School District #70
Alternative Programs School Plan 2009

Summary of Review and Analysis of 2008 School Plan

Goal: # 1: Improve the social, emotional and physical health of all students.

Observations From 2008:

- In comparing the Student Satisfaction survey results it is significant to note that students in our Alternative programs still feel safer (82%) than the District average (56-65%) or the Provincial average (72-78%)
- In comparing the satisfaction survey results it is significant to note that students in our Alternative programs feel their teachers care more about them (100%) than the district average (47%) in grades 10 and 12 and the provincial average (52%).
- In comparing the satisfaction survey results it is significant to note that in our Alternative programs students feel staff treat them fairly (91%) as compared to the district average (45%) in grades 10 and 12 and the provincial average (50%).
- In comparing the satisfaction survey results it is significant to note that a higher percentage of students in our Alternative programs feel they get the help they need (80%) compared to the district average of (72%) in grades 10 and 12 and the provincial average (72%).
- In comparing our satisfaction survey result regarding a safe and caring school we continue to see very high satisfaction among our students.
- Our programs are approaching our ultimate goal of eliminating bullying, intimidation and harassment in the senior grades (10 and 12) and seeing steady improvement in the younger grades (7 and 8).
- Healthy physical activity among our senior grades has improved to 54% satisfied from a baseline of 27% in 2003.
- An increasing number of students are open to finding alternative, more peaceful means to resolving problems with others as is reported in our project cohort study.
- The percentage of students involved in activities that help others continues to grow each year.
- Issues around racism and prejudice are minimal in our Alternative programs and this is consistent with how students reported in the surveys 91% satisfaction.
- We are seeing improvements in the numbers of students displaying empathy toward others; however, the data is still showing a lot of need for improvement.
- Observations and new data show continued need for concern around issues such as…. Teenage pregnancy, particularly among Aboriginal girls, Drug abuse (crystal meth), Youth crime, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Poor health decisions, Family dysfunctions and more.
- We continue to see an increase in the number of students coming to us with significant mental health issues and for whom little intervention and support is in place in the community.
- We are seeing an increase in the number of students seeking and moving toward independent living at younger and younger ages.
- The transition beyond our programs is very difficult for many students socially and emotionally. They lack support outside of school.

- We are seeing an increase in the number of students coming to us with significant learning issues or cognitive limitations and we are limited in our resources to assist them.
- Increasing numbers of students are in need of financial assistance just for the necessities; a high percentage of our students live in poverty.
- Expanded partnerships with community groups, agencies and business have created more and varied opportunities for our students.
- We note an increase in our student's awareness of school expectations that we attribute to our Mission Statement and Code of Conduct.
- MCFD is underfunded and overwhelmed by the needs of youth in our community.
- SERT time has been extremely valuable but is no where near adequate for the needs we have. Having this person at the school has proven critical.

Recommendations For Goal # 1:

1. Social Responsibility as reflected in this goal must remain of paramount importance to the work being done in the Alternative Programs of SD 70.

2. Continue to promote our Mission Statement that clearly articulates this set of priorities.

3. Continue to promote our School Code of Conduct that appropriately represents this focus on Social Responsibility.

.

4. Increase the number of initiatives and strategies focused on health related issues and health related decision making.

5. Initiate more opportunities for student learning in communication, conflict resolution, anger management and other pro social skills.

6. Expand and enhance the partnerships we have with agencies such as Youth Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol, Public Health, Women's Resources and others.

7. Investigate other services and programs available to address youth mental health issues.

8. Review the role of our Public Health Nurse to return to on site clinical visits and access to birth control, pregnancy testing, STD testing etc.

9. Continue to Review the role of School Based Team and improve its structure, organization and delivery.

10. Work to develop a community mentorship program to assist students with post secondary transitions.

11. Review services available to students with significant cognitive, social and financial barriers.

12. Ensure that students are aware of the support services available to them both at school and in the community.

13. Have Vast Leadership take a more active role in Social Responsibility Education.

14. Increase the number of supports and programs for healthy life choices, i.e. Kic It, groups, role models.

15. Envelop the programming and culture of Boys Project around the theme of Social Responsibility.

Goal # 2: Increase the number of students returning to school, staying in school, graduating and going on to employment or post secondary educational / training.

