

Vancouver School Board

SCHOOL PLAN

2015-2016 Summative Review



2016-2017 Plans for the Future

It is our collective responsibility as a school district to ensure the highest quality learning experiences for all students, with a focus on student engagement, learning and development in a safe, inclusive environment.

Captain James Cook Elementary

MISSION STATEMENT

The staff and students of Captain James Cook are committed to providing educational opportunities for intellectual, social, physical, and creative growth for all children, in a setting that reflects mutual respect and social responsibility.

2015-2016 GOALS

1. To improve literacy skills for all students with a focus on improving non-fiction writing to communicate ideas and information.
2. To increase knowledge, acceptance, empathy, awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal histories, traditions, cultures and contributions among all students.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY CONTEXT

What are the demographics of our learning community?

Who are our learners?

What is our vision of success for learning for each student?

Captain James Cook Elementary is situated in south Vancouver near the intersection of Kerr and East 54th. The community comprises a mixture of older and new single-family dwellings, moderate to high priced rental units, and cooperative and low-income housing projects.

Cook Elementary presently enrolls 363 students of diverse cultural backgrounds from Kindergarten to Grade 7. Of those 363 students, 36% are English Language Learners, 10% are students with Special Needs and 3% are Aboriginal students.

The school, which has been identified as meeting District vulnerability criteria, receives Community School Team (CST) service, which provides 0.4 F.T.E. Youth & Family Worker and after-school programming support. Through the CST, Cook has been able to offer additional school programs such as a Breakfast Club, Cold Lunch Program, One to One Readers, Homework Club, Lunch time playground student leaders, MoreSports, Big Brothers Teen Mentoring Program, Games and Arts & Crafts, and Cooking programs. We are also fortunate to have a Strong Start Centre for families with children, ages 0-5, that operates daily out of Cook School.

In addition, Captain Cook practices The Early Intervention Model and Reading Recovery programs.

Besides a comprehensive curriculum, there are numerous opportunities for student leadership and involvement. Ways in which students contribute to the school community include Student Council/Spirit Team, Class Buddy programs, Traffic Safety Patrol, Library Monitors, Tech Crew, Assembly Hosts, Lunchroom and Playground Leaders, as well as clubs such as Global Citizens and Glee Club. These activities, along with a strong Strings program and very active Extra-mural Sports programming (cross country running, volleyball, badminton, basketball, and track and field), foster a strong student voice and sense of community.

PART A: 2015-2016 SCHOOL PLAN, SUMMATIVE REVIEW

What were our goals?

- 1.** To improve literacy skills for all students with a focus on improving non-fiction writing to communicate ideas and information.
- 2.** To increase knowledge, acceptance, empathy, awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal histories, traditions, cultures and contributions among all students.

What steps did we take to address the identified student(s) needs?

- Continued collection of report card data and 3 Step School Wide Write results and adapting programming
- Continued emphasis on reading to enhance transference to written skills
- Increased use of technology for enhancing literacy learning for students
- Trudy Harris came in to work with staff as well as Alex Wells will be here in June for a day on hooping and drumming to further identify and support student needs
- One of our Resource teachers is currently completing her Masters of Education in Educational Administration, Leadership, and Indigenous Education and has been a wonderful supportive resource in the school. She continuously liases and works with staff to find current curriculum grade topic appropriate materials to use with staff and students.
- Staff hosted an Aboriginal Ed. Professional Development Day focusing on our Aboriginal Ed. Library in which two other schools (Strathcona and Mackenzie) attended.
- Each Professional Day has had an element of Aboriginal Ed inclusion within the topics of daily education. Staff routinely refer to the First Peoples Widely Held Principles Of Learning, which works with best teaching practices. This is especially poignant with the new incoming BC Ed Curriculum focusing on individual learning profiles.
- Staff and students attended this year's Aboriginal Graduation Ceremony

What was the evidence of success for each student?

Our Literacy Teacher compiled Writing marks from both previous reporting periods, in conjunction with the 3-Step Writing process, to be able to pinpoint where our students are at with their written language gains. Data shows that each grade has progressed in their writing skills, ranging in improvement from 7%-27%, with the greatest gains seen in the intermediate grades. Continued enthusiasm about non-fiction writing was displayed by students as well as an increased willingness to share their work from classroom to whole school displays and presentations.

An increased usage of the Aboriginal Ed. Library was displayed by the students and staff. Within recognition of different viewpoints, we witness growth in sharing and celebration in regards to diversity. An increased numbers of students and families are feeling comfortable in coming forward to share their own stories, especially through our popular Heritage Fair.

How did we communicate and celebrate student success

- Teachers shared their students' learning improvements with the students and their parents
- Students' work is consistently displayed throughout the school
- Regularly scheduled assemblies to recognize student contributions
- Writing Gallery in the front hall
- Sharing writing aloud

- Oral conferencing with students.
- Posting student work on new school website/in school Newsletters
- Writing/Poetry Club.
- Publishing work – School Wide Writing Projects
- Writers' Fair/Literacy Day.
- Celebration of Writing Day.
- Author's corner display – all grades, all students get a turn on the board not just best work.
- Sharing writing in Buddy Class.
- Making Picture Books with iPads.
- Heritage Fair
- Report Cards.
- Newsletters
- Parent/Teacher Goal-Setting Conferences

2016-2017 SCHOOL PLAN, PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Given that the 2016-2017 school year is one of transition as we move to the *Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Model*, we intend to:

- A) Continue with the current goals as outlined in our reflections for 2015-2016.

