



## **Aboriginal Education School Plan**

**School:** Caulfeild Elementary

### **School Aboriginal Education Committee:**

Andrea Barratt, Debbie Stewart, Farah Ahmad, Oliver Kollar,  
Laura Fee, Paula Stevens, Craig Cantlie

### **School Contact Person(s):**

Andrea Barratt, Craig Cantlie

### **Activities, events, speakers, presentations, projects etc. that have occurred at your location over the past two years:**

Last Year:

#### Kindergarten

Kindergarten read aboriginal related story books and made Inukshuks when they introduced 3D shapes.

#### Grade 2

Novel study on a book called The Foundling Fox. Made connections between that book and another First Nations book called How Fox Saved the People.

#### Grade 4/5

Soapstone carving led by Oliver Harwood.

Went to go Brackendale to observe the bald eagles, attend the salmon hatchery and spent time in the Long House, making bannock and learning about the traditions of the First Nations.

Improve our grade 4/5 teachers' understanding of Residential Schools.

## **Action Plan for 2015/2016**

- Connections to BC Curriculum (new document)
- First Peoples Principles of Learning (how will you embed these in your work with students this year?)
- Parent Education (Native and Non-Native)
- Community Partnerships

### *What does Aboriginal Education look like now?*

First Nations topic has been taught in grade 4 using previous curriculum learning outcomes. E.g. Governance, culture, land, tribes, food.

Other classes are exploring aboriginal perspectives and trying to integrate it into their classrooms.

Some Intermediate and Primary classes are using literature to introduce aboriginal stories.

Introducing 'what is' first nations in Kindergarten.

Whole School inquiry piece on Caulfeild pre-contact. Importance of this area to aboriginal culture.

### *What we want Aboriginal Education look like this year:*

Explore resources available and think outside the box as how to incorporate Ab Ed into all areas of the curriculum.

Embed aboriginal principles of education into lesson structure.

Involving the Ab Ed community.

Looking at the diversity in the Aboriginal community locally and globally.

Focus on the positive aspects and build an understanding of Aboriginal culture.

Celebration of Aboriginal Day (June 21st)

Looking at story telling as a way creating learning experiences.

Open communication

This Year our **Whole School Inquiry** is “beliefs and values influence who we are and who we want to be as a Caulfeild community.”

We are creating connections amongst all stakeholders within the Caulfeild community and learning about the beliefs and values that influence who we are as a school. Part of this learning is delving into the history of the Caulfeild area and the First Nations influence and experience.

**November 18** Bob Baker will come to meet with the staff. He will share some stories about pre-contact and the values and beliefs of the Aboriginal people that used this area. As well, he will talk about the animals that lived here and roamed the area - focus will be on the black bear and the values it represents, the qualities it possesses. We will be connecting our values and beliefs as a community to that of the bear.

**January** Bob Baker and 3 to 4 others will come to the school to share First Nation stories with the students (1-1:45) in smaller group settings. Students will reflect on the words, stories, etc during the presentation and add these to their word bank

**January** - We will portray the bear song and dance to connect the bear with the values we are focusing on that have shaped our community.

**MEXALH (black bears)** : The beliefs and the values of the bear that we can relate to – tenacious / vulnerable / protective / nurturing / provider / family orientated animal / teacher / ability to go to great lengths to care for young / great skills / many road blocks that have been put in their way, they have persevered / they will take time to understand and analysis / reasoning

#### *Our Dream Summative*

Carving and the wordle and connecting the two pieces together - The Summative Piece

A group made up of representatives from the various grades will work with the carver to create a carving that incorporates the values we have recognized at Caulfeild as shaping our community. Students will pick out the most significant words to share with the carver. The carving will be outside the main entrance and carved on site.

Students will be asked to reflect on the connection between the carving and our Wordle of Caulfeild’s values and beliefs.

#### *Possible future guests*

Full Circle – theatre group that tells cultural stories / Raven Spirit – use dance to portray story

*District support and resources needed this year:*

Professional Development opportunities.

Having a working relationship with First Nations resource person.

Ideas on how to embed Aboriginal Education into all curriculum areas.

Perhaps look at a scope and sequence.

Know what other classes/schools are doing in Ab Ed for consistency.

More collaboration within the school and district community with aboriginal learning.