoring effectiveness, and refining actions as needed.

Processes

Processes are in place at the division level to ensure regular review and updates of the plan to support continued growth in key focus areas. This includes ongoing engagement with a broad range of education partners.



Implementation Plan

Professional Learning

With a focus on ensuring student growth and achievement, division structures support professional learning at the system, school, and individual level. These include:

- Professional growth plans, aligned with the professional practice standards, are supported by school based administrators and instructional coaches
- Staff professional development days, which may include school improvement planning, professional learning, individual growth planning or collaborative time
- Administrator professional learning is scheduled monthly
- Grade and subject level Communities of Practices supported by division office
- Facilitated teacher professional learning, through ECSSD Student Services Team, APLC, AAC or other local educational organizations
- Supported opportunities to increase our system application of First Nations, Metis and Inuit foundational knowledge



Implementation Plan

Resourcing

The 2026-2027 Evergreen Catholic Schools **budget** and **capital plan** are designed to support the strategic actions outlined in the updated Assurance Plan to ensure appropriate resources allocations with a focus on professional learning, targeted programs and staffing including instructional and non-instructional staff.

Instructional Staff

- Classroom Teachers
- Administrators
- Instructional Coaches
- Inclusive Education Coordinators
- School Counsellors
- Inclusion and Behaviour Coach
- Student Services Coordinator
- Indigenous Education Coach

Non-Instructional Staff

- Educational Assistants
- Family School Liaison Workers
- Occupational Therapist
- Speech and Language Therapists
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Consultant

