



Indigenous Education School Plan 2020 - 2021

1. School: Sentinel Secondary

2. School Indigenous Education Committee Members:

Kevin Chase, Nathalie Lleres, Dane Scholefield, Craig Elliot, Angie Higgs, Mike Finch

3. School Main Contact Person(s): Mike Finch

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

- Drum making: - SS 8/FRIM SS 8 students design, create and craft their own native drum to support ceremonial and cultural practices of First Nations people.
- Dance - Dance 9/10 and 11/12 classes participating in traditional FN dances with Sahplek (Bob Baker) and Darylina Powderface, presentations during classes and school assemblies/ceremonies
- MOA Field Trips - Socials Studies 9 and 11 student field trips to MOA
- Artist in Residence - Artist George Littlechild worked with students in multiple disciplines; AP Drawing, AP 2D, AP 3D, Photography and Art Foundations gr. 9 students to explore Visual Honoring. Through this exploration of contemporary first nations art works students discovered personal discourse through memory, history and story.
- Paddle Carving: - Senior Woodworking students are provided with the opportunity to carve traditional or contemporary paddles of First Nations design.
- Canoe Paddling - Sentinel Boy's Club and Girls Fit PE class enjoyed Paddling in traditional FN canoes with Sahplek (Bob Baker) and Jeff Wood of WVPD



- Remembrance Day Ceremony - Remembrance Day Ceremony focused significantly on the role First Nations people played in WW 1 and WW 2.
- Letter writing: - SS 10 students write letters to government (fictional/historical) to argue their points of view regarding early settlement and the colonization of Canada.
- SS 8 curriculum: - Positioning activity, Indigenous floor map/atlas, Fur trade simulation, Indigenous Day at Ambleside, Squamish language classes
- SS 9/ curriculum: - Components of early Canadian settlement, trading, Treaties, etc taught in various SS classes.
- Activity Day: - All grade 9 students enjoyed a day at Ambleside Beach. They had the opportunity to paddle in traditional FN canoes, they were led by Bob Baker (Sahplek) in a group drumming, carving and weaving activities, shared in some story telling and ate bannock and candied salmon.
- Guest Speakers/: Guest Presenters: - Planning 10 students have experienced First Nations speakers visiting their class to discuss tolerance, acceptance and racism.
 - SS 8/9 students have experienced First Nations speakers visiting their class to discuss traditional aboriginal stories.
 - Guest presenter in Social Justice 12 class leading discussion on residential schools.
 - Guest Dancers in to Dance 9 – 12 and PE classes.
 - Guest presenter to come into Drama and Writing 12 classes to discuss story telling.
- Staff Presentations: - Jan. 2017: An Aboriginal Education Pro-D session held at Sentinel Secondary organized by the Squamish Nation including new resources, conversations with Residential School Survivors, a Traditional Feast and hands-on cultural activities with local artists.
 - Nov. 2017 Pro-D sessions included FN workshops
 - Sept. 2018: SS staff inquiries/planning into group field trip to Mission Residential School



- Languages Teachers: - Language teachers are exploring having Bob Baker or another representative from the Squamish Nation come in to teach language lessons.
- Social Studies Teachers: - shared Google Doc that outlines all Big Ideas, Learning Standards, Curricular Competencies and activities to be covered in all grades 8 – 11.

5. Action Plan for 2020/2021

Possible items to consider:

- **Connections to BC Curriculum:**

Many of the above mentioned examples draw connections between the new BC Curriculum and Aboriginal Education. Through workshops, professional development, staff meeting discussions, school goal setting (Planning Council) and a genuine commitment from staff, Sentinel is working towards embedding First Nations education into all subject areas.

- **First Peoples Principles of Learning (how will you embed these in your work with students this year?)**

The First Peoples Principles of Learning was a foundational document for the School Planning Council as they researched and developed a new Values Statements (Code of Conduct). The new Values Statements document, given the acronym GUARDS, includes language that has come directly from the FPPoL. It has been adopted by the entire school community. Again, through the multiple examples illustrated above, Sentinel staff are consistently looking for ways to embed First Nations education into all subject areas.

- **Parent Education**

Sentinel's School Planning Council has made presentations to the Sentinel PAC regarding the new school Value's Statements (Code of Conduct). When creating this new document much research was done, including incorporating the First People's Principles of Learning. PAC has been regularly updated on the FN educational opportunities provided by the many Sentinel teachers.



- **Community Partnerships**

Sentinel values the strong relationship with both Faye Halls and Bob Baker. Through these contacts teachers have been able to request a variety of additional FN support contacts; dancers, story tellers, artists, weavers and curriculum experts to name a few. Carol Langley has also been very supportive providing a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities for our FN students.

- **Student Support – Success Teachers/Counsellors**

The Sentinel Administration touches base with Aboriginal students on a regular basis, offering and encouraging all additional Aboriginal Educational opportunities. Carol Langley and Jada Harry continue to be wonderful supports as well. Together, we all work to ensure our FN students are aware of the cultural, educational, scholarship and post-secondary opportunities that our students can access.

6. How does your plan support the goals of the 2020-2025 Indigenous Enhancement Agreement?

7. District support and resources needed this year. Please be as specific as possible in your requests.

- Continue to provide contacts/updates for First Nations educational and cultural opportunities.
- A list of possible First Nations educational and cultural opportunities that may already exist, and any new opportunities given the challenging circumstances we are currently facing.
- Funding to provide these opportunities and other resources
- Release time
- Contacts to share curricular lesson plans with