



**Our Motto**  
**Our Mission**  
**Our Values**  
**Our Vision**

Students Come First  
Building Strong Foundations to Create Bright Futures  
Belonging, Respect, Responsibility, Learning, Nurturing, Perseverance  
Learning Without Limits...Achievement for All

## Board Development Topic: Understanding the SOS-Q

### Date of Board Meeting:

December 20, 2018

### Strategic Priority:

- Student and Family Engagement
- Internal Process
- People Capacity
- Financial Stewardship

### Quality Indicator(s):

- QI 6.2 – The Director keeps the Board informed about Division operations.
- QI 6.3 – The Director provides the Board with balance, sufficient, concise information and clear recommendations for actions items in agendas.
- QI 6.6 – The Director ensures high quality management services are provided to the Board.

### Information for the Board (10 fast facts):

1. The SOS-Q is a scientifically validated tool developed in the Rockyview School Division. It is used by Alberta Education, as part of a broader plan to improve high school completion by assessing students' attitudes toward school at key points in a student's school experience.
2. The 2018-19 school year is the second year in which GSSD has administered the survey within its schools.
3. There are six (6) domains studied within the survey which include: Safe and Caring Schools, Self Confidence, Extra-curricular Activities, Utility of School, Internal Resilience, and External Resilience.
4. The survey studies how students' attitudes and feelings about school can affect their motivation to do well in school.
5. The survey instrument allows for early identification of students at risk – academically, socially and emotionally is critical to their future in school and beyond, by identifying systemic changes within a school that are quick wins and will benefit all students.
6. The instrument addresses the barriers within our schools, which have an impact on student engagement and therefore allowing us to achieve the ESSP target of improving student engagement by 2020.
7. The measure of Internal and External Resilience domains allow a school staff to predict which students are struggling with unhealthy anxiety so that intervention can be put in place.
8. The tool supports a variety of school improvement initiatives such as building safe and caring schools, bullying prevention or a range of strategies for engaging students as active participants in enhancing school culture.
9. The survey results are used to develop insights into students' connectivity to school and to identify support strategies to reconnect students who have lost their positive connection to school as well as to reinforce students who have a strong relationship with school.

STUDENT & FAMILY

INTERNAL PROCESSES

PEOPLE CAPACITY

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

10. Schools have been given a comprehensive strategy guide outlining key strategies for schools, teachers, parents and students to employ within each specific domain. School Administrators have expressed that they find the tool very valuable.

Respectfully submitted,

Quintin M. Robertson, Director/CEO  
Good Spirit School Division