Observations From 2008:

- Enrollment increased again in 2008.
- Adult enrolment was the main increase.
- A growing number of these adults have significant academic or cognitive challenges and our programs do not have the interventions or resources to meet many of these needs.
- The Choices Program enrollment continues to increase significantly in grades 10-12.
- We exceeded our target increase for transitioning students from the Options Focus Program due to the high needs of the students enrolled. In 2008 75% of the Options Focus students transitioned to other programs or schools.
- Our initial observations were correct that attendance is still a concern. However, in 2008 we did see an improvement in the percentage of students meeting minimal attendance requirements at Vast.
- We graduated another large group in 2008 with Vast students qualifying to walk our stage along another shared ADSS students. This continues the steady increase of the last 10 years.
- Vast students continue to show considerable satisfaction with how they are being prepared for employment and post secondary education. (Grade 12's 82%).
- We are seeing increasing numbers of students coming to all of our programs with significant academic and special needs challenges.
- We had 126 designated special needs students in 2008.
- We had a significant number of males who graduated in 2008 to 24.

Recommendations for Goal # 2:

1. Increase the support available to students with cognitive and special needs challenges.

2. Continue to establish initiatives designed to meet student needs for career education, life skills, job skills and preparation for the world of work.

3. Make the School Completion Program more relevant and meaningful.

4. Continue to expand our remote adult programs particularly in the west coast area.

5. Formalize the Certification Program as part of planning, CAPP and grad transitions.

6. Continue to revise and build on our Literacy programs and supports.

7. Research and develop a comprehensive community mentorship program to assist students particularly with transitions.

8. Continue to improve and refine the screening, intake, planning and tracking processes for all students with advisors taking the central role.

9. Improve communication with parents and the public.

10. Develop improved marketing strategies for all programs.

11. Continue to develop specific initiatives to address improving attendance.

12. Advisors must play the key role in tracking Planning 10, Capp A12, and grad transitions credits.

13. Conduct student forums and surveys to gather input on current needs, gaps, concerns and future hopes and visions.

14. Develop a strategic marketing plan

15. Increase real life learning opportunities.

16. Investigate enhanced services for remote communities.

School District #70
Alternative Programs School Plan 2009

2009 School Plan

Goal # 1: Improve the social, emotional and physical health of all students.

Rationale:

One of the biggest challenges facing schools and more importantly their students today is in the area of social, emotional and physical health. Students coming to alternative programs disproportionately face more challenges in this area than the average students in the education system. This fact has been supported time and again. The socio-economic indices produced by BC Stats in 2007 rates our region as the number two most challenged region in the entire province based on factors such as economic hardship, crime, health problems, education concerns, children at risk and youth at risk. These factors have a huge impact on our students and the work we do. Another prominent indicator of the need for work in this area was the data collected by the Search Institute in 2001 when they conducted a community survey of youth in Port Alberni. Using assessment instruments such as the Provincial Satisfaction Survey, the BC Social Responsibility Performance Standards, school services and most recently the Provincial Citizenship Survey, we are tracking the progress of our students in this crucial area. We are extremely happy with the improvements we are seeing in areas such as safety, caring, bullying, physical activity, resolving problems peacefully, helping others and respecting diversity. We believe these improvements are directly responsible for improvement in many other areas as well including retention and graduation. This is why we have consistently placed this goal as our highest priority. Following Maslow's theory of the hierarchy of needs, we believe that without addressing the survival needs for food shelter, safety, love, belonging and self esteem, we have little chance of success with our students in the higher needs.

