



School: Texada Elementary School

Principal: Rhonda Gordon

School Growth Plan 2022/2023

Purpose and Vision:

School Growth Plans are school specific strategic plans. They are:

- collaboratively developed;
- focused on student learning goals;
- aligned with the District Strategic Plan
- evidence-informed using a cycle of improvement;
- specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound.

Our Story

Texada Elementary School, now the only school on Texada Island, is located in the village of Van Anda, in what was once a fully functioning secondary school, housing grades 8-12. At one time, Texada had an elementary school in each of the 3 villages on the island, and as needs and demographics changed over the years, a decision was made to move secondary education to Powell River and move the remaining elementary students into the existing high school, as it was the largest, newest and best outfitted building.

Since 2003, Texada Elementary has been housed in the former high-school building. As it was built for secondary students, some modifications were necessary in order to meet the needs of younger children. The science lab was reconfigured to become a spacious primary classroom, blackboards were lowered, and some lockers were removed and replaced with primary friendly hooks and shelves. The "Home-ec" room was redesigned for use as a shared gathering space, though it still houses two ranges, a refrigerator, freezer, washer and dryer to facilitate a hot-lunch program and student baking/cooking lessons. A half-dozen sewing machines remain so that students and teachers can complete sewing projects on occasion, and the room lends itself well to completion of large-scale art projects, sock-hops and shared meals. Other changes made to the building over time include removal of what were once large change-rooms for senior PE classes so as to create a pre-school space and a community owned commercial kitchen, and what was once a large, fully functioning woodworking, metalworking and drafting room were transformed into a beautiful, sound-proofed band room and a community owned pottery studio.

Texada Elementary enjoys the use of a full-scale gymnasium, with a recently refinished hardwood floor and a large, an impressive "Bouldering wall" for student and community use, a relatively well stocked library and full computer lab outfitted with individual student laptops and desktop computers. Staff and students are fortunate to have an over-abundance of space, and despite a very small student population, there is a tendency to spread out and make the most of it.

Because Texada students live in a somewhat isolated community, there has long been a focus on providing an abundance of unique opportunities for the island's children. Community volunteers frequently engage the school in a variety of activities and projects, from conducting scientific studies of the local watershed with the assistance of a retired university professor, to dressing in period costumes and exploring a newly built turn-of-the century schoolhouse with the museum curator, to baking, cooking and pottery lessons and more.

Our Learners

Texada Elementary overlooks the ocean in Van Anda. The current student population sits at 25, with one intermediate and one primary division. On staff we have a teaching principal, one full-time and one part-time teacher, a full-time educational assistant doubling as cleaner throughout the day, an evening custodian and an Office Manager taking care of our secretarial needs one part-day per week.

Texada staff address academic needs through a Response to Intervention (RTI) model, through which individual student needs are consistently assessed and addressed via intervention programs, instructional differentiation, and individualized student learning plans for all. In addition, the school has an abundance of community support in the way of volunteerism, donations, and public performance attendance. Our small PAC group fundraises with ease and can fully fund a whole-school field trip to Vancouver Island and a grade 6/7 overnight destination trip in alternating years. At this time, PAC's fundraising is geared toward the funding of an addition to the school playground.



Goal 1

To continue to improve social and emotional wellbeing of our students.

Action

- Create respectful interactions between students
- Using Zones of regulation to help students develop strategies
- Use restitution strategies to help students solve problems
- Student check in's each day to encourage self-assessment strategies



Evidence

- Reduced number of office visits
- calm learning environment
- teacher assessments of student self-regulation
- student check in data
- students utilizing the strategies in class and outside

Goal 2

To improve student success in literacy

Action

- Utilize evidence-based literacy strategies in all grades
- Utilize evidence-based literacy assessment tools for both primary and intermediate students
- Review and analyze June literacy data to plan specific and targeted programming in September, and review Dibels after beginning, middle and end-of-year assessments
- Ensure that levelled reading materials are readily accessible for all reading abilities
- Review literacy goals throughout the year at all staff meetings
- Utilize Heggerty, Reading Eggs, and Raz Kids to focus targeted reading instruction.

Evidence

- Improved DIBEL's scores
- improved FSA scores
- Classroom Assessments

Our Story is Beyond

The school would really like to create an Indigenous space for classes to integrate Indigenous world views and perspectives. This will be a focus throughout the school year.

