CEFPI MacConnell Award

"Educational Specifications or Program of Requirements document, including a short summary of state/provincial guidelines"

Douglas Park School, Regina, Saskatchewan Educational Specifications and Program of Requirements

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Education provides leadership and direction to the early learning and child care, Kindergarten through Grade 12 education, literacy, and library sectors. The Ministry supports the sectors through funding, governance, and accountability, with a focus on improving student achievement.

In 2009, the province cut and capped education property taxes (mill rates) by setting province-wide tax rates for each of the three property classes – residential, commercial, and agriculture – in accordance with tax relief commitments. The balance of school division funding is provided through the province's General Revenue Fund.

Prior to the introduction of province-wide education property tax rates, each taxing school division set an annual mill rate. There was substantial variation in school division mill rates and the assessment base on which the mill rates were applied, contributing to a significant variation in fiscal capacity among school divisions. As a result, the Government of Saskatchewan developed a new model to address inequities in the education funding distribution system and ensure funding is provided in an equitable way among school divisions throughout the province. The province provides the school division with an SA-1 document that summarizes the approved programmatic requirements of the project.

Regina Public Schools developed a Structural Innovation framework that involves the implementation and actualization of new ideas regarding how to improve teaching and learning in the classroom, throughout the school, and across the system. These ideas are based on research, on evidence from both own and other school divisions, and on the experience of master teachers and skilled school administrators. These ideas, combined with similar innovative thinking at all Regina Public Schools are intended to help enhance the learning process and the outcomes of all students.

Regina Public Schools' Structural Innovation involves taking the best and most successful teaching and learning practices and making them part of public schools. The four key innovations which are part of the Structural Innovation Framework include:

- Flexible teaching arrangements and instructional groupings: students matched with several teachers to better meet learning needs.
- Teacher collaboration: teachers working together to share their expertise and experiences with each other and to help students succeed. Experiences other and to help students succeed
- Interdisciplinary and inquiry-based teaching and learning: teachers and students working together on projects and in groups that are not limited by grade level or subject matter.
- Inclusive practices: helping all students, regardless of their skills and needs, to learn and grow within their own neighbourhood schools and with their peers.

Provincial Guidelines

The Ministry of Education Provincial Enrolment Guidelines

Grade	Opening Enrolment	Core Enrolment (5 year)
Pre-K & Kindergarten:	40	40
Grades 1 to 5:	210	225
Grades 6 to 8:	126	135
Total Design Enrolment	376 students	410 students

The Ministry of Education Provincial Guideline Areas

TOTAL GROSS AREA:	4.650m2	(50,052sf)
Net to Gross Ratio (29%)	1,045m2	(11,248sf)
Sub Total	3,605m2	(38,804sf)
Bldg. Services	393m2	(4,230sf)
Administration	255m2	(2,745sf)
Instructional Space	2,957m2	(31,829sf)

Notables:

- **1. Program Interpretation:** The Ministry of Education allowed their typical program of classroom and instructional spaces to be re-interpreted based on Regina Public Schools' new "Structural Innovation Framework" and a "21st Century Learning" model. The provincial standards for total instructional space area and overall gross area were required to be met.
- 2. **Portable Classrooms**: The Provincial Ministry of Education required six (6) unused portable classrooms be relocated and incorporated into the design of the new school.

				Saskatchewan	Ministry	of Educa	ion ~	2008 SA-1						
Division:	REGINA				School # :		2151501	Date:						
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4			Saskat	chewan	Ministr	y of Edu	catio	n ~	2008 SA	-1					
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School: DOUGLAS PARK				OPTION:		NE	NEW PREK-8 (376/4			6/410) FILE:					
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