

Strategic Plan 2022 – 2027

# Public Consultation Saanich School District (#63) Summary Report

November 25, 2021



The Board of Education is committed to engaging with its communities to develop the 2022-2027 Strategic Plan for Saanich Schools.

The specific goals and strategies that are central to the Strategic Plan will be shaped by the district's core values and beliefs, vision, philosophy, mission, and guiding principles, all of which create the framework for everything we do to support our learning community.



# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 Focus Areas

#### 1. Literacy

Rationale:

The correlation between student success and early literacy intervention is clear. It is essential that literacy instruction is prioritized.

#### 2. Indigenous Learner Success

Rationale:

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission has called for us to recognize our moral imperative to have an educational system where we address achievement gaps for Indigenous students – to engage in educational practices where we protect the right to Indigenous languages, where students do not encounter barriers or systemic racism, and graduate with dignity, purpose and options.

#### 3. Mental Health & Wellness

Rationale:

Schools are the first step in the pathway of care, and they support mental health promotion by building resilience, creating supportive learning environments, and addressing barriers to positive mental health and wellness.

#### 4. Other Considerations

In the consultation process, we invited community members, parents/guardians, staff and students to offer insights and suggestions on other considerations for the Strategic Plan.





### Strategic Plan 2022 – 2027

*"Effective learning environments are* constantly creating synergies and finding new ways to enhance professional and social capital through connectivity with others. They do that with families and communities, with higher education, with businesses, and especially with other schools and learning environments...."

Schleicher, A. (2018), World Class: How to Build a 21<sup>st</sup>-Century School System



#### Strategic Plan 2022 – 2027

# **Executive Summary:**

- 1. Introduction and overview
- 2. The consultation process and information gathering instruments:
  - a) The E-Survey, information and findings
  - b) WSÁNEĆ consultation meetings
  - c) Student Engagement
- 3. Common themes





The E-Survey was made available for community members, parents/ guardians, staff, and students from October to November 10, 2021.

**540** people responded to the survey.

There were **1690** responses to the Strategic Plan Survey, demonstrating a significant community engagement from community members, parent guardians, staff and students.



#### Link to Survey: <a href="mailto:sd63.bc.ca/strategic-plan-2022-2027-consultation-survey">sd63.bc.ca/strategic-plan-2022-2027-consultation-survey</a>

	chool District to learn, Safe places to be				Sea	rch		
Our District -	Leadership & Governance 👻	Programs & Services 👻	Parents & Students -	Schools -	Careers	Sta	uff 🍤	1 💩
Home / Stra	tegic Plan 2022-2027 - Consultat	on Survey						

#### Strategic Plan 2022-2027 - Consultation Survey

#### Submitted by chenschel on October 4, 2021 - 9:32am

A Board's Strategic Plan is designed to be a living document, based on evidence, that provides the school district with focus areas on which to improve student achievement. It uses data to measure student improvement over time and is part of the planning cycle involving budget priorities and operational decisions.

A visual representation of this strategic planning process can be found HERE.

Based on a review of provincial, district and school-level evidence, the Board has narrowed its focus to three areas designed to improve student success in Saanich Schools:

- Literacy
- Indigenous Learner Success
- Mental Health and Wellness

A summary of various provincial reports on student achievement in Saanich can be found HERE.

Our district's 2021-22 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) report with examples of local data can be found HERE.

These three identified themes form the basis of the Board's consultation with staff, students, parents/guardians and the broader community. There is space for your comments about each theme should you wish to comment on one, two or all three of them.

Please note that there is also an area for you to suggest other evidence-driven areas for the Board's consideration in its next Strategic Plan.