Objective 1: Increase the percentage of students who feel school is a safe and caring environment.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
School Survey (Feel Safe) Baseline 2002: 75% 2003: 75%	87%	91%	91%	93%	90%	95%		100%
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (Safety) Grade 7 Baseline 2002: N/A 2003: 60%	63%	78%	82%	85%	82%	95%		100%
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (Safety) Grade 10 2002: N/A 2003: 70%	82%	79%	82%	85%	84%	95%		100%
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (Safety) Grade 12 Baseline 2002: /NA 2003: 60%	92%	90%	88%	95%	86%	95%		100%

School District #70
Alternative Programs School Plan 2009

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (Caring) Grade 7 2002: N/A Baseline 2003: 60%	91%	86%	87%	90%	85%	90%		5/5 100%
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (Caring) Grade 10 2002: N/A Baseline 2003: 22%	75%	95%	70%	90%	92%	95%		100%
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (Caring) Grade 12 2002: N/A Baseline 2003: 33%	81%	89%	85%	90%	100%	100%		100%
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (Bullied) Grade 7 2002: N/A Baseline 2003: 50%	54%	87%	85%	90%	87%	90%		100%
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (Bullied) Grade 10 2002: N/A Baseline 2003: 70%	85%	100%	94%	100%	98%	100%		100%
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (Bullied) Grade 12 2002: N/A Baseline 2003: 76%	85%	97%	88%	100%	100%	100%		100%

Objective 2: Increase the percentage of VAST students regularly involved in healthy physical activity (Many or all)

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
Provincial Satisfaction Survey Grade 10 2002: N/A Baseline 2003: 30%	57%	52%	48%	60%	62%	65%		80%
Provincial Satisfaction Survey Grade 12 2002: N/A Baseline 2003: 27%	32%	28%	22%	40%	54%	60%		70%

Objective 3: Increase the percentage of students who at least minimally meet standards for getting along with others and resolving problems peacefully

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
Provincial Citizenship Survey (Solutions) 2002: N/A 2003: N/A	70%	74%	75%	80%	76%	80%		90%

School District #70
Alternative Programs School Plan 2009

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (getting along, meet or exceed) Gr. 7 2002: N/A Baseline 2003: 70%	80%	82%	83%	85%	83%	85%		95%
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (getting along, meet or exceed) Gr. 10 2002: N/A Baseline 2003: 50%	68%	70%	72%	75%	74%	75%		90%
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (getting along, meet or exceed) Gr. 12 2002: N/A Baseline 2003: 58%	73%	75%	76%	80%	82%	83%		90%
Social Responsibility Performance Standards Quick scale (Project classes, cohort Improvement) 2002: N/A Baseline 2003: Sep 16% Jun 60%	Sept. 13% June 64% Increase 51%	Sept. 20% June 41% Increase 100%	Sept. 22% June 50% Increase 120%	Increase 150%	No Data			Increase 200%

Objective 4: Increase the percentage of students who are regularly meeting or exceeding the standards for being involved with helping others.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
Provincial Citizenship Survey (Helping others) 2002: N/A 2003: N/A	59%	70%	72%	75%	No Data	75%		80%
Social Responsibility Performance Standards (Contributing) Project Classes Cohort Study 2002: Meeting or minimally meeting 2003: Sept 3% June 33% Increase 300%	Sept.– 1% June 45% Increase 440%	Sept. 10% June 50% Increase 500%	Sept. 10% June 55% Increase 500%+	Increase 500%+	No Data			Increase 600%

School District #70
Alternative Programs School Plan 2009

Objective 5: Increase the percentage of students who minimally meet, meet or exceed expectations for respecting diversity and human rights.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (Respect) Grade 7 2003: 60%	81%	88%	85%	90%	86%	90%		90%
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (Respect)Grade 10 2003: 90%	85%	92%	68%	80%	85%	90%		100%
Provincial Satisfaction Survey (Respect)Grade 12 2003: 97%	92%	100%	90%	100%	91%	95%		100%
Social Responsibility Performance Standards, Quickscale Project cohort study 2003: Sep 32% Jun 60% Baseline increase 100%	Sept. 30% June 70% Increase 400%	Sept. 25% June 60% Increase 120%	Sept. 21% June 55% Increase 120%	Increase 120%	No Data			Increase 150%
Provincial Citizenship Survey (Judgment) 2003: N/A	75%	80%	75%	80%	No Data	80%		95%
Provincial Satisfaction Do you feel respected			92% Baseline	95%	100%	100%		100%

Objective 6: Decrease the percentage of students in our programs who report that they regularly smoke cigarettes.

