

Budget Decision-Making Framework

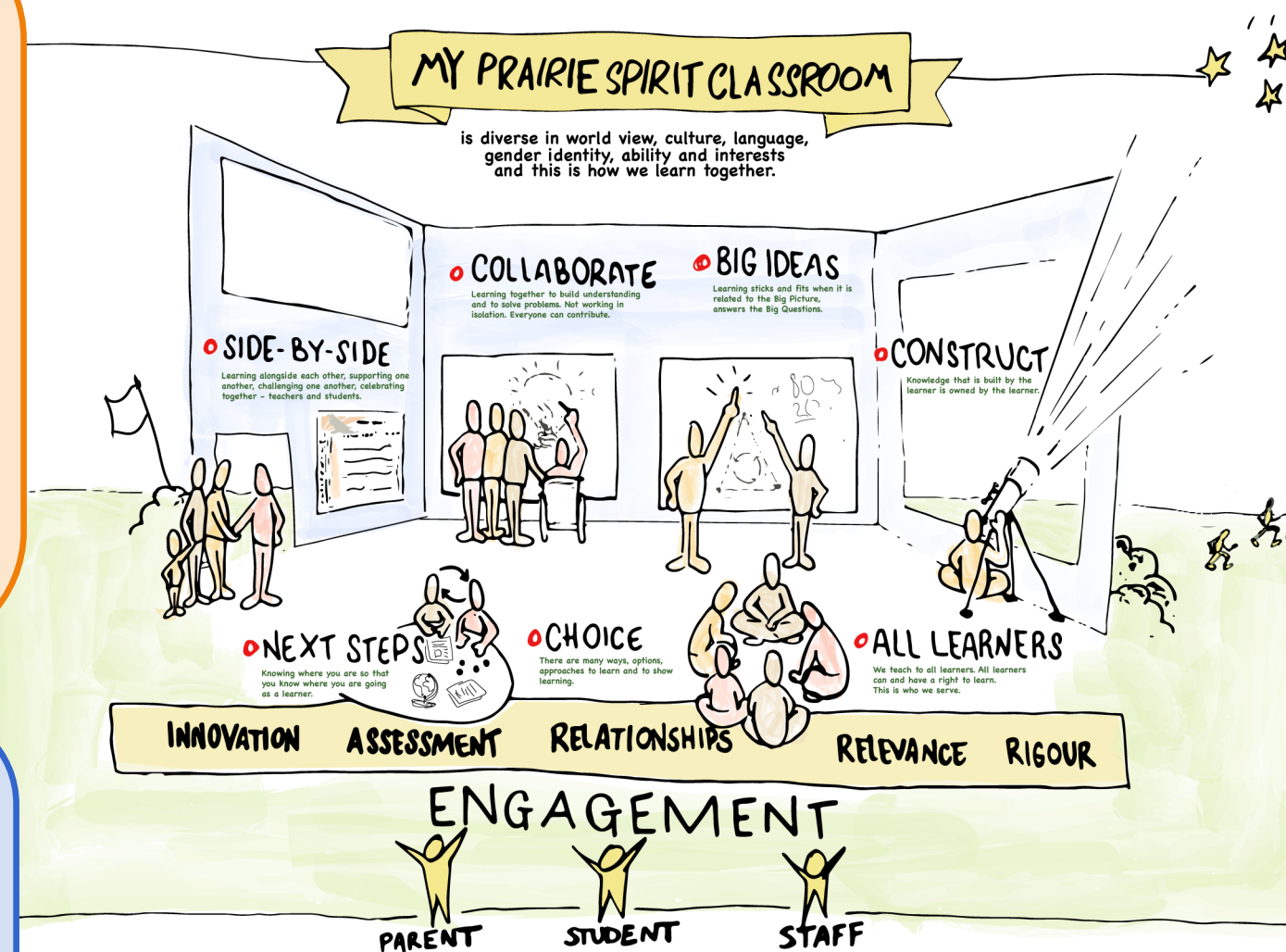
This framework provides an overview of how budget decisions will be guided in preparation for the school year. Decisions will be tested against this framework to determine options that most closely reflect the principles, priorities and commitments adopted by the Prairie Spirit Board of Education.