*Responses according to questions:* 

Question	Ν	Percent
Literacy	382	22.0%
Indigenous Learner Support	358	21.2%
Mental Health and Wellness	448	26.5%
Other Considerations	249	14.7%
Questions	253	15.0%
TOTAL	1,690	100.0%



### *Question responses by group:*

Role	Question											
	Literacy	Indigenous Learner Support	Mental Health and Wellness	Other Considerations	Questions							
Community Member	1.7% (6)	1.7% (6)	3.6% (16)	4.4% (11)	5.5% (14)							
Parent or Guardian	65.2% (249)	69.3% (248)	67.4% (302)	73.5% (183)	73.9% (187)							
Staff	25.1% (96)	22.9% (82)	21.7% (97)	15.7% (39)	16.6% (42)							
Student	8.1% (31)	6.2% (22)	7.4% (33)	6.4% (16)	4.0% (10)							
TOTAL	100% (382)	100% (358)	100% (448)	100% (249)	100% (253)							



#### *Group response by question:*

Role	Question										
	Literacy	Indigenous Learner Support	Mental Health and Wellness	Other Considerations	Questions	TOTAL					
Community Member	11.32% (6)	11.3% (6)	30.2% (16)	20.8% (11)	26.4% (14)	100% (53)					
Parent or Guardian	21.3% (249)	21.2% (248)	25.9% (302)	15.7% (183)	16.0% (187)	100% (1,169)					
Staff	27.0% (96)	23.0% (82)	27.3% (97)	11.0% (39)	11.8% (42)	100% (356)					
Student	27.7% (31)	19.6% (22)	29.5% (33)	14.3% (16)	9.0% (10)	100% (112)					

#### Focus Area: Literacy

- Critical to focus on supporting literacy from Kindergarten to Grade 12
- Early intervention is also key
- More support for small group and one on one instruction
- Schools must cultivate a love of reading
- Success in literacy lays the foundation for students
- Focus on data and responding to it

"The first six years last forever."

"Text studies must reflect today's values. More effort should be made to find literature by women and BIPOC authors is critical."



#### Focus Area: Indigenous Learner Success

- Language is critical. SENĆOŦEN must be incorporated wherever possible
- Increase connections between schools, local communities and elders
- Increase staff support, in particular Indigenous EA support
- All staff must focus on belonging for Indigenous students
- Continue to focus on implementing the 94 calls to action
- Incorporate cultural activities into all schools

'All kids need tangible relationships with Indigenous communities."

"I see this as an opportunity for the Saanich School District to be a leader in incorporating Indigenous culture into the curriculum. Making Indigenous learning at school a top priority is paramount to reconciliation and rebuilding relationships between settlers and Indigenous communities."



#### Focus Area: Mental Health & Wellness

- Teach mental health literacy for students
- Early years are critical to lay foundation
- Consider staff wellness
- Increase staffing, in particular counsellors and YFCs
- Allow students to experience joy with extra-curricular activities and electives
- Focus on an anti-bullying strategy
- Reduce stigma and stereotypes

"I really want my kids to feel like they have a team behind them to support their emotional/social learning."

"Teach mental health in the same way as other subjects. Normalize the stigma."



#### Other Areas of Focus Identified:

- Numeracy
- Technology and Digital Literacy
- Life Skills
- Climate Sustainability
- Arts/Music
- Reconsider Mask Mandate

"I desperately believe that financial responsibilities should be taught in school."

"In today's technological times, numbers/numeracy is just as important as literacy."

"Studies have shown that children with a richer, more in depth arts/music education experience scores higher in literacy and numeracy."





#### Questions:

In summary, the questions were follow-ups on the main themes asked in the survey. For example:

- How can we ensure numeracy will be addressed?
- Can you expand literacy to include digital and media literacy?
- Where do teens go to get information on sexual health?
- I'd like to know about the district's commitment to and plan for the physical health of its students, teachers and staff?
- Do you have Indigenous people in Indigenous roles?
- Look at the systems in place. Are they culturally responsive and innovative?



Strategic Plan 2022-2027 WSÁNEĆ Community Survey

The WSÁNEĆ Community Survey was made available for community members, parents/guardians, staff, and students.

**341** responses were received, demonstrating significant community engagement.

The majority of respondents supported the three goals and offered many thoughtful suggestions regarding how the district could move forward. Other areas of focus were also suggested.