Assessment Instrument	2007 Baseline	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
Provincial Satisfaction (Smoking) Grade 10 Everyday Occasionally Never	 35% 29% 35%	 30% 25% 45%	 40% 40% 20%	 35% 30% 35%		 30% 25% 45%
Provincial Satisfaction (Smoking) Grade 12 Everyday Occasionally Never	 37% 17% 46%	 35% 15% 50%	 45% 9% 45%	 35% 5% 60%		 25% 5% 65%

School District #70
Alternative Programs School Plan 2009

Objective 7: Increase the percentage of students who are aware of the supports and services available to them.

Assessment Instrument	2007 Baseline	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
Satisfaction Survey Medical/Dental Health						
Grade 10	**24%**	**30%**	**25%**	**30%**		**50%**
Grade 12	**20%**	**30%**	**10%**	**25%**		**50%**
Satisfaction Survey Emotional/Mental Health						
Grade 10	**44%**	**50%**	**75%**	**80%**		**70%**
Grade 12	**44%**	**50%**	**72%**	**75%**		**70%**
Satisfaction Survey Advisor						
Grade 10	**71%**	**80%**	**100%**	**100%**		**100%**
Grade 12	**81%**	**85%**	**91%**	**95%**		**100%**

Structures for Goal # 1:

- School Based Team procedures and protocol.
- SERT Counsellor time
- Internal and an External Referral process for support services.
- Increased time for our Integration Support Teacher Assistant.
- Three Youth Care Workers at Vast, two at Project.
- New Behavior Aid position.
- RCMP Liaison Program.
- Hummingburde Day Care partnership and Young Mom's Program.
- Vast Certification Program.
- Close partnerships with Women's Resources, Youth Mental Health, Family Guidance, Youth Public Health Centre, Drug and Alcohol and Addictions, Youth Probation, MCFD, USMA and many other public and private agencies.
- Teacher Advisement Program has been refined and solidified as the most important link for our students.
- Thorough intake process including application, referral, screening, background check, interview, file search, assessment and program and grad planning.
- School District #70 Alternative Education Advisory Committee includes representation from all Alternative Programs as well as community agencies such as the NTC, Youth Probation and MCFD.

- School Meals Programs at Vast and Project class including availability of individual grocery vouchers.
- Kic It Program and other community partnerships.
- Girls Group.
- Yearly retreat session for boys with David Hatfield.
- Twice per week staff meetings with student agenda.
- Leadership classes.
- Yearly sessions with Michael Bortolotto.

Goal # 1: Improve the social, emotional and physical health of all students.

