

SCHOOL GROWTH PLAN SUMMARY FOR 2025/26

SCHOOL: Ecole Puntledge Park Elementary

PRINCIPAL: Noah Burdett

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT: Joe Heslip

LEARNING GOAL

COMOX VALLEY SCHOOLS IS COMMITTED TO CREATING INCLUSIVE, WHOLISTIC, AND PERSONALIZED LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS IN ORDER TO ENHANCE EACH STUDENT'S DEVELOPMENT OF THE CORE COMPETENCIES OVER TIME.

DESIGN PRINCIPLE(S): Decolonizing and Indigenizing, Social Emotional Learning

RATIONALE

Student learning cannot thrive without first addressing social-emotional well-being and ensuring a strong sense of belonging and inclusion. When children feel emotionally secure and part of a supportive community, they are better positioned to engage, grow, and succeed academically. Furthermore, we are prioritizing meaningful action toward improving outcomes for Indigenous students, as current efforts remain insufficient. Advancing reconciliation provides an ethical foundation that respects the dignity and unique strengths of each student.

ACTION PLAN

(LIST SPECIFIC ACTIONS, SCHOOL LEVEL AND DISTRICT LEVEL RESOURCES OR STRUCTURES USED)

Implement weekly Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) lessons that teach emotional regulation strategies such as deep breathing, naming feelings, and self-regulation, while also offering inclusive, destigmatization mental health awareness activities. Foster connection and belonging by maintaining and expanding the Big Buddy/Little Buddy program with multi-age activities, and by regularly conducting belonging surveys to guide responsive actions. Intentionally teach social behavior through weekly role-play sessions and social scripts for unstructured times, alongside explicit instruction in conflict resolution, de-escalation, and inclusive language. Integrate cultural practices consistently by making talking circles a regular part of classroom routines and incorporating drumming where appropriate to honor Indigenous traditions and foster community. Strengthen place-based learning and cultural inclusion by beginning each day or gathering with a land acknowledgement and explicitly teaching local Indigenous knowledge to increase cultural representation and connection to the land.

EVIDENCE / DATA (HOW WILL YOU MEASURE SUCCESS?)

Student understanding and application of SEL strategies will be monitored through short self-assessment surveys, reflective journal entries, and classroom observations documenting behaviors like deep breathing and conflict resolution. Cultural inclusion and representation will be assessed using classroom environment audits—such as photos or checklists of visible Indigenous content—and student voice tools like exit slips or interviews to gauge whether students feel their cultures are reflected in the school. Teacher integration of Indigenous knowledge will be captured through reflective notes and unit plans, highlighting how local teachings are embedded.

LITERACY FOCUS

Our focus will be on fully implementing the literacy framework and the corresponding assessment practices in an efficient and informative way to support student learning.

NUMERACY FOCUS

Our focus will be on fully implementing the numeracy framework and the corresponding assessment practices in an efficient and informative way to support student learning.