SAANICH

SCHOOLS

# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 WSÁNEĆ Community Survey

#### Strategic Plan 2022 – 2027

WSÁNEĆ First Nation Feedback

Indigenous Learner Success
<u>Rationale</u> : The Truth and Reconciliation Commission has called for us to recognize our moral imperative to have an educational system where we address achievement gaps for Indigenous students – to engage in educational practices where we protect the right to Indigenous languages, where students do not encounter barriers or systemic racism, and graduate with dignity, purpose and options.
Any Other Considerations?
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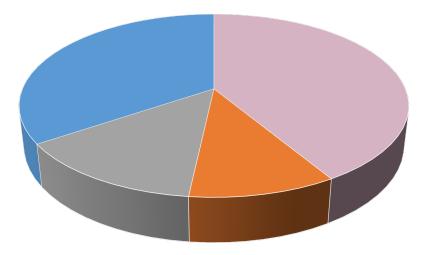
# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 WSÁNEĆ Community Survey

#### Responses by Survey Question:

		litional pports		lture & clusion		ogramming nancements)	Resources andTeaching ⫬ ClusteredToolsLearning		Total	Total				
Questions	N	%	Ν	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	Ν	%	N	%
Indigenous Learner Success	12	19.0%	31	49.2%	5	7.9%	2	3.2%	11	17.5%	2	3.2%	63	100%
Literacy	12	41.4%	3	10.3%	4	13.8%		0.0%	10	34.5%		0.0%	29	100%
Mental Health and Wellness	27	43.5%	17	27.4%	3	4.8%		0.0%	8	12.9%	7	11.3%	62	100%
Other Considerations	20	26.0%	24	31.2%	7	9.1%	2	2.6%	13	16.9%	11	14.3%	77	100%
Grand Total	71	30.7%	75	32.5%	19	8.2%	4	1.7%	42	18.2%	20	8.7%	231	100%



# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 WSÁNEĆ Community Survey



WSÁNEĆ Survey - Literacy			Examples:					
Additional Supports	12	41%	Stronger communication protocols					
Culture & Inclusion	3	10%	Find out why kids aren't talking					
Programming (Enhancements)	4	14%	A literacy protocol with SD63 and WSÁNEĆ School Board					
Resources & Tools	0	0%						
Teaching & Learning	10	34%	Focus on a K-12 Campaign to improve literacy					
Unclustered	0	0%						
<b>-</b> I	20							

Total

# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 WSÁNEĆ Community Survey

#### Focus Area: Literacy

- Identify support needs early and make sure students are not pushed through without intervention
- Strong communication with parents
- More books by Indigenous authors
- Involve community
- Add assessments to see how students are doing

"Don't push kíds through the system."

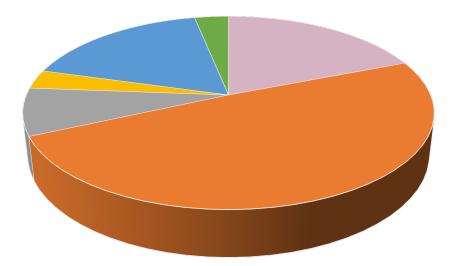
"Create a campaign to improve literacy K-12."

"Use Indígenous books; start having books published by Indígenous students."





# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 WSÁNEĆ Community Survey



#### WSÁNEĆ Survey - Indigenous Learner Success

Examples:

vy SAMEC Survey - margenous Lea	arrier Succes	5	Examples:
Additional Supports	12	19%	Career planning and life skills
Culture & Inclusion	31	49%	Respect rights to language and culture
Programming (Enhancements)	5	8%	SENĆOŦEN language offerings increased
Resources & Tools	2	3%	Use more Indigenous content/books
Teaching & Learning	11	17%	Support, validate and encourage Indigenous learners
Unclustered	2	3%	What would help to improve success?
Total	63		

# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 WSÁNEĆ Community Survey

#### Focus Area: Indigenous Learner Success

- Language is critical. SENĆOŦEN must be incorporated wherever possible
- Increase connections between schools, local communities and elders
- Develop an understanding of historical trauma
- Continue cultural competency training
- Make it a priority to implement the 94 calls to action
- Incorporate cultural activities into all schools
- Encourage staff to connect with families early and often
- Increase staffing

"Translate the Strategic Plan into the SENCOTEN language."