SCHOOL INITIATIVES/STRATEGIES	TIMELINE/STATUS
Reinstall weekly Public Health Nurse clinics including access to birth control, pregnancy testing, STD screening, etc.	2009
Bring in additional guest speakers on topics such as Date Rape, AIDS, Drugs and Alcohol, Crystal Meth, Youth Justice Act, etc.	2009
Hold at least 3 Community Dinners at VAST at Thanksgiving, Christmas and once in the spring coordinated by our Student Leadership class and our Youth Care Workers.	Ongoing
Weekly Wednesday hot lunches at VAST.	Ongoing
Transportation vouchers.	Ongoing
Maintain and improve partnerships with all community agencies.	Ongoing
Expand our Certification Program to include workshops on Conflict Resolution, Communication, Critical Thinking, Drug and Alcohol issues, etc.	Ongoing
Continue to expand service-learning opportunities in all programs.	Ongoing
Initiate dialogue around issues and education for staff and students about FAS	Ongoing
Expand the number of group/social opportunities for students at VAST	Ongoing
Continue to emphasize student advisement as a critical role in the hiring qualifications for all teaching staff.	Ongoing
Expand the student recognition program at VAST	Ongoing
Regular student reviews by advisement team each term.	Ongoing
Advisors take a more thorough role in the intake process at VAST.	2008-2009
Stronger partnership and direct programming with Youth Mental Health	2009
First Nations STD video project with NTC	2009
Increase opportunities for Kic It and other healthy lifestyle education	Ongoing
Continue to expand and refine our Outdoor Education program	Ongoing
Daily Physical Education opportunities at Vast	2008-2009
Support School and Community Drug & Alcohol Education initiatives	Ongoing
Leadership class take a Social Responsibility agenda	2009
Expand culturally specific activities for First Nations	2009
Bortolotto session on life choices	2009
Counsellor review of all applications before interview	2009
Involve Scott Elias in the restructuring and reculturation of Boys Project	2009

School District #70
Alternative Programs School Plan 2009

Goal # 2: Recover, retain, rejuvenate and release! Increase the numbers of students returning to school, staying in school, graduating and going on to employment or post secondary education/training.

Rationale: This is a multi-faceted goal that we cannot exclude one part. We must get students back to school by having something viable to offer them. We must keep them in school by making it relevant and realistically successful. We must strive to help them graduate and to have that sense of accomplishment and fulfillment. Students require alternative pathways to graduation. We must prepare them to move on to meaningful employment or further training/education in order to become healthy adults and contributing citizens in our society. Our data shows that our enrolment numbers increased significantly every year for 10 years at a time when our overall District enrolment decreased each year. We take this as an indication that our programs are providing an increasingly viable service to our students. We must continue to develop strategies to attract students back to school and to our District. Our Alternative Programs now offer more choice than ever to students and parents from traditional alternate programs, individualized self-paced programs, upgrading programs, basic literacy and numeracy programs and distance education and online programs. Our data indicates that we are having some success with many facets of this complex goal. The Options Focus Program is successful when we retain students and then help them transition to another program or school once they have some stability. Our data indicates that our Options transition rate has been improving significantly for several years. Attendance is another major indicator of improved attitude and motivation, and a prime contributing factor in academic progress and success. Various initiatives over the last years have resulted in improvements of between 4% and 6% per year. Each year for the past 10 years we have increased the number of students who graduated from our programs to an all time high of 73 in 2008. We also track a three year grad rate which has risen every year since we established our baseline of 33% in 2002. In 2008 the percentage of students graduating within 3 years of entering a grad program had reached 86%. Our goal is to eventually get this stat to 100%. In our opinion it is not enough to graduate students. The Provincial Satisfaction Survey in 2008 again showed an increase in the percentage of students who felt that they were being well prepared for their immediate future in either employment or post secondary education. This continuum of service is an essential ingredient of the improvement and growth of the Alternative Programs of School District No. 70 (Alberni).

Objective 1: Increase the numbers of students returning to school or staying in school.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
School Data **Total Enrolment Sept. 30 (Combined Alt & DL)** **2002: 14%299** **2003:+10%/329**	**+25%** **479**	**0%** **477**	**531**	**550**	**617**	**600**		**650**
School Data **School Age Enrolment Sept. 30(Combined Alt & DL)** **2002: 23%/193** **2003: +6%/ 205**	**+25%** **264**	**-3%** **257**	**316**	**350**	**369**	**360**		**400**