Principles

- **Student First**—Student and adult learning outcomes are affected by supports both within and outside the classroom. Effective and efficient practices in transportation, finance, technology, purchasing, human resources, facilities and maintenance contribute to a learning culture that develop the whole child: cognitively, physically, emotionally and spiritually.
- **My Prairie Spirit Classroom (MPSC)**—The beliefs and foundational principles (rigour, relevance, relationships, innovation and ongoing feedback) of MPSC will continue to be the learning focus for both adults and students.
- **Communication**—Transparency will be achieved through a variety of ongoing communication approaches to inform and receive feedback from school administrators, Prairie Spirit staff, employee groups, students, parents and community.
- **Respectful Practices**—Respectful processes will be applied throughout the budget development and implementation process.

Priorities

- **Student and Adult Learning**—High expectations for student and adult learning by engaging in a culture of learning characterized by respectful relationships, feedback, opportunities to explore, reflect, connect and apply knowledge and skills to personal lives, classrooms and their local and global communities.
- **My Prairie Spirit Classroom (MPSC)** —is diverse in world view, culture, language, gender identity, ability and interests and this is how we learn together.
- **Student and Adult Safety and Well-Being**—“Caring, Healthy and Safe Schools” provides a focus on a wellness culture. Placing caring and healthy first reflects a priority for prevention along with a response to potential threats or traumatic events.



Prairie Spirit Aspirational Goals

Learning for Life for All

Successful learners • Meaningful relationships • Innovation operations • Pride and joy in work

Prairie Spirit Learners • Prairie Spirit Readers • Prairie Spirit Writers • Prairie Spirit Mathematicians • Prairie Spirit Graduates

Commitments

- **Responsible Partners**—The Board will continue to be a responsible partner with the Ministry of Education, the Province and the Funding Review Committee to achieve funding equity.
- **Balanced Budget**—The Board will submit a balanced budget to the Ministry in June .
- **School Division Risk Management (DRM)**—The Board commits to providing governance of the DRM program, as well as its risks and responses.
- **Budget Strategy**—In January, the Board will provide direction to achieve equitable distribution of funds and balance the budget. The strategy will be adjusted when new funding information is received until the final budget is submitted to the Ministry in June.
- **Expenditure Review**—Administration will continue to review expenditures for cost efficiencies.

Budget Development Plan

November 20—Fall Board Workshop – DRM

December 7-11—Budget Committee discussion – determine dates for virtual budget planning for Admin Council, Coordinators and Managers

December 7-January 8—Budget Committee members consultations with area of responsibility

January 11-15—Admin Council – Preparation for Board Retreat

January 29-30—Board Winter Workshop – Presentation of high-level budget for discussion

March 23—Deadline to receive preliminary budget information from budget managers. Deadline to receive staffing requests

March 23-April 1—Review of preliminary budget information with all budget managers

April 6 —Budget Day announcement

April 6-7—Examination of detailed budget information from the Ministry, seeking clarification where necessary and confirmation of numbers; presentation of budget day impact to Admin Council

April 19 Board Meeting—Presentation of budget day impact to the Board. Identify final priorities

May 7—Deadline to receive final budget information from budget managers

May 7-11—Work with Admin Council and budget managers to develop a draft balanced budget option(s) considering the final priorities of the Board and Admin Council

May 12— Final budget discussion with Admin Council

May 17—Board Meeting presentation of draft budget option(s) to the Board (min. 4 hr)

May 17-June 2—Work with Admin Council and budget managers to finalize budget based on Board feedback

June 7 Board Meeting—Presentation of final budget to the Board – if required

June 21 Board Meeting—Final budget approval by the Board