

New Westminster Secondary & SIGMA School Learning Plan

November 2024 - 2025

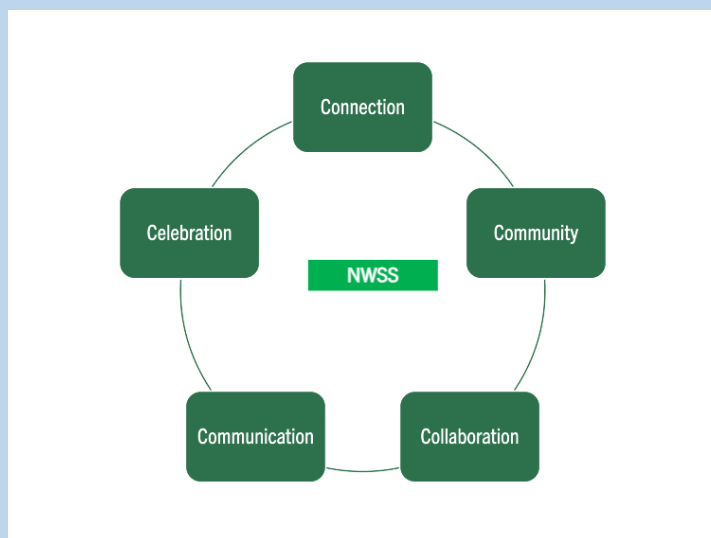
THE CURRENT CONTEXT

New Westminster Secondary School (NWSS) of New Westminster, BC, currently has 2500+ Grade 9 – 12 students. SIGMA currently has 53 Grade 10 – 12 students. We support a very diverse population. At NWSS, there are many strong connections among staff, students, parents and the community. As the primary secondary school in the city, NWSS offers many different types of programs for students including International Baccalaureate, Construction Diplomas, Red Seal Apprenticeships, Alternate Education, French Immersion, Sports Academies, and one of the online virtual schools in BC. We continue to be a school that exemplifies resiliency, flexibility and collaborative work ethic of our staff and students.

NWSS is a supportive learning environment where we nurture educational success for all learners. We focus on the 5 C's: Connection, Community, Collaboration, Celebration and Communication. This year, we will continue with Connection and Community and add on Communication. We want to see all students thrive at NWSS where they will uphold the highest standards and be held accountable for their choice of actions. Furthermore, we will continue to redefine the school culture given the current educational landscape would be our most important work moving forward into the 2024-25 school year.

OBJECTIVE: WHAT WE HOPE TO ACHIEVE

Usage of the continuous improvement cycle, we will reinforce NWSS as a supportive learning environment to nurture educational success for all learners.



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DESIGN: HOW WE PLAN TO MEET OUR OBJECTIVE

COMMUNICATION: HOW WE WILL SHARE OUR LEARNING JOURNEY WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Action Plan

Instructional practices that support holistic growth include ensuring every student is connected to key staff members of the Wellness Team. This includes Counsellors, Youth Care Workers, Indigenous Support Workers, School based Team and Administrators. This will encourage the development of emotional intelligence and integrate mindfulness practices to nurture mental well-being. Clear and consistent communication of our school and district Codes of Conduct is imperative.

We are also encouraging our staff to implement Universal Design for Learning to improve and optimize teaching and learning with collaborative activities to help students develop critical thinking and teamwork skills which is essential for their overall development.

Timeline

Clear and consistent communication with our school community, and of our school and district Codes of Conduct

- September 3rd: School wide activity
- September 3rd Grade Assemblies
- End of Semester Grade Assemblies
- Weekly Morning Buzz
- Weekly Parent and Staff Bulletin
- Weekly School-based team meeting
- Administrators – Counsellors Team meetings
- Wellness Team meetings

NWSS Parent Open House

- September 18th: Open House to invite all parents and students to learn about our school programs and meet staff members

Evidence of participation, engagement and learning

- Weekly student attendance reports
- Insufficient Evidence reports
- Office Referral Forms
- Plethora of extracurricular clubs and activities

Evidence of student voice, input and feedback

- Student Learning Survey
- Student Voice Fall Survey

SUCCESS INDICATORS: HOW WE WILL KNOW THAT OUR ACTIONS ARE HAVING THE DESIRED IMPACT

NWSS Administrative team will utilize a continuous improvement cycle to monitor and enhance a supportive learning environment to nurture educational success for all learners.

- Reduced concerns from weekly attendance reports
- Reduced number of wellness team referrals
- Reduced Insufficient Evidence Reports issued
- Positive feedback/results from Student Learning surveys
- Student engagement in extracurricular activities, services and leadership
- Restorative practices and approach to resolve peer to peer conflicts

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LEARNING GOALS

Ensuring school safety, fostering connections, and building a strong sense of community and accountability are crucial for students' learning goals. A safe learning environment allows students to focus on their studies while strong connections with peers and teachers create a supportive network that encourages academic and personal growth. Accountability ensures that students take ownership of their learning, leading to better outcomes.

Our goal is to establish a sense of belonging where students feel safe, connected and heard. We strive to achieve a visible, organic and genuine strong sense of commitment and community from our students, parents and staff.