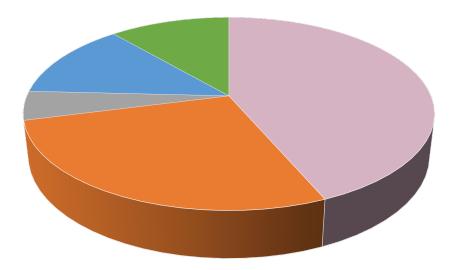
"There needs to be Indígenous teachers to lead Indígenous Language and Culture."

"Understand that our children are the survivors of residential school survivors."





# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 WSÁNEĆ Community Survey



#### WSÁNEĆ Survey - Mental Health & Wellness

			Examples:
Additional Supports	27	44%	Mental health services to support trauma
Culture & Inclusion	17	27%	Encourage cultural practices within families
Programming (Enhancements)	3	5%	More information about Jordan's principle
Resources & Tools	0	0%	
Teaching & Learning	8	13%	Following Individual Education Plans
Unclustered	7	11%	COVID-19
Total	62		

**Examples** 

# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 WSÁNEĆ Community Survey

#### Focus Area: Mental Health & Wellness

"No outlet to use all of the bottled up energy."

- Focus on understanding trauma
- Address opioid crisis
- Focus on overall wellness physical and mental
- Support counselling staff in making positive and culturally sensitive connections with students
- Explore Jordan's principle

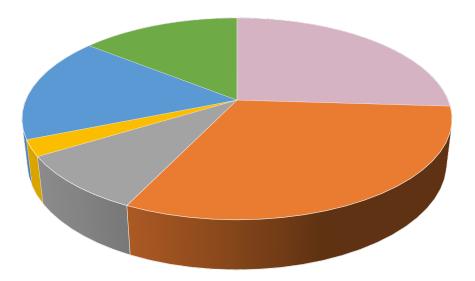
"Relationships are so important; develop relationships with the kids as they pick up vibes."

"Have compassion if the students are going through grief and loss. How much have they had in the past few years? Their feelings are bottled up."





# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 WSÁNEĆ Community Survey



#### WSÁNEĆ Survey - Other Considerations

ns		Examples:
20	26%	Elders to come into schools
24	31%	Cultural awareness at all schools
7	9%	More programs like TASK
2	3%	Access to technology
13	17%	Go outside more with students
11	14%	Thanks to Trustees for being here
	20 24 7 2 13	20       26%         24       31%         7       9%         2       3%         13       17%

# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 WSÁNEĆ Community Survey

#### Other Areas of Focus Identified

- Technology and Digital Literacy
- Life Skills

"Our children need to learn more about, and have an opportunity to use, technology."

"My child needs to learn about things like skills that he can use in real life."





# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 WSÁNEĆ Community Survey

SCHOOLS	Strategic Plan 2022 – WSÁNEĆ First Nation Fe	
	WSÁNEĆ Communi Discussion Topics	
A successful Strategic Plan uses da over time.	ata to identify key areas of potential district improven	nent. These areas use evidence to track student progres
<ol> <li>What are your thoughts on the Literacy</li> <li>Indigenous Learner Succonstruct</li> <li>Mental Health and Well</li> </ol>		ERSE SIDE to record comments
2. Are there other areas we sho	ould be exploring on a district-wide basis? See REVER	SE SIDE to record comments
3. Is there specific data or evide	ence, that we may have overlooked, that would help u	us determine if we are making a difference in our goals?



Strategic Plan 2022-2027 WSÁNEĆ Community Survey

#### *Responses by Discussion Questions:*

		ditional pports		ture & Iusion	-	ramming ncements)		rces and ools		ching & arning	Not	Clustered	То	tal
Questions	N	%	N	%	N	%	Ν	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
3 Focus Areas	7	19.4%	12	33.3%	3	8.3%	2	5.6%	6	16.7%	6	16.7%	36	100%
Goals	18	50.0%	6	16.7%	2	5.6%	0	0.0%	3	8.3%	7	19.4%	36	100%
Other Areas District Wide	11	28.9%	11	28.9%	5	13.2%	1	2.6%	9	23.7%	1	2.6%	38	100%
Grand Total	36	32.7%	29	26.4%	10	9.1%	3	2.7%	18	16.4%	14	12.7%	110	100%

# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 WSÁNEĆ Community Survey

*Responses by Discussion Questions:* 

- The notes from the discussion questions corresponded thematically with comments made on the feedback form.
- The discussion notes provided more personal stories to themes based on their own child's experiences.
- Each of Literacy, Indigenous Learner Success and Mental Health & Wellness were reinforced in the comments.
- Particularly of importance was the identified need to address the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) Calls to Action, building cultural capacity and trust, connection, sharing and communication with communities.



