



New  
Westminster  
Schools

# Fraser River Middle School

## Learning Goal Plan

### Context

Fraser River Middle School's doors opened in September 2016. We have students from grades 6 to 8. The total population consists of 502 students from four feeder schools (Connaught, Lord Tweedsmuir, Kelvin and Qayqayt. There are 166 grade 6, 160 grade 7 and 176 grade 8 students. The family socio-economic backgrounds range from lower to upper middle class. Our school community has a wide range of cultural backgrounds.

For the last two years we have focused our attention on building community because staff and students were coming together in the new building bringing with them a variety of school experiences. We decided at the end of last year to continue with building community but to make our goal academically focused.

### What we hope to achieve:

'Our goal is to create an engaging environment where students collaborate and learn through cross-curricular explorations'.

We hope to expand upon our work with collaboration and cross-curricular units. We want students to be engaged in learning that encourages students to look at things from different perspectives, to see the relationships between different subjects, and to make connections to their previous learning and their own experiences. (Ministry of Education).

### Competency Development

Through our goal focus we are developing students cross-curricular competencies. We aim to develop the whole child-intellectually, personally, and socially. Education in school is more than mastering the sets of knowledge and skills acquired through subject areas. Competencies are the skills that students need to develop to engage in deeper learning. We will continue to develop students communication, thinking and personal and social competencies.

### Strategies

All of our collaboration days will focus on the development of cross-curricular learning. The teacher coaches are supporting the implementation and planning of cross-curricular units. The education assistants were involved with our most recent collaboration day and we plan to have them involved in the future days. This will ensure that the education assistants are well aware of the goal and can work to connect the goal to the work that they do.

We took time to look at what teachers are already doing and made a substantial list. The goal is to be more explicit in our practice of blending subjects.

**Success Indicators**

- Teachers discussing and sharing their units
- Open dialogue with students about their learning
- We hope to feel energy and excitement in both teachers and students with the work we do over the coming year.
- Our hope that we will have a school wide theme either at the end of this year or the beginning of next year.
- Look at MDI results past and present

**Communication**

- Website
- Newsletter
- PAC meeting
- Student council
- Aboriginal learners
- Team leaders
- Student inclusive conferences
- Student led conferences