School District #70
Alternative Programs School Plan 2009

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
School Data Adult Sept. 30 Enrollment 2002: +2%/106 2003: +17%/124	+12% 195	-3% 187	Total –215 Alt – 205 DL - 10	240 225 15	248 234 14	260 245 15		Total – 275 Alt – 255 DL – 20
School Data DL Enrollment Sept. 30	61 Baseline	47% 90	160	200	192	200		250
School Data Total FTE based on Sept. 30 Enrollments 2003: +5%/271	+23% 385	-6% 363	Total –358 Alt – 283 DL – 38 Feb DL 17 May DL20	400 300 50 25 25	315 32 35	420 320 30 35 35		Total – 450 Alt-330 DL- 120

Objective 2: Increase the percentage of students in Options Focus who transition to another program or school.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
School Data Total 2002: 33% 2003: 47%	50%	60%	73%	75%	72%	75%		80%

Objective 3: Increase the percentage of students who meet or exceed expectations for attendance in Options and VAST Programs.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
School Records Options Total 2002: 25% 2003: 31%	37%	41%	42%	45%	43%	48%		50%
School Records VAST Total: 2002: 14% 2003: 18%	23%	28%	31%	35%	36%	40%		40%

Objective 4: Increase the percentage of students who graduate within 3 years of entering a grad program in SD 70 Alternate Programs.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
School Records Total 2002: 30% 2003: 48%	52%	80%	82%	85%	84%	86%		90%

School District #70
Alternative Programs School Plan 2009

Objective 5: Increase the number of students graduating from SD 70 Alternative programs each year.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
School Data Total Baseline 1999: 10 2002: 40 2003: 43	45	50	58	60	73	60		75
School Data Total VAST only Baseline 1999: 10 2002: 30 2003: 31	38	38	50	50	47	50		50
School Data VAST/ADSS/ Baseline: 1999: 0 2002: 10 2003: 12	9	15	8	10	26	10		25
Choices (Additional)			Baseline 22	30	39	40		

Objective 6: Increase the numbers of males graduating from SD70 Alternative Programs each year.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
School Data Total	Baseline: 7	18	25	25	24	25		30

Objective 7: Increase the percentage of VAST students enrolled in a CAPP or Work Experience Course who successfully complete it.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
School Data (CAPP) 2002: 10% 2003: 42%	50%	65%	67%	70%	68%	70%		75%
School Data (WEX12) Baseline: 2002: 1% 2003: 78%	75%	90%	93%	95%	92%	95%		100%

Objective 8: Increase the percentage of VAST Graduates moving on to employment or post secondary education.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
Post Grad Survey (Employment) Baseline: 2002: 46% 2003: 45%	53%	47%	42%	45%	46%	47%		50%
Post Grad Survey (Post Secondary) 2002: 22% 2003: 19%	48%	47%	45%	47%	46%	47%		50%

School District #70
Alternative Programs School Plan 2009

Objective 9: Increase the percentage of students who feel they are prepared for their future.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
Provincial Satisfaction Survey, Employment – Grade 10 Baseline 2003: 56%	71%	75%	60%	70%	68%	70%		75%
Provincial Satisfaction Survey, Employment – Grade 12 Baseline 2003: 37%	73%	76%	73%	75%	82%	83%		85%
Provincial Satisfaction Post Secondary – Grade 10 Baseline 2003: 40%	69%	61%	65%	70%	68%	70%		75%
Provincial Satisfaction Post Secondary – Grade 12 Baseline 2003: 29%	75%	69%	80%	80%	82%	83%		85%

Objective 10: Increase the number of Choices DL students successfully completing courses at the grade 10-12 level.

Assessment Instrument	2008 Baseline	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
School Records and SADE submission	Baseline data being gathered	TBA		TBA

Objective 11: Increase the percentage of eligible students participating in Provincial and District Assessments.