The Student Voice Engagement Survey collaborative sessions were held in schools with students and staff during October 2021.

#### Responses by Site:

	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Grand Total
<b>Claremont Secondary</b>	52	95	147
ILC	25	64	89
Parkland Secondary	21	112	133
SIDES	0	7	7
Stelly's Secondary	98	89	187
Grand Total	171	392	563

### Number of Responses:

	Count	%
Indigenous	171	30.4%
Non-Indigenous	392	69.6%
TOTAL	563	100%



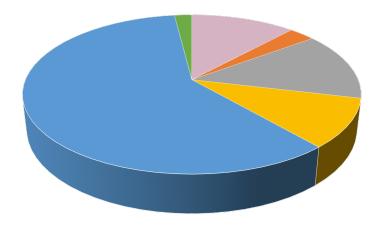
#### *Responses by Survey Question:*

		litional oports		ture & lusion	Programming (Enhancements)		Resources and Tools		Teaching & Learning		Not Clustered		Total	
Question	N	%	Ν	%	N	%	Ν	%	Ν	%	N	%	Ν	%
Other Considerations	25	21.6%	2	1.7%	16	13.8%	8	6.9%	63	54.3%	2	1.7%	116	100%
Indigenous Learners	27	17.2%	72	45.9%	37	23.6%	4	2.5%	15	9.6%	2	1.3%	157	100%
Literacy	12	11.9%	3	3.0%	14	13.9%	10	9.9%	60	59.4%	2	2.0%	101	100%
Mental Health	64	35.0%	9	4.9%	25	13.7%	3	1.6%	79	43.2%	3	1.6%	183	100%
Questions	2	33.3%		0.0%		0.0%	1	16.7%		0.0%	3	50.0%	6	100%
Grand Total	130	23.1%	86	15.3%	92	16.3%	26	4.6%	217	38.5%	12	2.1%	563	100%



Literacy	Indigenous Learner Success
Rationale: The correlation between student success and early literacy intervention is clear. It is essential that literacy instruction is prioritized.	Rationale: The Truth and Reconciliation Commission has called for us to recognize our moral imperative to have an educational system where we address achievement gaps for indigenous students – to engage in educational practices where we protect the right to Indigenous languages, where students do not encounter barriers or systemic racism, and graduate with dignity, purpose and options.
Mental Health and Wellness <u>Rationale</u> : Schools are the first step in the pathway of care, and they support mental health promotion by building resilience, creating supportive learning environments, and addressing barriers to positive mental health and wellness.	Any Other Considerations?
Questions:	1





Student Voice: Literacy Examples:					
Additional Supports	12	12%	Early supports for struggling readers		
Culture & Inclusion	3	3%	Increased Indigenous content		
Programming (Enhancements)	14	14%	Transferring concepts between subjects (secondary)		
Resources & Tools	10	10%	High interest reading materials		
Teaching & Learning	60	59%	In depth strategies for early years		
Unclustered	2	2%	Keep kids from skipping class		
Total	101				

#### Focus Area: Literacy

- Early intervention is key
- Pick resources that are engaging, current and culturally appropriate
- Phonics are important
- More support for small group and one on one instruction. Support students before they fall behind
- Positive teacher/student interactions are important
- Extra support in classes is needed

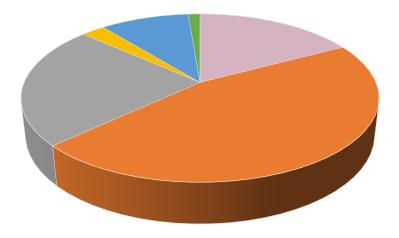
"Students who struggle with reading shouldn't be isolated."

> "We need relevant and contemporary content."

"There is a need for additional support at certain schools. How will we overcome this issue and put equity over equality?"







