

Accessibility Plan

*This plan is available in alternate formats upon request.

Name of Organization: Park West School Division

Part 1. Baseline Report

Provide an analysis of the types of barriers Manitobans may face in accessing your programs, facilities and services. Highlight those that are most significant to your organizational mandate and to the public.

Overview of Programs and Services
Provide a general description of your organization's programs and services, emphasizing those targeting the public.
<p>Park West School Division serves students in the communities of Binscarth, Birtle, Decker, Hamiota, Inglis, Miniota, Monarch, Rossburn, Russell, Shoal Lake, Strathclair, and Waywayseecappo. With a population of approximately 2000 students, our 15 schools offer a wide range of programs, and activities for our students.</p> <p>Park West is committed to providing strong educational programs and opportunities for its students. Park West is also committed to creating a safe, inclusive and respectful environment for all students and staff that we serve. We want our students to reach their full potential both academically and socially.</p> <p>We have public access to our facilities in many different regards including open houses, extracurricular activities, awards and student led conferences. Our facilities are often used for other clubs and organizations and they are integral parts of the community.</p>



Accessibility Achievements

Summarize the steps already taken by the organization to achieve accessibility. What, if any policies, promote accessibility of your organization by public and by staff affected by accessibility barriers?

Park West School Division has included with their vision statement a commitment to value, accept and nurture students. The current policies and strategic plans that promote accessibility within our division include:

Diversity, Resource Management,
Positive Communication and Relationships, and
Learning Environment/Programs and services.

Barriers to Accessibility

List barriers Manitobans may face in accessing your programs, facilities and services. Highlight those that are most significant to your organizational mandate and to the public.

What organizational policies may inadvertently create barriers? Are there any temporary barriers which may be created by renovations or computer software upgrades that could create accessibility barriers?

The greatest barrier that Park West will face in this plan is the potential cost. Park West is in the process of doing an assessment of all buildings and grounds in the area and we anticipate many areas to be identified.

One of the largest items will be to upgrade older facilities to meet accessibility standards as needed. Other barriers will include technology, communications, space, and the attitudes about accessibility. These barriers will need to be addressed when we do our examinations of our schools.



Part 2. Accessibility Plan

Statement of Commitment
<p>Park West School Division is committed to moving towards equal access and participation for people with disabilities. We are committed to treating people with disabilities in ways that allow them to maintain their dignity, respect, and independence. We believe in inclusion for all and do not feel the physical or social environment should stop this from happening. We are committed to meeting the needs of people who face barriers and we will do this by preventing, identifying and removing these barriers. We want to work towards creating the requirements in the Accessibility for Manitobans Act.</p>
Policies
<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Park West School Division will review all programs, services, and new initiatives to work towards Accessibility. This includes examining all buildings in the division and keeping a log of them.b. Park West School Division will make information available in an accessible format or provide communication supports to people with disabilities in a way that considers their disability.



Actions

<p>Action 1- Create an Accessibility Committee</p>	
<p>Initiatives/Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meet and organize a coordinator for the group ▪ Create an accessibility group and establish the parameters for the group ▪ Plan future meetings and organize visits for the schools to do a baseline for accessibility 	<p>Expected Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Have a coordinator to lead the discussion And monitor progress of plan ▪ Create a schedule for this year and following to meet ▪ Create a schedule to visit schools for accessibility using the BC checklist ▪ Monitor progress
<p>Action 2- Offer and provide information in an accessible format on request</p>	
<p>Initiatives/Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accessibility committee develop a procedure to responding to requests for accessible supports and services ▪ Staff are made aware of the process so if they are asked they know where to go 	<p>Expected Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working towards creating a procedure to handle requests and looking for other methods beforehand to help with requests

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Action 3 – Training staff upon Board Approval	
<p>Initiatives/Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Management to confirm division’s commitment to accessibility in writing ▪ Management to offer accessibility awareness to divisional and principal staff that includes all barriers listed and possible solutions to them ▪ Management to share with staff achievements and action items in newsletters, and the website 	<p>Expected Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accessibility will be considered in long term plans of Park West ▪ Accessibility plan will be reviewed by Board of Trustees and shared with principal group ▪ Staff learns more about accessibility and the different areas ▪ The accessibility report will be made public on the website of Park West
Action 4 – Future Progress	
<p>Initiatives/Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accessibility committee will meet regularly to discuss progress and areas of concern and success ▪ Coordinator to report annually to Board of Trustees on the plan ▪ Budgeting to be reviewed and integrated when it comes to the accessibility plan 	<p>Expected Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trustees and division consider accessibility compliance in decision making ▪ Part of the annual report has accessibility in it

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Senior manager’s
Signature _____

Date: _____