Assessment Instrument	2007 Baseline	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
Foundation Skills Assessment	30%	50%	100%	100%		
Benchmarking		Baseline				
District Assessments		Baseline				

Structures for Goal # 2:

- Many of the structures listed under Goal # 1 are also applicable and important to the support of this goal.
- Teacher Advisement is critical to the planning, tracking and monitoring of students progress, course selection and grad planning.
- Screening, intake and planning process.
- Development of clear and understandable Graduation forms.
- Course Adjudication process through Prior Learning, Equivalency, External Credits etc.
- Post Secondary financial awards and bursary program.
- Integrated Support Teacher Assistant at Vast.
- School Based Team process and case management.
- Thorough and meaningful IEP's.
- Coordinator position responsible for career education.
- A Youth Care Worker for pre-employment initiatives.
- Vast Recognition Program.
- Vast, Project and Choices newsletters.
- Newspaper articles.
- Vast Graduation Celebration.
- Literacy and Numeracy Upgrading Program.
- Full time learning assistance/counselling.
- Literacy Committee.
- Language Arts Are Fun class (LAF).
- Software support programs such as Co-Writer and Kurzwiel.
- High interest, age appropriate and ability levelled reading library.
- Youth Care Worker's home liaison.

- Individualized learning packages.
- Online platforms.
- Transitions Committee.
- Staff curriculum development responsibilities.

Goal # 2 - Recover, Retain, Rejuvenate and Release! Increase the numbers of students returning to school, staying in school, graduating and going on to employment or post-secondary education/training.

SCHOOL INITIATIVES/STRATEGIES	TIMELINE/STATUS
Continue to improve our public information to parents and the community with initiatives such as regular newsletters, updates on our websites, mailings, newspaper articles, etc…	Ongoing
Improve our intake procedures. Be more thorough in collecting background information and ensuring that advisors have all the necessary information. Revision of intake forms. Counsellor review of all applications before referral to advisor	2009
Increase the number and quality of online Vast courses in Moodle.	Ongoing
Increase the opportunities for work experience.	Ongoing
Strengthen the ESD program for direct instruction in reading and comprehension at VAST and project classes. English Skills Development both individually and in small groups.	Ongoing
Revise outdated or stale courses.	Ongoing
Continue to add video, online resources, etc. to courses.	Ongoing
Develop a more comprehensive and meaningful school completion program.	Ongoing
Implement weekly LAF class & Movie sessions	2008-2009
Investigate closer partnerships with ADSS & NIC Trades training	2009
Create a broader range of learning opportunities for our students including guest speakers, field trips, service learning group sessions, community partnerships, etc.	Ongoing
Replace outdated computer hardware.	Ongoing
Increase certification courses around employment and the world of work.	Ongoing
Produce a brochure of scholarship and bursary opportunities available to graduating students.	2009
Investigate future physical plant needs/locations and implications of new ADSS	2009
Student information updates twice per week	Ongoing
Expand adult programs in the Tofino, Ucluelet. Tseshaht & Ahousaht areas	2009
Extensive marketing plan initiative	2009
Develop a strategic marketing plan.	2009
Transitions committee to research and plan for improved transitions after secondary school – to work, community living and post secondary schooling.	Ongoing
Research portable shop concept for remote sites	2009
Research & development of Foundations courses	2009
Continue to explore local business partnerships	2009
Yearly student forums in the spring	2009

School District #70
Alternative Programs School Plan 2009

Regular communication with Choices DL parents	**2008-2010**
Educate Choices DL parents on the value of regular Provincial and District Assessments	**2009**
Improve the monitoring, tracking and communication with grade 10-12 Choices students	**Ongoing**

Goal # 2A Increase the numbers of Aboriginal students who return to school, stay in school, graduate and move on to employment or post secondary education/training.

Rationale: (Also see Rationale for goal # 2) Aboriginal students continue to be disadvantaged in our school system and have a lower rate of success in our district. In order to accomplish this goal we must find ways to get Aboriginal students back to school by having something viable to offer them. We must keep the in school by making it relevant and realistically successful. We must strive to help them graduate and to have that sense of accomplishment. We must prepare them to move on to meaningful employment or further training/education in order to become healthy adults and contributing citizens in our society. Our data shows that our programs comprise 46% Aboriginal students in 2008. Aboriginal adults comprise 61% of our adult enrollment. Our strategies must reflect the needs of this population for upgrading in literacy and numeracy and experiential learning. The actual number of Aboriginal students graduating took a big jump in 2005 from 6 in 2004 to 16. We had 12 Aboriginal Grads in 2006, 17 in 2007 and now 22 in 2008, so the improvement is positive.