Student Voice: Indigenous Learner Success			Examples:
Additional Supports	27	17%	Former Indigenous grads as coaches
Culture & Inclusion	72	46%	Addressing racism
Programming (Enhancements)	37	24%	Indigenous language classes earlier
Resources & Tools	4	3%	More bus routes for On Reserve students
Teaching & Learning	15	10%	Build teacher knowledge Truth & Reconciliation
Unclustered	2	1%	Hard to give opinions on this
Total	157		

#### Focus Area: Indigenous Learner Success

- Language is critical. SENĆOŦEN must be incorporated wherever possible
- Increase connections between schools, local communities and elders
- Increase staff support, in particular Indigenous EA support
- Focus on implementing the 94 calls to action
- Focus on addressing racism
- Incorporate cultural activities into all schools
- Consider the impacts of generational trauma

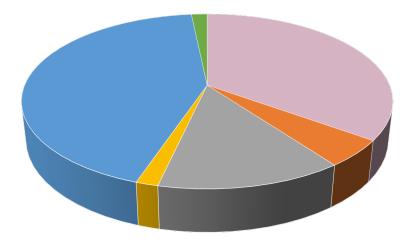
"Include Indígenous culture, tradítions and content in all subjects, not just social studies."

"We need more land-based learning."

"Why is French mandatory? SENCOTEN should be equally as important!"







Student Voice: Mental Health & Wellnes	S		Examples:
Additional Supports	64	35%	Early intervention strategies
Culture & Inclusion	9	5%	There needs to be greater acceptance for diversity
Programming (Enhancements)	25	14%	More outside activity & movement
Resources & Tools	3	2%	Flexible online resources for students
Teaching & Learning	79	43%	More Mental Health check ins for all students
Unclustered	3	2%	Cross grade activity
Total	183		

#### Focus Area: Mental Health & Wellness

- Have mandatory mental health check ins for students
- Movement and physical activity is vital to supporting mental health
- Address the stigma--normalize conversations about mental health
- Teach strategies from a young age
- Support staff so they are better able to support students
- Create an atmosphere that is open and culturally sensitive
- Focus on an anti-bullying strategy

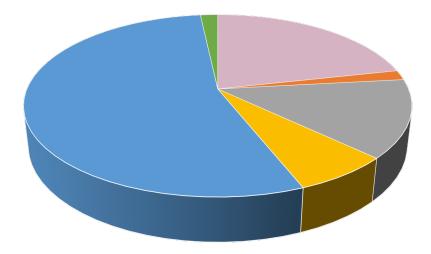
"We need to learn about mental health in the class and not just after something happens."

"Mandatory mental health check ins are necessary in high school."

"More movement; we need to get out and do and experience things."







Student Voice: Other Considerations	Examples:			
Additional Supports	25	22%	Educate parents on how to support students	
Culture & Inclusion	2	2%	More accessibility (for disabilities)	
Programming (Enhancements)	16	14%	More about sexuality, information, awareness	
Resources & Tools	8	7%	Facility upgrades: cafeteria, gym	
Teaching & Learning	63	54%	Personalization of learning	
Unclustered	2	2%	Fundraising	
Total	116			

### Other Areas of Focus Identified

- Technology and Digital Literacy
- Life Skills
- Climate Sustainability
- Arts/Music/Sports
- Encouragement and support

"Access to technology for learning."

"We need programs/skills that prepare us for the world."

"The Arts are so important in our schools."





Strategic Plan 2022-2027 Emergent Themes

#### Literacy: - K-12 Prioritization

- Early Years intervention and support
- Age appropriate learning experiences
- Wide range of resources and supports
- Advancing classroom practices and assessment strategies
- Involving parents and guardians

### Indigenous Learner Success

- Importance of addressing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) Calls to Action
- Language and cultural opportunities
- Connections and relational trust between school, community and elders
- Building cultural competency across the district



# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 Emergent Themes

### Mental Health & Wellness

- Mental health literacy for all students
- Need for counselling and supports to address trauma and stigma around mental health
- Training across our district to support students, staff and families and communities

### **Other Considerations**

- Numeracy
- The Arts
- Digital Literacy
- Learning experience connected to the larger world
- Equity of Opportunity / Equity of Success



# Strategic Plan 2022-2027 In Closing...

