

BOUNDARY CENTRAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

S.D. #51 (BOUNDARY)

Bo Macfarlane
PRINCIPAL



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BCSS School Growth Plan 2026-2027

Sept 16, 2026

Goal #1: Academic Growth and Student Engagement

Scanning:

- June 2025 report card data indicates that approximately 18% of students are achieving at a minimally passing level.
- Graduation rates remain strong; however, on average two students per year do not complete graduation requirements.
- Student attendance and punctuality continue to be areas requiring attention.
- Student Learning Survey data suggests many students continue to struggle with feeling ownership over their learning experiences.
- Students' awareness of post-secondary pathways and career opportunities is often limited by geography and access to broader networks.

Focusing:

- Strengthen student engagement through meaningful learning experiences, authentic choice, and flexible pathways.
- Deepen understanding of each learner's strengths, needs, interests, and aspirations.
- Build student capacity for goal setting, self-reflection, and self-assessment.

Developing a Hunch:

- Students are more engaged when they understand the purpose and relevance of their learning.
- Many learners face barriers related to poverty, food insecurity, mental health challenges, and diverse learning needs.
- Rural isolation and lengthy commutes may limit exposure to broader opportunities.

New Learning:

- How can we further increase student voice and agency?
- What motivates our learners and helps them persist through challenges?
- How can assessment practices strengthen ownership of learning?

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Taking Action:

- Continue varied instructional approaches and collaborative learning opportunities.
- Maintain academic support during lunch and after school.
- Refine course offerings based on student feedback.
- Increase opportunities to connect academics with careers and post-secondary pathways.

Checking:

- Review attendance, punctuality, achievement and graduation data.
- Gather student feedback through surveys, World Café discussions, and YAC consultations.
- Monitor student engagement, ownership, and enthusiasm for learning.

Goal #2: Mental Health, Wellness, and Belonging

Scanning:

- Student voice surveys continue to identify mental health as an area of concern.
- Food insecurity remains a reality for many learners.
- Students consistently identify athletics, arts, clubs, leadership opportunities, and hands-on learning as important contributors to well-being and belonging.

Focusing:

- Strengthen a culture of belonging where all students feel seen, valued, and supported.
- Maintain strong counselling, wellness, and nutritional supports.
- Expand meaningful participation in athletics, arts, leadership, and clubs.

Developing a Hunch:

- Positive relationships are foundational to student success.
- Mental health challenges are influenced by broader social factors such as poverty, trauma, and isolation.

New Learning:

- Best practices for adolescent mental health and resilience.
- Trauma-informed approaches and Indigenous perspectives on wellness.
- Ways to strengthen peer connections and supportive adult relationships.

Taking Action:

- Continue integrating mental health literacy into PHE and Career Education.
- Maintain breakfast, lunch, and snack programs.
- Sustain counselling partnerships and Indigenous wellness teachings.
- Support athletics, arts, extracurricular programming, and Flex Friday activities.

Checking:

- Use student surveys, YAC feedback, participation rates, and wellness indicators.

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- Review Student Learning Survey, YDI, and LIF results.

Goal #3: Career Development and Future Readiness

Scanning:

- Many students have limited exposure to careers beyond their immediate communities.
- Some learners do not feel adequately prepared for employment or post-secondary pathways.
- Students demonstrate strong interest in trades and hands-on learning.

Focusing:

- Expand awareness of career and post-secondary pathways.
- Increase participation in trades, dual-credit, and work-experience opportunities.

Developing a Hunch:

- Rural location can limit exposure to diverse career opportunities.
- Career exploration increases motivation and goal setting.

New Learning:

- Emerging labour market trends and workforce needs.
- Strategies for strengthening partnerships with employers and post-secondary institutions.

Taking Action:

- Promote Youth Work in Trades and Youth Train in Trades opportunities.
- Host career speakers, industry visits, and post-secondary presentations.
- Expand work-experience placements and career exploration opportunities.

Checking:

- Track participation in career programs and work experience.
- Monitor post-secondary, employment, and apprenticeship transitions.

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Sincerely,
Bo Macfarlane

Principal
Boundary Central Secondary School