Objective # 1: Increase the number of Aboriginal students returning to school or staying in school.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
School Data Total Aboriginal Sept. 30th 2003: 110/329 33%	204/479 43%	197/477 41%	269/531 49%	275/550 50%	285/617 46%	290 46%		300/650 46%
School Data FN school age enrollment	76/210 36%	109/272 40%	108/316 34%	125/350 36%	122/369 33%	125 33%		135/400 34%
School Data FN Adult Enrollment Sept. 30	88/173 51%	100/193 52%	145/215 67%	150/240 63%	153/248 61%	160 60%		160/250 64%
Total FTE	135	172	175	180	183	188		190

Objective 2: Increase the percentage of Aboriginal students who graduate within 3 years of entering a Grad program at VAST.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
School Data Baseline: 2002: 42% 2003: 52%	62%	83%	85%	88%	86%	90%		100%

School District #70
Alternative Programs School Plan 2009

Objective 3: Increase the number of Aboriginal students graduating from District Alternative Programs each year.

Assessment Instrument	2004/05	2005/06	2007	2008 Target	2008 Results	2009 Target	2009 Results	2010 Target
School Data 2002: 8 2003: 7	16	12	17	18	22	25		25

Structures for Goal # 2A:

- **Most of the structures listed for Goal # 2 also support this goal.**
- **Full time Native Education Worker**
- **Addition of an Integration Support Teacher Assistant at VAST.**
- **English Skills Development program is full time.**
- **Weekly First Nations group at VAST.**
- **Teacher in Hot Springs.**
- **Maintain consistent structures in Ditidaht.**
- **Adjudication of Prior Learning and Equivalency.**
- **Aboriginal component at Graduation celebration.**
- **NTC Scholarship program.**
- **Adult programs in remote First Nations sites.**
- **New part time teacher in Bamfield.**
- **West Coast Adult Ed teacher.**
- **Cultural Leadership Group.**

Goal #2A: Increase the numbers of Aboriginal students who return to school stay in school, graduate and move on to employment or post-secondary education/training.

SCHOOL INITIATIVES/STRATEGIES	TIMELINE/STATUS
See initiatives/strategies for Goal 2	
Establish a more consistent and thorough process of tracking and home contact for our Aboriginal students through our Native Education Worker.	Ongoing
Continue a consistent Aboriginal Program including history, art, culture and language.	Ongoing
Enhance our partnership with the local Friendship Centre through Focus Groups and other joint initiatives.	Ongoing
Integrate relevant Aboriginal reading material into our English courses.	Ongoing
Increase the number and quality of Aboriginal role models available to our students.	Ongoing
Explore mentoring opportunities for our Aboriginal students.	2009
Closer liaison with our Adult Education programs	Ongoing
Expand our literacy upgrading program for our adult learners in remote sites.	2009
Maintain our community dinners and ensure the Aboriginal parents and families are visited.	Ongoing
Expand the English Skills Development program for Aboriginal youth both individually and small groups.	Ongoing
Meet monthly with our Native Education Worker to monitor the progress of Aboriginal students and identify those who require support.	2009

School District #70
Alternative Programs School Plan 2009

SCHOOL INITIATIVES/STRATEGIES	TIMELINE/STATUS
Active participation in the District Aboriginal Celebration Festival.	2009
Promote First Nations Art through our VAST Art Program including exhibitions and marketing.	Ongoing
Involvement in the District Aboriginal Success Forum.	Fall
Improve our First Nations 12 Course.	2009
Foundations course development	2009
STD DVD partnership with NTC health	2009
Establish partnerships with first nations run businesses for employee upgrading, graduation and work place training.	2009