

**Context-2020/2021**

Fraser River Middle School's doors opened in September 2016. We have students from grades 6 to 8. The total population consists of 540 students from four feeder schools (Connaught, Lord Tweedsmuir, Kelvin and Qayqayt). We have 469 students in the building and 71 students on-line (due to COVID-19). The family socio-economic backgrounds range from lower to upper middle class. Our school community has a wide range of cultural backgrounds.

For the first two years we 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 in year three to continue with building community but to make our goal focused on integrated curricular areas. This is our third year with the goal listed below.

**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**

Last year we were able to use collaboration days to discuss our goal. This year we will be using staff meetings and team leader meetings to work on the goal.

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

This year we did a survey with staff to get their perspective on our success last year. The questions in the survey were based on the success indicators below. Staff were asked on a scale from one to five (five being the highest) how important is the success indicator and how successful the school was last year and into this year.

We have established an Indigenous Committee this year. The committee will help to support the infusion of First People's principles into our cross-curricular studies.

### **Success Indicators**

- Teachers discussing and sharing their units
- Units will include formative and summative assessments
- Open dialogue with students about learning and understanding
- We hope to generate energy and excitement in both teachers and students with the work we do over the coming year
- Explicit discussion and infusion of cross-curricular learning
- We will have a school wide theme either at the end of this year or the beginning of next year
- We added a question about our goal to the student satisfaction survey for students. It will be interesting to see their perspective about the goal.

### **Communication**

- Website
- Newsletter
- PAC meeting
- Team leader meetings
- Staff meetings
- Student inclusive conferences
- Student led conferences